

**NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT**

***SLEEPING BEAUTY***

BY  
Ron Hall

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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) Stoppe 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 supplicant 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)

(Clowns 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 than 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'  
 It's a hard life but I love it,                      is heard)  
 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.

(Morticia re-enters with stool)

Morticia:- Here we are ma'am. (She places it down by spinning wheel)

Charcoal F:- Good, now to adopt my disguise. (She puts on cloak and hood partly covering her face) How does it look Morticia?

Morticia:- Oh it's a great improvement ma'am.

Charcoal F:- It's not supposed to be an improvement you fool, I'm supposed to look like an old hag.

Morticia:- Oh yes of course you do. It's quite hidden your real beauty.

Charcoal F:- That's better. Now to try out my old woman's voice. (In crackly tones) Hello my dear. (Reverting) How does that sound?

Morticia:- Very convincing.

Charcoal F:- Now begone, I can hear footsteps approaching. Wait for me back at the castle.

Morticia:- Yes ma'am.

(Morticia exits)

Charcoal F:- That sounds like the Princess Aurora. Now to do some spinning. She places spindle on wheel and starts to operate it. Aurora enters) Hello my dear (In crackly voice)

Aurora:- Hello old lady, what are you doing?

Charcoal F:- I'm spinning my dear.

Aurora:- Spinning? What is that?

Charcoal F:- Spinning is making thread so that you can weave cloth.

Aurora:- And what is the machine you are using?

Charcoal F:- It is called a spinning wheel.

Aurora:- Oh! I've never seen a spinning wheel before. In fact I've never been to this part of the palace before. It's gloomy isn't it?

Charcoal F:- Not really. You soon get used to it.

Aurora:- May I try using the spinning wheel?

Charcoal F:- Of course. Sit down here and I'll show you how.

(Charcoal Fairy rises and Aurora takes her place)

Now press the treadle with your foot. That will start the wheel spinning. (Aurora does this) Now guide the wool over the wheel with one hand and turn the spindle with the other. (She does this)

Aurora:- It's easy isn't it? (She laughs)

Charcoal F:- As easy as forgetting an invitation.

Aurora:- Pardon.

Charcoal F:- Nothing, it's just a private little joke.

Aurora:- Oh dear, I've pricked my finger.

Charcoal F:- Never mind, it's nothing. Carry on spinning.

Aurora:- I can't, I feel faint. The room's going round.

Charcoal F:- Is it really my dear? What a shame!

(Aurora collapses on the floor. Fairy laughs)

- Charcoal F:- Revenge is sweet. (She throws back cloak and speaks in normal voice) Rest in peace my angel, ha ha ha.
- Dame:- (Offstage) Princess Aurora, are you there?
- Charcoal F:- That sounds like the old nursemaid. But it's too late to help Aurora now, ha ha ha. (She puts cloak back on)  
(Dame enters)
- Dame:- Oh dear, what's happened to the Princess? (She goes over and kneels by her side)
- Charcoal F:- (In crackly voice) The poor unfortunate princess has pricked her finger on the spindle of this spinning wheel.
- Dame:- Spinning wheel? But spinning wheels are forbidden in Ambrosia. Wait a minute, I know you, you can't fool me with that disguise, you're the Charcoal Fairy.
- Charcoal F:- (Throwing back her cloak) Yes, that's right, I am the Charcoal Fairy and I have killed your Princess Aurora, ha ha ha.
- Dame:- Why, you wicked old - - - fairy. (She gets up) I'll tear you into little pieces, I'll break off your arm and hit you with the soggy end, I'll - - -  
(Charcoal Fairy waves her wand and Dame freezes)
- Charcoal F:- You'll do what, you twopence ha'penny nursemaid?  
(She pulls Dame's hat down over her eyes)  
Farewell my friends. Parting is such sweet sorrow, ha ha ha.  
(Charcoal Fairy exits. Dame comes round)
- Dame:- Where am I? What's happened? I remember now. That wicked Charcoal Fairy has poisoned Aurora. (She kneels by Aurora's side) Oh Aurora say something to me. (She takes her hand) What shall I do? (Shouting) Jack, Nausea, somebody, please help me. Don't die Princess, we all love you too much.  
(Jack and Nausea rush on)
- Jack:- Hi Gang.
- Audience:- Hi Jack.
- Nausea:- What's happened?
- Dame:- It's the Princess Aurora. She's pricked her finger on the spinning wheel just like the Charcoal Fairy said would happen. Quick Nausea fetch two servants to carry her downstairs.
- Nausea:- I'll do that (She exits)
- Jack:- (Kneeling by her side) She's not dead is she?
- Dame:- I don't know. Oh Jack what are we going to do?
- Jack:- I don't know. (He bursts into tears)  
(The Diamond Fairy enters)
- Diamond F:- Fear not, Aurora is not dead but asleep.
- Dame:- Who are you?
- Diamond F:- I am the Diamond Fairy. Do you not remember I came to Aurora's christening and kept my gift until the last?
- Dame:- Oh yes, you said that she would sleep until she was kissed by her true love.

Diamond F:- That's right.

Dame:- How do you feel about doing the same thing for me?

Diamond:- I'm sorry, even my power isn't strong enough to do that.

Dame:- Never mind, it was worth a try.

(Nausea enters with two chorus men)

Diamond F:- Now carry her down to the Palace Banqueting Room and make up a bed for her there. (The men lift her up) Take care, for she is in a coma and must be treated gently. (The men carry Aurora off) And you three, I have a mission for you. Do you wish to help the Princess Aurora?

Dame ) Not 'arf.

Jack ):- Of course.

Nausea) Sure.

Diamond F:- Then you must travel to the land of Bohemia and tell Prince Rupert what has happened.

Dame:- Oh we will, won't we everybody?

Jack:- Yes we will.

Nausea:- And if Jack goes I'll go too.

Jack:- I thought you might say that.

(She grabs him)

Ger' off, everybody's looking.

Diamond F:- And now farewell and good luck.

Dame:- Goodbye Mrs. Fairy and thank you very much.

(Diamond Fairy exits)

Jack:- What a nice lady. She's a bit like - - - (local woman)

Dame:- Come on you two, we've no time to waste. We must set out at once.

Trio (Jack, Dame and Nausea)

Suggested numbers:- Together wherever we go (Gypsy)  
We're on our way (Paint your Wagon)  
Brotherhood of Man (How to Succeed in  
Business)

#### Scene 6 - A Room in Prince Rupert's Palace (Tabs or Front Cloth)

(Rupert enters followed by Frederick)

Rupert:- Oh Frederick, it's only two days since I met the Princess Aurora and yet I know she's the only girl for me.

Frederick:- She is indeed beautiful your Highness.

Rupert:- Beautiful? She's like the sun's first rays breaking through the woodland mists, the evening star rising in the night sky, the jewel in the crown of a king.

Optional Song (Prince and Frederick)

Suggested Numbers:- Strange Music (Song of Norway)  
Some Day We Shall Meet Again (Lisbon Story)  
Something Good (Sound of Music)  
Any Popular Romantic Ballad

Rupert:- I can't wait until our next meeting.

Frederick:- How about a game of chess your Highness?

Rupert:- No Frederick, I'm sorry, I can't concentrate.

(Dame, Jack and Nausea rush on)

Jack:- Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Dame:- (To Jack) Have you no sense of occasion? (To Rupert) Please forgive us intruding this way your Highness.

Rupert:- Who are you?

Dame:- I'm nursemaid at the Royal Palace of Ambrosia.

Rupert:- Ambrosia - then you must know the Princess Aurora.

Dame:- Know her? Why I've nursed her ever since she was a wee thing.

Jack:- Yes, that's why she had to keep changing her nappy.

Dame:- Don't be coarse Jack. (To Rupert) You must excuse my friends your Highness but they haven't had the upbringing like what I've had.

Jack:- (Hurriedly) Her finger pricked the fairy with some charcoal and she fainted.

Rupert:- Pardon.

Nausea:- What he means is 'The fairy charcoaled her finger and the floor collapsed on her.

Rupert:- The floor collapsed on the Princess?

Dame:- No no, they've got it all wrong. What happened was the Charcoal Fairy took her revenge on Princess Aurora. She invited her to use an old spinning wheel and the Princess pricked her finger on the poisoned spindle.

Rupert:- She's not dead is she?

Dame:- No, the Diamond Fairy wouldn't let her die.

Rupert:- What's happened to her then?

Dame:- She's asleep in the Banqueting Room waiting for her true love to awaken her with a kiss.

Nausea:- It's so romantic. Isn't it Jack?

Jack:- Is it?

Nausea:- Of course it is, you great nana.

Rupert:- No-one could love the Princess more dearly than I do. Take me to the Palace right away. Frederick, bring me my sword.

Frederick:- At once your Highness. (He exits)

Jack:- What if the Charcoal Fairy does something naughty?

Rupert:- Have no fear. (Frederick returns with the sword and gives it to Rupert. He also has one himself) With our swords to protect us we will win through in the end. Come there is no time to waste.  
(He leads off followed by Frederick)

Jack:- This is more exciting than 'Crossroads'.

Nausea:- Watching paint dry is more exciting than 'Crossroads'.

Dame:- Come on you two or the Prince will leave without us. (Dame begins to exit) And I don't want to walk all the way back to Ambrosia.

Jack )  
Nausea ):- Coming Lucy.

(Dame, Jack and Nausea exit. Charcoal Fairy enters with wand)

Charcoal F:- Morticia, come quickly, there is work to do.

(Morticia rushes on)

Morticia:- Yes ma'am.

Charcoal F:- The Palace nursemaid has told Prince Rupert of the spinning wheel incident and he is now on his way to waken the Princess with a kiss. If that interfering Diamond Fairy had not changed my spell this would never have happened. She would have been dead and that would have been an end of it. What we must do is prevent the Prince from entering the Palace.

Morticia:- But how do we do that?

Charcoal F:- There are ways. First of all I will arrange for an impenetrable forest to grow up around the Palace and then as a further safeguard I will conjure up a dragon to deter eager visitors. Prince Rupert will never awaken the Princess - he will die in the attempt. Listen, I'll tell you about some of my more  
Song (Charcoal Fairy and Morticia) successful ventures.

Suggested Numbers:- To Keep My Love Alive (A Connecticut Yankee)  
Was I To Blame?(Slightly amended version of  
Was I Wazir? from Kismet)

#### Scene 7 - The Banqueting Room of the Palace

(King, Queen and Chorus are on stage. There is a divan in position centre stage. During the following song chorus men carry Princess on and place her on it)

Song (King, Queen and Chorus)

Suggested numbers:- The Impossible Dream (Man of La Mancha)  
This Nearly Was Mine (South Pacific)  
Fly Home Little Heart (King's Rhapsody)

Queen:- Oh my daughter, what have they done to you? Seventeen years of age just as the Charcoal Fairy said. Well don't just stand there Timorous, make a decree.

King:- Who me?

Queen:- Yes of course you, you're the King aren't you?

King:- Am I? I mean, I am.

Queen:- Then make it known that there will be a reward of a thousand crowns for information leading to the arrest of the Charcoal Fairy.

King:- Very well. (He clears his throat) I hereby make it known that there will be a reward of - - What was the figure again dear?

Queen:- Never mind, I've already done it.

King:- Yes dear. You are a clever woman, you know that - - -

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear I know, I'll shut up.

Queen:- And I want soldiers sending to the four corners of Ambrosia to search for evidence.

(The Lord Chamberlain rushes on)

Lord Ch:- Your Majesty, your Majesty.

Queen:- Well Chamberlain what is it?

Lord Ch:- We can't get out of the palace.

Queen:- Why is the door locked?

Lord Ch:- No your Majesty, we're surrounded.

Queen:- What with, Red Indians?

Lord Ch:- No your Majesty - trees.

Queen:- Trees! (Those on stage are aghast)

Lord Ch:- Yes they're like a wall.

Queen:- But surely you can chop them down.

Lord Ch:- When a tree's chopped down another grows in its place.

Queen:- That sounds like the work of the Charcoal Fairy.

Lord Ch:- And that's not all. There's dragon guarding the front door. Nobody can get in or out.

Queen:- What are we to do, we'll all starve.

King:- I'm too young to die.

Queen:- You were too young yester-die.

(The Diamond Fairy enters to tinkling music)

Diamond F:- I have come to help you in your predicament.

King:- It's the Diamond Fairy. I remember you from our daughter's christening.

Diamond F:- That's right, I have used my magic powers to enter the palace.

Queen:- What can we do? Our daughter's laid asleep and now we can't get out of the palace.

Diamond F:- Do not worry, Prince Rupert is on his way to Ambrosia.

Queen:- Is that the nice young man that Aurora met the other day?

Diamond F:- That's the one.

Queen:- Oh I am pleased, he'll make a lovely son-in-law.

King:- But what are we going to do for food until he arrives?

Diamond F:- Fear not, I will arrange for you all to fall asleep until he gets here.

King:- But we've run out of Horlicks.

Diamond F:- My spell is stronger than Horlicks. All in the palace will slumber. Come my little sandmen sprinkle your sleepy dust and let my magic do its work.

(Junior dancers enter as sandmen)

When you wake all evil will have departed.

Song and Dance (Diamond Fairy and Junior Dancers)

Suggested numbers:- Mr. Sandman

Morningtown Ride

Fold Your Wings (Glamorous Night)

(During the number the King, Queen and Courtiers gradually fall asleep)

End of Act I

Act IIScene 1 - The Village Green

(This is a typical village scene with a practical picnic table centre. Behind the village on a hill the turrets of the palace can be seen peeping out over an impenetrable forest. The chorus dressed as villagers are dressing the stage)

Chorus Song

Suggested Numbers:- Hey Look Me Over (Wildcat)  
 Doin' What Comes Naturally (Annie Get Your Gun)  
 There's a Coach Comin' In (Paint Your Wagon)

(At the end of the number a coach arrives on stage pulled by either pantomime horse or children dressed as horses. Out of it gets Prince Rupert, Frederick, Dame and Nausea. Coach exits)

Rupert:- Look, the palace has been surrounded by a dense forest.

Frederick:- What are we to do?

Rupert:- Don't worry, we'll find a way through it.

Nausea:- Hey, what's happened to Jack? He was sitting on the top of the coach.

Dame:- I think he was sleepy.

Nausea:- You don't mean - - -

Dame:- Yes, he's dropped off.

Nausea:- Oh I hope he's alright.

(Jack enters wearing the same outfit as Act I but it is dirty and in tatters)

Jack:- Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Jack:- Help, I'm being attacked. (He chases around stage)

Nausea:- Where have you been?

Jack:- The stage-coach went over a bump and I fell off into a clump of brambles and I got scratched in all my important little places.

Nausea:- Aw! (To audience) Everybody - aw!

Jack:- And then I fell into a pond and got tadpoles in my trousers.  
 (He wriggles)

Nausea:- Aw! Everybody - aw!

Jack:- And now I'm being chased by a ferocious creature that's going to eat me alive.

Nausea:- Aw! Everybody - aw!

Jack:- Can't you hear it? It's cries are enough to make your blood freeze. (There is a ferocious roar offstage. They all huddle together trembling) What did I tell you?

Dame:- Is it wild?

Jack:- Well it's certainly not too pleased. (Ferocious roar is heard again) Look out, here it comes now.

(The ferocious roar is heard for the third time and onto the stage comes a lovable little bear)

- Dame:- Why, you big baby! It's only a teddy bear. (She goes over and strokes it and it nestles in her arms) What's your name?  
(It whispers in her ear) Edward. And where do you live Edward?  
(Whisper) In the woods. What are you doing here? (Whisper) You got lost when all the trees grew up around the palace. Aw!  
Everybody - aw! He's lost his mummy and daddy. (Bear wipes his eyes)
- Rupert:- Never mind Edward, we'll find your parents for you, won't we everybody?
- All:- Yes, of course, certainly, etc.
- Jack:- But how do we go about it?
- Rupert:- Frederick and I have our trusty swords and we will cut through those trees that surround the palace. Not only will we rescue the princess but we will return Edward to his mum and dad into the bargain.
- Jack:- When do we begin? I can't wait to set out on such an exciting adventure.
- Nausea:- Can I come with you Jack?
- Jack:- Do you have to?
- Nausea:- Yes, you might want somebody to cuddle.
- Jack:- No I won't.
- Nausea:- You might want somebody to kiss.
- Jack:- No I won't.
- Nausea:- You might want somebody to protect you from the Charcoal Fairy.
- Jack:- Yes I will. (They cling to each other)
- Rupert:- Come Frederick, let's go and spy out the land. You stay here and have a bit to eat. We'll be back in a few minutes.
- Dame:- Alright your flagship, but do take care won't you?
- Rupert:- Yes, we'll be careful.  
(Edward goes to Rupert and nudges him)
- Rupert:- What is it Edward?  
(Edward whispers)  
You want to come with us, but we'll be alright on our own. (They begin to exit and Edward starts to cry)
- Chorus:- Aw! (Rupert turns round)
- Rupert:- Oh, very well, you can come. (Bear snuggles up against him) Come along then Frederick, let's see if there's a way through the forest.
- Dame )  
Nausea):- Goodbye, take care, don't be long, etc.  
Jack )  
(Rupert, Frederick and Edward exit. Chorus also gradually exit over next few lines)
- Dame:- And now to find some grub, I'm so hungry I could eat a donkey between two barn doors.
- Jack:- So could I.  
(Pie seller enters. He or she is carrying a tray of 'custard pies')
- Pie Seller:- Come and buy my lovely pies, everyone packed with vitamins.
- Dame:- Just what the doctor ordered. We'll have three please. Don't worry,

- Dame:- (Continued) I'll pay, I collected three weeks back pension yesterday. I can even afford a bus ride into town.  
(The pie seller gives her three 'pies' and she pays. Pie seller exits)  
My, these look good. Here you are Nausea, there's one for you.
- Nausea:- Ooh, thank you, I'm going to enjoy this.  
(She sits at table and places pie on table in front of her)
- Dame:- And one for you Jack.
- Jack:- Ooh, ta. Is it made by Mr. Kipling?
- Dame:- Why, does it look Rudyard (ruddy 'ard)? Rudyard - did you hear that Nausea? It was a joke. (She slaps her on the back and she falls forward, her face going into the pie. Nausea slowly straightens up and turns her face to Dame) Ooh look, it's the abominable snow-woman. (Dame and Jack laugh uproariously. Nausea gets up and goes over to Jack)
- Nausea:- (Smiling) Come and sit down here Jack and have your pie. It's much easier to eat it when you're sitting at the table.
- Jack:- (Innocently) Do you think so?
- Nausea:- Of course. (She takes his arm and sits him down at the table. He places pie on table in front of him. She sits next to him) Ooh look there's a fly on your pie.
- Jack:- A fly on my pie? Are you sure you don't mean there's pie on my fly.
- Nausea:- No definitely a fly on your pie. Look, you can see it
- Jack:- I can't.
- Nausea:- Look closer. (He places his face nearer pie) Now can you see it?
- Jack:- No.
- Nausea:- Look closer. (He places his face even nearer pie) Now can you see it?
- Jack:- No.
- Nausea:- Here, let me help you. (She pushes his face into pie. He slowly lifts his face out of pie. Nausea smiles but Dame laughs uproariously. Jack and Nausea look at each other, nod and slowly approach Dame. She suddenly stops laughing and starts to back away)
- Dame:- Now, don't be silly, let's talk this thing over. I've got a delicate skin.
- Nausea:- It'll make a change from Oil of Ulay.
- Dame:- Help! (Dame exits with pie screaming. Jack and Nausea exit after her. There are offstage screams and yells. Dame re-enters with pie all over her face. Nausea and Jack re-enter and shake hands. Dame is carrying a cloth and she cleans herself up)
- Jack:- Is it juicy Lucy? (He laughs)
- Nausea:- Never mind, let me help you clean up.
- Dame:- I've got more stuff on my face than Barabara Cartland (or Joan Collins)
- Jack:- Look here comes the local folk dancing team to give a demonstration. Let's sit down and watch.
- Dame:- What a good idea! (They sit at table. Senior dancers enter in Tyrolean costume or as Morris Dancers and perform suitable dance)

Dance (Senior Dancers)

Suggested Numbers:- Laendler (Sound of Music)  
 In Salzkammergut (White Horse Inn)

(Jack, Dame and Nausea applaud and Dancers exit)

Dame:- Wasn't that nice? It reminded me of my younger days you know. (They rise from the table)

Nausea:- Really?

Dame:- Yes, I haven't always been a wallflower, I'd have you know. I've spent many happy hours on the floor with young men.

Jack:- Really.

Dame:- My Moonlight Saunter was the rage of - - - (local town)

Nausea:- You don't say.

Dame:- I do. Men who have seen my pasadoble just couldn't believe it.

Jack:- I'm not surprised.

Dame:- Would you like to watch my foxtrot?

Jack:- I didn't know you had a fox.

Dame:- Stupid boy! Anyway, this won't get the Princess woken up. I wonder what's happened to that handsome Prince Rupert.

Nausea:- I don't know, but he<sup>could</sup>/chop his way through my undergrowth any time.

Jack:- But I thought you were my girlfriend.

Nausea:- You don't seem to want me.

Jack:- Oh I do really. I'm just playing hard to get.

Nausea:- Honest? (She snuggles up to him)

Jack:- Yes, I think you're the best thing since 'Space Invaders' (or other modern invention)

Nausea:- Am I?

Jack:- Yes. (They cuddle)

Dame:- Break it up, break it up, this is isn't - - - (Suitable TV programme such as 'Dallas' or 'Dynasty') you know. And apart from that the Prince is returning.

(Jack and Nausea separate. Rupert, Frederick and Edward return)

Well, how did you get on your workshop?

Rupert:- Not very well I'm afraid.

Frederick:- The palace is completely surrounded by the trees.

Dame:- Can't you get through them?

Rupert:- No, there's such a tangle of brambles and creepers it's like a solid wall.

Jack:- What about your swords?

Rupert:- Every time we chopped the creepers away new ones grew in their place.

Dame:- What about Edward's mummy and daddy?

Frederick:- No sign of them.

Dame )  
 Jack ):- Aw! (To audience) Everybody - aw!  
 Nausea )

Dame:- Oh dear, what are we to do?

(Tinkling music is heard and the Diamond Fairy enters carrying two swords. The chorus gradually enter over next half page of dialogue)

Diamond F:- Do not despair Prince Rupert, I have come to assist you.

Dame:- Ooh Mrs. Fairy, how glad we are to see you.

Diamond F:- You have done well Lucy, telling the Prince of the wickedness of the Charcoal Fairy.

Jack:- I helped as well.

Diamond F:- And so have you Nausea, travelling all that way to Bohemia.

Jack:- (Louder) I helped as well.

Diamond F:- And you Frederick, supporting the Prince as you have done.

Jack:- (Crying) I helped as well.

Diamond F:- Ah Jack, did you say something?

Jack:- (Timidly) I helped as well.

Diamond F:- So you did. And to commemorate the event I shall invest you all with my order of merit. Yes this medal is awarded for teamwork.

Jack:- Teamwork?

Diamond F:- Yes it was to have said 'Teamwork is terrific'.

Dame:- (Joyfully) Teamwork is terrific?

Diamond F:- Unfortunately there wasn't enough room to write all that on the medal, so we decided to settle for the initial letters. Bring on the medals.

(One of the other fairies brings on three medals bearing the letters T.W.I.T.)

There we are - 'Teamwork is terrific'.

(The fairy pins the medals on Dame, Nausea and Jack and then exits)

Jack:- I'm so proud.

Nausea:- So am I.

Dame:- This is better than a night out with - - - (local character).

Diamond F:- And now to my real task. Here are two magic swords Prince Rupert. There's one for you and one for Frederick. They have special powers.

(She gives them the swords)

Rupert:- Special powers?

Diamond F:- Yes you will find that these swords have the power to cut through the dense forest around the palace. No trees or creepers will grow again once they have been felled with these weapons.

Rupert:- Thank you Diamond Fairy. We will set off at once for the palace.

Diamond F:- Beware, the Charcoal Fairy has set up a dragon at the entrance to the palace to prevent all from entering.

Rupert:- We are not afraid of a dragon, are we everybody?

Jack:- Aren't we?

Rupert:- Of course not. Lead on Frederick, there's no time to waste.

Frederick:- At once your Highness.

(Frederick leads the way. They all follow apart from Jack who sets off in the opposite direction. Dame and Nausea go after him, grab him and bring him back)

Song (Rupert, Principals and Chorus)

Suggested Numbers:- Stouthearted Men (New Moon)  
 Something's Coming (West Side Story)  
 Don't Rain on My Parade (Funny Girl)

(At the end of the number the principals march off and the chorus wave as the tabs close)

Scene 2 - The Way to the Palace (Tabs or Frontcloth)

(The Charcoal Fairy enters carrying wand. She hisses at the audience)

Charcoal F:- So they think they're going to win do they? I'll soon show them. My dragon will soon put paid to their little schemes despite all the help from that sickeningly sweet Diamond Fairy. And when they have all died in the attempt I will not only become ruler of the kingdom of Ambrosia but also Prince Rupert's kingdom as well. It's all too easy.

(She laughs evilly, hisses at audience and exits. Prince Rupert, Frederick, Dame, Jack, Nausea and Edward march on. Dame stops and half collapses)

Dame:- I can't go on, I can't go on. (They all stop)

Rupert:- What is it Lucy? Are you tired?

Dame:- My varicose veins are playing up. It always happens when there's an 'R' in the month.

Rupert:- You just rest awhile and the remainder of us will split up. If we can find out where the forest is the least dense it will take less time to reach the palace. Frederick, Edward and I will go this way and we'll meet you two (To Jack and Nausea) at the other side. Come along men, let's get to work.

(Rupert, Frederick and Edward exit)

Jack:- (To Dame) I'll get you a seat. Hey Mr. Music Man would you let Lucy borrow that stool please? (MD nods and a spare stool is passed up onto stage) Thanks very much. Here you are Lucy, you sit down for a bit.

Dame:- (Sitting down) Thanks love. Ooh that's better. It's nice to take the weight off your surgical stockings.

Nausea:- Come on Jack, we're supposed to be walking round the other side of the forest.

Jack:- (To Dame) We'll be back in a minute Lucy. Tata.

(Jack and Nausea exit)

Dame:- By, I feel better already. In fact I've thought up a trick to play on 'em to get my own back for being covered in custard pie and I could also make a bit of money on the side. (To pianist in pit) Would you help me Mr. Piano Player? (Pianist nods) I'm going to tell them that this piano stool is magic and when you sit on it you can play an invisible piano. So when I put my hands out like this, you play, okay? (Pianist nods) Let's give it a try. (She makes herself comfortable on the stool and then puts hands out as though she is about to play a piano. Pianist plays in time with her hand movements) Wonderful! Ah, there's somebody coming. Let's try it out.

(She gets up. Frederick enters)

Dame:- Hello Frederick.

Frederick:- Hello Lucy, we can't seem to find any break in the forest at all.

Dame:- Never mind, have a rest for a while. Did you know I've found a magic piano stool?

Frederick:- A magic piano stool?

Dame:- Yes I've discovered that if I sit down on it I can play an invisible piano.

Frederick:- I don't believe it.

Dame:- I bet you 10p I can.

Frederick:- You're on. Here's my 10p. (He takes out 10p and holds it up)  
It's yours if you can prove it.

Dame:- Very well. Here goes. (She sits down on stool and 'plays' with the help of the pianist)

Frederick:- That's amazing. I'd never have believed it. The money's yours.

(He gives her the 10p and exits scratching his head)

Dame:- That was as easy as falling off a log - or at least a piano.  
(She looks towards side of stage) Ah there's somebody else coming.  
Let's see if we can make it work again.

(Dame gets up and Nausea enters)

Ah Nausea my precious, how are you?

Nausea:- I'm fed up of walking round and round that rotten forest.

Dame:- Never mind, why not stop for a while? I've got something to show you.

Nausea:- What is it?

Dame:- I've found out that this piano stool has magic powers.

Nausea:- It looks like a perfectly ordinary piano stool to me.

Dame:- Ah that's where you're wrong. If you sit on it you can play an invisible piano.

Nausea:- I don't believe it.

Dame:- Are you willing to bet 10p?

Nausea:- Alright, you're on. (She gets out 10p and holds it up) There we are, prove it to me.

Dame:- (To audience) This is like taking candy from a baby. (She sits down and 'plays' again)

Nausea:- That's fantastic! Here's your 10p, you deserve it.

(She gives Dame 10p and exits)

Dame:- That's twenty pence I've won already and look there's somebody else coming.

(Jack enters)

Jack:- Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Dame:- Hello Jack. Nice to see you my cherub.

Jack:- You're not after my body are you?

Dame:- Heaven forbid! No my angel I want to show you something.

Jack:- Not here, there might be a copper about.

Dame:- No you don't understand. You know that stool you kindly arranged for me?

Jack:- Yes.

Dame:- It's got magic powers.

Jack:- Oh no it hasn't.

Dame:- Oh yes it has.

Jack:- (Encouraging audience) Oh no it hasn't.

Dame:- (Encouraging audience) Oh yes it has.

Jack:- How do you mean?

Dame:- Well when I sit on it I can play an invisible piano.

Jack:- Don't be silly.

Dame:- It's true.

Jack:- It can't be.

Dame:- Why not?

Jack:- Because that stool belongs to the drummer.

Dame:- Rubbish!

Jack:- How much are you willing to bet?

Dame:- (Cockily) Twenty pence. (She produces the 20p she has won)

Jack:- Very well, you're on. Stand back.

(He sits down the stool and imitates drummer's movements with his arms. The drummer in the pit plays along with him. Jack gets up and takes 20p Dame is holding up) There we are. That's my money I think. Thank you very much. (Dame is flabbergasted) By the way, thanks for the use of the stool fellers; you can have it back now. (He passes stool back into pit) Oh yes, and here's a half the winnings - - - (Drummer's name) like we agreed. (He throws him 10p)

Dame:- Why you cheat, I'll knock you into the middle of next week.  
(She grabs him by the scruff of the neck)

Jack:- Don't hit me, I'm not insured.

Dame:- Then give me back my money.  
(Nausea enters)

Jack:- Here's 10p, it's all I've got.  
(He holds up 10p. Nausea walks by and takes it)

Nausea:- My 10p I think.

Dame:- How do you know it's yours?

Nausea:- (Griming) It's got a picture of the Queen on it.

Jack:- I haven't got a penny to scratch my - - - nose with.

Dame:- Never mind, neither have I. Still we've got each other.

Nausea:- That's right and who needs money when you've got friends.

Optional Trio (Dame, Jack and Nausea)

Suggested Numbers:- The Best Things in Life Are Free (The Good News)  
When I'm Sixty Four (Beatles Number)  
Spread a Little Happiness (Mr.Cinders)

Scene 3 - The Enchanted Forest/The Palace Entrance (Gauze/Backcloth)

(Tabs draw back on gauze painted as dense forest. There are two 'creepers' hanging from flies. Behind gauze is the palace entrance hidden from view until gauze is drawn back. Rupert, Frederick and Edward enter)

Rupert:- Well Frederick, we've walked all round the edge of this forest and there's no break anywhere.

Frederick:- And we still haven't found Edward's parents.

(Edward starts to cry)

Rupert:- Never mind Edward, here's my hankie.

(Rupert gives Edward his handkerchief. Edward wipes his eyes)

Now blow your nose and you'll feel better.

(Edward blows his nose with suitable accompaniment from band. He then gives hankie back to Rupert)

Frederick:- Shall we try out our magic swords?

Rupert:- Why not. Let's see if your magic powers are strong enough my beauty.

(He chops at one of the creepers with his sword. It is released and falls onto the stage)

It worked. Now you try.

(Frederick chops at other creeper and it falls)

Well done. With these swords we should have no trouble at all reaching the palace gates. Come Frederick, let's try chopping the trees down.

(They wield their swords in front of gauze. Lighting gradually changes so that trees fade and palace entrance appears.)

The forest is beginning to disappear. These swords must be more powerful than the Charcoal Fairy's magic.

(The gauze is drawn back. Mummy and Daddy Bear are huddled together behind gauze)

Frederick:- And look there's Edward's mummy and daddy.

(Edward is about to run to them when the Charcoal Fairy appears with wand)

Charcoal F:- Not so fast my dears. Don't think I give in as easily as that. (Weaving spell):-

Though you made my forest fade,  
Dragon hasten to my aid.

(Bellowing can be heard offstage)

This will put an end to your adventures my brave ones.

(She exits laughing evilly. Dragon enters menacingly. This can be four or five chorus members under a skin, similar in style to a Chinese dragon)

Rupert:- Oh no! Be on your guard Frederick.

Frederick:- It doesn't frighten me your Highness.

(The following fight sequence can be accompanied by music to give more atmosphere. Numbers such as 'The Devil's Gallop' or 'The Headless Horseman' would be appropriate)

(The dragon approaches Frederick who after short skirmish falls to the ground. The dragon is about to pounce when Rupert steps in)

Rupert:- You're too eager Mr. Dragon. Let me give you a taste of my medicine.

(Rupert draws dragon away from Frederick and there is a fight between Rupert and the dragon, first Rupert winning)

What's the matter? Don't you like my little game?

(Then the dragon gains the upper hand. Rupert falls at its feet. Frederick is still on the ground. Jack rushes on and grabs the dragon's tail)

Jack:- Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Jack:- Got you, you overgrown lizard.

(Jack pulls the dragon's tail and it comes off. He falls to the ground)

Quick, Lucy, Nausea, give me a hand.

(Dame and Nausea rush on and grab back half of dragon)

Dame:- Where's it from, Loch Ness?

(Dragon has now lost interest in Rupert and turns on Jack, Dame and Nausea)

Nausea:- Help, I don't want to finish up as the dragon's dinner.

(Rupert gets up)

Rupert:- Don't turn away Mr. Dragon, I'm ready for you.

(Dragon turns to face Rupert. Dragon forces him further and further back. When Rupert his hard up against the proscenium arch he thrusts his sword down the dragon's throat. Dragon drops down dead with loud bellow. Everyone cheers)

And now Edward it's time to re-unite you with your parents.

(He takes Edward across to Mummy and Daddy Bear. They hug him)

Dame:- Aw! (To audience) Everybody - aw!

Nausea:- Isn't love wonderful? (To Jack)

Jack:- Is it?

Nausea:- Of course it is. (She hugs him)

Dame:- (To Mummy and Daddy Bear) Make sure you don't leave your little bear behind in future. Ooh, what am I saying?

(The three bears wave and exit. All wave back)

Rupert:- And now Frederick, let us enter the palace and find the Princess.

Frederick:- At once your Highness.

(Rupert and Frederick exit into palace. Dame, Nausea and Jack move forward as tabs close)

Dame:- And what are we going to do?

Jack:- I think we should go into the palace as well.

Nausea:- What a good idea?

(They begin to exit when a ghostly noise is heard. They stop dead in their tracks)

Dame:- Stop making funny noises Jack.

Jack:- That wasn't me.

Dame:- Then it must have been you Nausea.

Nausea:- It wasn't me either.

Dame:- I must be imagining things.

(They set off walking and noise is heard again. They stop)

Now I've told you to stop making those funny noises.

Jack:- But it wasn't me.

Nausea:- And it wasn't me either.

Dame:- Alright we'll say no more about it.

(They set off again. 'Skeleton' enters wailing. They have their backs to it. They stop again)

Look I'm just about fed up of this. You ought to know better at your age.

(Skeleton goes behind them. They are now facing front. It tickles Nausea's ear. She scratches it without looking round)

Jack:- What are you talking about?

Dame:- These horrible noises I keep hearing.

Nausea:- You don't think there's a supernatural being about do you?

Jack:- A what?

Nausea:- A supernatural being.

Jack:- What's one of those?

Nausea:- Something that's risen from the grave to frighten us.

Dame:- Don't be silly. There aren't such things.

(Skeleton tickles Nausea's ear again)

Nausea:- Well I'm not so sure.

Dame:- Supernatural being, ha ha ha. (She turns to Jack and they both laugh. Meanwhile Nausea turns round, sees skeleton, 'screams' silently and dashes off)

Jack:- It's a laugh a minute, ha ha ha.

Dame:- Come on, let's follow the Prince. (She looks round) Where's Nausea gone?

Jack:- I don't know. (Skeleton tickles Jack's ear) Hey do you really think there's something spooky about?

Dame:- I've told you, I don't believe in such things.

Jack:- Well something's just tickled my ear.

Dame:- Let's turn round and see if you're so worried.

Jack:- Okay. (They turn around, skeleton following them around so they don't see it)

Dame:- There we are, there's nothing there at all.

Jack:- Well I still think there's something spooky around.

Dame:- Let's ask that lot out there. (To audience) Is there anyone there? (Audience replies) A what? I can't hear you. (Audience replies)

Dame:- (Continued) A skeleton? I don't believe you.  
(Skeleton tickles Jack's ear)

Jack:- Something's just tickled my ear again. (To audience) Is it still there? (Audience replies) Where? (Audience replies) Behind me?

Dame:- Then let's turn round again.

Jack:- Alright. (The action is repeated with skeleton following them round so they don't see it)

Dame:- I knew there was nothing there.  
(Skeleton tickles Jack's ear again. He turns, sees it, 'screams' silently and dashes off. Skeleton places hand on Dame's shoulder)  
Ooh Jack, I didn't know you cared.  
(Skeleton runs hands up and down Dame's arm. All this time Dame is facing front)  
Ooh Jack, you are a caution. What would Nausea say? Let me hold your hand.  
(She takes skeleton's hand without turning)  
Ooh, your hands are bony. You don't feed yourself properly.  
(She runs her hand up skeleton's arm)  
Your arms are thin. You need somebody to look after you.  
(Her arm continues up to skeleton's skull)  
And your face is like a skull. Let me kiss you and bring the roses back to your cheeks.  
(She turns round to skeleton all puckered up to kiss it. She suddenly realises what it is, screams and runs off pursued by skeleton)

**Note:-** This scene can be played to the best effect using UV lighting.

#### Scene 4 - The Palace Banqueting Room

(Tabs draw back to reveal the same scene as at the end of Act I but all are covered in cobwebs. There is eerie music being played. Rudolph and Frederick enter)

Rupert:- Look Frederick, everyone's fallen asleep.

Frederick:- Yes and they're all covered in cobwebs, even the King and Queen.

Rupert:- And there's the Princess Aurora looking as lovely in her sleep as she does when she's awake.

Frederick:- She's like an angel your Highness.  
(Rupert kisses her gently)

Rupert:- Wake up Princess for the evil is past.  
(She stirs and rubs her eyes)

Aurora:- Where am I?

Rupert:- In the Palace Banqueting Room safe at last from the powers of the Charcoal Fairy.

Aurora:- Oh Rupert, is it really you?

Rupert:- Yes Aurora, there's no more to fear.  
(He helps her up from the divan. The remainder begin to wake)

Frederick:- Look the rest of the court are beginning to wake up as well.

Queen:- Oh Aurora, Aurora, are you alright my precious?  
(She runs across to her)

Aurora:- Yes I'm fine mother.

Queen:- And I see you have your young man with you.

Rupert:- (Kissing Queen's hand) Your Majesty.

King:- (Getting up and going to Aurora) I'm so glad you're alright Aurora.

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Shut - - - up.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- So like all good fairy tales we'll all live happily ever after.  
(Diamond Fairy enters)

Diamond F:- Yes I'm so pleased. All's well that ends well.

Rupert:- Thank you for your help Diamond Fairy. There would have been no happy ending without you to assist us.  
(Charcoal Fairy enters with wand)

Charcoal F:- Not so fast my proud beauties. I haven't finished yet. I shall use my wand to cast yet another spell over you all.

Diamond F:- You would be lost without your wand wouldn't you?

Queen:- You really are a thoroughly nasty piece of work aren't you.

Charcoal F:- Yes I am and now I'll show you how bad I can really be.  
(She waves her wand)  
This wand is my true power.  
(Rupert starts towards her)  
Stay there.  
(She waves wand at him and he freezes)  
Now would anyone else care to question my powers?  
(King manages to get behind Charcoal Fairy without her knowing)  
I will become Queen and you will all be my subjects. Do you hear that? And anyone who dares to object will be turned to stone just like Prince Rupert.  
(King grabs wand)

King:- I've got it! I've got it!  
(He dashes onto rostrum at rear of stage)

Charcoal F:- Give me back my wand. I need it to exist.

King:- Then come and get it. (She chases after him)

Charcoal F:- Give it to me I say. (She is now on rostrum)

King:- No way, you naughty fairy. (He moves away from her)

Charcoal F:- I'm starting to melt, I'm starting to melt.  
(Smoke starts to rise around her on the rostrum)

Charcoal F:- (Continued) Give me back my wand.

(She gradually sinks behind rostrum as though melting. Her voice becomes fainter as she repeats the last line. She eventually disappears altogether leaving her cloak behind her. Rupert comes to)

King:- She's gone, she's gone! I did it, I did it!

Queen:- Stop your noise Timorous.

King:- Bossanova.

Queen:- Yes.

King:- Shut - - - up.

Queen:- What did you say? (She goes to him)

King:- I said 'Shut - - - up'.

Queen:- Well I've never heard the like of it.

King:- No but you will in future. I've been too tolerant with you in the past but not any more. Now sit down. (He pushes her down on throne) And shut up.

Queen:- But Timorous - - -

King:- I said 'Shut - - - up'

Queen:- Yes dear.

Aurora:- Rupert, are you alright?

Rupert:- Yes I'm fine.

Aurora:- Thank heaven, I thought I'd lost you.

Rupert:- And now all evil is gone there's only one thing left to do?

Aurora:- What's that?

Rupert:- Aurora, will you marry me?

Aurora:- Oh yes, Rupert, yes.

Rupert:- (To King) Your Majesty, may I have your daughter's hand in marriage?

King:- Not just her hand, you can take all of her.

Queen:- What a wonderful day, everybody's happy and we'll have a lovely wedding and - - -

King:- Bossanova.

Queen:- Yes dear.

King:- Shut - - - up.

Queen:- Yes dear.

Song (Principals and Chorus)

Suggested Numbers:- Get Me To The Church On Time (My Fair Lady)  
I Love To Cry At Weddings (Sweet Charity)  
Put On Your Sunday Clothes (Hello Dolly)

Scene 5 - The Music Room (Tabs)

(Dame enters in mortar board and gown)

Dame:- Now today's lesson will be on music so don't get crotchety - - - crotchety, oh never mind. I've got a little song here that I want you all to sing and the one who sings the best will go to the top of the class and give out the pencils. Now where's my pupil gone?

- Dame:- (Continued) Come on teacher's pet, let's be having you.  
(Jack staggers on carrying blackboard and easel with words of song. He is dressed as a school boy)
- Jack:- Hi folks.
- Audience:- Hi Gang.
- Dame:- Less of that, this is the music lesson and you're not at Grange Hill now you know.
- Jack:- Sorry Lucy.
- Dame:- You will address me as Miss Lastic when you're in class or I'll have to remonstrate with you.
- Jack:- What, in front of all these people?
- Dame:- Yes I'll make you write out 'I love Nausea' a hundred times.
- Jack:- I could never love her a hundred times. It's a physical impossibility.
- Dame:- Come on, let's get on with teaching these people the song.
- Jack:- Yes miss, right away miss.
- Dame:- Well as you can see, this is a nice easy song to learn and you all know the tune, so we'd like you all to sing it wouldn't we?
- Jack:- Oh yes miss, whatever you say miss.
- Dame:- I'll tell you what, we'll sing it first so you get the idea and then you can all give it a whirl. Music maestro please.
- Community Song (Dame, Jack and Audience)
- (Tune:- My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean)
- My father has cornflakes for breakfast.  
My mother has crumpets for tea.  
My sister has cocoa for supper.  
Oh why can't they leave some for me?  
Leave some, leave some, oh why can't they leave some for me,  
for me.  
Leave some, leave some, oh why can't they leave some for me.
- Dame:- Now that was easy, wasn't it?
- Jack:- Yes miss, it was easy miss.
- Dame:- Right, now it's your turn (To audience) So loosen your larynx and away we go.  
(The song is repeated with audience hopefully joining in)
- That wasn't very good was it?
- Jack:- No miss, it wasn't very good miss.
- Dame:- Let's try it again, but we want everybody joining in this time. Come on all you kids from 2 to 92. Music maestro please.  
(Song is repeated)
- Dame:- That was a bit better, but I'll tell you something.
- Jack:- What's that miss?
- Dame:- This side of the audience sang louder than that side.
- Jack:- Rubbish - this side was best. (To his side of the audience)  
You were loudest weren't you? (Audience replies)
- Dame:- Oh no you weren't.

Jack:- Oh yes we were.

Dame:- Oh no you weren't (With audience).

Jack:- Oh yes we were (With audience).

Dame:- Well there's one way to find out. We'll split 'em in two.

Jack:- That sounds painful.

Dame:- You take that half and I'll take this half.

Jack:- Alright you go first as you're the lady.

Dame:- Right, are you ready folks? (Reply) Off we go then. Music please.

(The song is repeated with Dame's half singing)

Jack:- Have you started yet?

Dame:- Of course we have. We've finished.

Jack:- We didn't hear you, did we? (Reply)

Dame:- Alright if you're so clever let's see how you get on.

Jack:- Come on folks, don't let me down. Music maestro please.

(Song is repeated with Jack's half singing)

Jack:- We were best weren't we?

Dame:- Rubbish!

Jack:- Okay, we'll call it a draw and sing it altogether one more time.

Dame:- You can't say fairer than that. Music maestro please.

(The song is repeated for the last time. Dame and Jack exit with blackboard and easel)

#### Scene 6 - Prince Rupert's Palace (Finale)

(The chorus are on stage dressed in their finery)

#### Song (Chorus)

Suggested Numbers:- Everything's Coming Up Roses (Gypsy)  
 One (A Chorus Line)  
 A Regular Royal Queen (The Gondoliers)

(This can incorporate a routine for the Senior Dancers. All exit at end of number. Chamberlain and Diamond Fairy enter from opposite sides)

Lord C:- Oh what a wonderful wedding celebration.

Diamond F:- Yes and I'm sure Prince Rupert and Princess Aurora will live happily ever after.

(Fanfare is heard)

Lord C:- That sounds like the wedding guests now. Let us greet them in the manner they so richly deserve. (They exit)

#### Walkdown (Any up-tempo number form the show)

Chorus  
 Dancers  
 Skeleton  
 Pie Seller  
 The Three Bears  
 The Support Fairies  
 Morticia  
 Frederick  
 Lord Chamberlain

Walkdown (Continued)

Charcoal Fairy  
 Diamond Fairy  
 King and Queen  
 (King whistles for Queen who comes meekly)  
 Nausea and Jack  
 Lucy Lastic  
 Rupert and Aurora

Rupert:- At last I've done my princely duty,  
 And won myself a Sleeping Beauty.

Aurora:- For now I am Prince Rupert's wife,  
 And I'll be happy all my life.

Dame:- Although I'm glad that they're both happy,  
 I'd feel much better with a chappie.  
 So if there is a man out there,  
 The answer to a maiden's prayer,  
 Your house I'll clean, Your mouth I'll feed,  
 I will attend your every need.  
 I swear I'll love you all your life,  
 But please don't ever tell your wife.

Reprise (Full Company)

(One of the more romantic numbers from the show)

T H E E N D

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 1983

Properties and Furnishings

Act I

- Scene 1 - Lord Ch:- Staff, long scroll reaching to floor and pen  
Jack:- Jestng stick  
Dame:- 'Baby' doll wrapped in shawl  
Junior dancers:- Boxes wrapped to represent presents  
Already set:- Two thrones, one with joke cushion
- Scene 2 - Jack and Nausea:- Spinning wheel  
Jack:- Hankie with slogan  
Dame:- Pram with doll, feeding bottle, nappie and pin, baby powder
- Scene 3 - King:- Large hamper (twice)  
Rupert and Frederick:- Hunting horns  
Dame:- Hamper with white table cloth and cake  
Already set:- Tree stump with adjacent flowers to be picked by Aurora  
Flowers away from tree stump to be picked by Rupert  
Backstage:- 'Spider' to be let down from flies
- Scene 4 - Charcoal Fairy:- Book of spells  
Morticia:- Small table, spindle, mixing bowl, large spoon and various ingredients - leg of newt, wing of bat, ear of mouse, eye of cat, tooth of goat, horseshoe nail, hair of dog, rabbit's tail, ground fishbone
- Scene 5 - Charcoal Fairy:- Hooded cloak (to be carried) and spindle  
Morticia:- Practical spinning wheel with treadle and stool
- Scene 6 - Frederick:- Sword  
Charcoal Fairy:- Wand
- Scene 7 - Already set:- Divan (For Aurora)  
Junior dancers:- 'Sleepy dust'

Act II

- Scene 1 - Already set:- Practical picnic table and bench seat  
Backstage:- Coach with 'horses'  
Rupert and Frederick:- Swords  
Pie seller:- Tray with at least three 'custard pies'  
Jack, Dame and Nausea:- Clean-up cloths  
Diamond Fairy:- Two 'magic' swords  
Other fairies:- Three 'T.W.I.T.' medals
- Scene 2 - Rupert and Frederick:- 'Magic' swords  
Musical Director:- Spare stool  
Frederick:- 1Op piece  
Nausea:- 1Op piece
- Scene 3 - Already set:- Creepers hanging from flies  
Rupert:- Hankie  
Rupert and Frederick:- 'Magic' swords  
Charcoal Fairy:- Wand  
Dragon:- Detachable tail
- Scene 4 - Already set:- Divan and 'cobwebs', rostrum at least three feet high at rear of stage with steps up  
Charcoal Fairy:- Wand
- Scene 5 - Jack:- Blackboard and easel with words of community song