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Panto Pandemonium

by Roger Parsley
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Pupil Script

SCENE 1 At school

Song - WELCOME!

[J/A/M/S enter and walk to the front of the stage.]

SARA *(as they walk in)* Are you sure Miss Trumble said we had to meet her here in the hall?

ALISON Yeah! She said she'd be waiting for us.

MARTIN I'm really looking forward to going to the theatre, aren't you?

ALISON Yeah, I love pantomimes!

JOHN *(looking over the audience)* So where's Miss Trumble?

ALISON I hope she'll get here soon – the mini-bus is waiting.

[Enter WICKED WITCH from the side of the stage. She has a green face, but is dressed in 'teacher' clothes.]

WITCH Are you the children going to see the pantomime?

ALISON Yes... we're waiting for Miss Trumble.

WITCH Right... Well, I've got bad news and good news. The bad news is that Miss Trumble is ill, so she won't be taking you to the theatre.

[The children look at each other, and then her, in disbelief.]

SARA ...and the good news?

WITCH I'm taking you!

ALISON But... we don't know you.

WITCH My name is Miss Deeds. I'm your supply teacher!

MARTIN Are you sure Miss Trumble is ill? She was ok at registration.

WITCH Ah, yes, she was all right then, but... she... suddenly didn't feel well.

SARA Excuse me for asking, Miss Deeds, but you don't look too well yourself... What's wrong with your face?

WITCH What do you mean?

SARA It's sort of... a bit... green.

WITCH Rubbish. There's nothing wrong with my face.

JOHN Has someone told _____? [*insert headteacher's name*]

WITCH (*annoyed*) About my face?

JOHN No, about Miss Trumble!

WITCH She's being looked after; she's having a... a bit of a rest. Now, listen - if we go on talking about it, we'll be late for the panto! You don't want to miss it, do you?

MARTIN Of course we don't!

WITCH (*urgently, with arm gesture*) Well, let's get going then!
 (*aside to the audience*) I happen to know it's an extra special panto this year - full of surprises!
 [*Pause as the children look dubious.*]
 (*opening arms wide*) What are you waiting for? Let's go!
 [*Option: Honking of a horn, off-stage.*]
 (*shooing them*) Shoo! Get on the bus! Go on, go on!

*[Exit J/A/M/S. WITCH addresses the real audience.
 Enter BOO and HISS to side.]*

(*cackling*) Heh, heh, heh! What they don't know is... I'm really the Wicked Witch in disguise! (*cackles some more*)

Incidental - Witch's Entry Music
[BOO holds up sign - AUDIENCE boo]

(*huffy*) Huh! How rude! I'll call my servants. (*calling*) Spotty!

[Spotty appears, carrying a witch's cloak, & runs to her side.]

SPOTTY Here, mistress!

WITCH Grotty!
[Grotty appears, carrying a witch's hat, runs to her other side.]

GROTTY Here, mistress!

[During the following dialogue S & G "dress" the witch.]

WITCH My plan is working! I've locked their precious teacher in the stock cupboard! She won't get out 'til break-time!

[SPOTTY & GROTTY snigger. HISS holds up sign - AUDIENCE hiss.]

WITCH Those horrible children will help me get into the theatre, and then... heh, heh, heh! ...I'll carry out - my Master Plan!

[BOO holds up sign - AUDIENCE boo.]

You are about to witness my greatest triumph!
(triumphantly) I - shall - rule - Pantoland!

[BOO & HISS hold up signs - AUDIENCE hiss & boo.]

This year in every pantomime, the baddies will win! Yes! The baddies will win! After all, that's what everyone wants to see, isn't it?

[BOO & HISS lead the AUDIENCE:]

AUD./BOO/HISS Oh no it isn't!
WITCH/Spot/Grot *(smug)* Oh yes it is!!
AUD./BOO/HISS Oh no it isn't!
WITCH/Spot/Grot *(cross)* Oh yes it is!!
AUD./BOO/HISS Oh no it isn't!

WITCH *(exasperated)* Oh...for goodness' sake! *(pointing at BOO & HISS)*
Spotty! Get rid of those two! Come on Grotty, let's tell 'em!

*[WICKED WITCH & GROTTY move to the centre.
SPOTTY chases BOO & HISS off, then rejoins WITCH.
All three move about during the chorus sections.]*

Song - HEAR IT FOR THE BADDIES!

[WICKED WITCH gives a final cackle, and all three exit. BOO & HISS move to centre.]

BOO *(to STAGE AUDIENCE, disgusted)* You lot joined in the singing!
It didn't take long for you to change sides!

HISS You should be ashamed of yourselves!

BOO You're rubbish! You're meant to cheer the goodies!

[Exit BOO & HISS, shaking their heads, talking to each other as they leave.]

They were cheering the baddies! Can you believe it?

HISS You just can't get a good audience these days!

SCENE 2 At the theatre

[MOO enters Left, crosses the stage looking around sadly.]

MOO Tail! Tail? Where are you, Tail? *(to audience, pathetically)* I've lost my Tail... *(moving off)* Tail, Tail, where are you? Tail!

[Exit MOO, Right. Enter JOHN, ALISON, MARTIN & SARA. They spread out, exploring the performing space.]

JOHN Wow! It's the first time I've ever been on a real stage!

ALISON *(puzzled)* There's nobody about, though.

SARA I suppose all the actors must be in their dressing-rooms.

MARTIN Yeah, but why did Miss Deeds tell us to come onto the stage? We're not going to watch from here, are we?

[SARA shrugs, wandering over to the Pantoland doorway.]

SARA *(touching the doorway)* I wonder what's through this doorway?

ALISON *(pointing off)* Look out, someone's coming! Maybe it's an actor.

Incidental - Good Fairy Twinkle

[Enter GOOD FAIRY]

GOOD FAIRY *(startled)* Goodness! What are you children doing here? You shouldn't be on the stage. You should be sitting with them! *(pointing at the actual audience.)*

SARA We're from _____ *[Name of School]*

GOOD FAIRY Oh, yes... I'd forgotten you were coming.

[J/A/M/S move to central positions, JOHN & ALISON to one side of GOOD FAIRY, MARTIN & SARA on the other.]

Let me introduce myself. I'm the Good Fairy. *(curtseys, holding skirt)*

SARA *(to ALISON)* I guessed she was the Good Fairy!

GOOD FAIRY I'm supposed to make happy endings, but there won't be any today... It's all gone horribly wrong! *(looking around)* Where's Miss Trumble?

ALISON She's ill. A supply teacher brought us.

GOOD FAIRY Oh, that's bad luck. There's bad luck everywhere today. It's all because of the Wicked Witch!

JOHN *(disbelieving)* Oh yeah, the Wicked Witch? Huh!

GOOD FAIRY *(looking at him seriously)* Don't you believe in the Wicked Witch?

JOHN *(folding arms)* I'm not five years old. Of course I don't!

GOOD FAIRY Oh dear. You may be in for an unpleasant shock.

MARTIN Why did you say there won't be any happy endings?

GOOD FAIRY Well, you see, I'm not just any Good Fairy. I'm in charge of all the Good Fairies in every pantomime.

ALISON Really?

GOOD FAIRY Yes. I give them magic – for magic wands, pumpkins that turn into carriages, and so on.

JOHN *(to anyone who'll listen)* What is this? Part of the pantomime?

GOOD FAIRY *(ignoring him)* But this year, I can't make any magic – so the baddies will win – all of them! *(sadly)* It'll be the worst panto season ever!

ALISON Why?

GOOD FAIRY I told you! It's all because of that Wicked Witch.

JOHN *(disbelieving)* Because of the Wicked Witch? Gimme a break! She's only an actress!

GOOD FAIRY *(still ignoring him)* She's stolen the good magic from three very special things.

MARTIN What things?

GOOD FAIRY Well, there's the goose that lays the golden eggs from...

A/M/S "Jack And The Beanstalk"?

[JOHN turns and listens, interested in spite of himself.]

GOOD FAIRY That's right. And then there's the lamp from...

J/A/M/S "Aladdin"?

GOOD FAIRY Yes. And she's stolen the magic from the glass slipper in...

J/A/M/S "Cinderella"!

GOOD FAIRY And if the magic isn't working, hundreds of pantos will be ruined! Thousands of children will be disappointed...

[In the last chorus of the song, MARTIN moves aside, thoughtfully. JOHN is torn between interest and disbelief.]

Song- SPREAD A LITTLE MAGIC

MARTIN *(returning to centre stage)* I've been thinking about this Witch. Do you know what she is really? She's a great big bully.

ALISON So?

MARTIN Well, you know what we do about bullies at school ...

ALISON We're supposed to stand up to them.

MARTIN Perhaps that's what we should do now.

JOHN *(to real audience, incredulous)* They really believe there's a witch!
(loudly, turning to A/M/S) It's only a panto!

A/M/S *(together, glaring at JOHN)* Oh, shut up John!
[JOHN moves aside, shaking his head. GOOD FAIRY joins him and mimes conversation. JOHN shrugs, etc.]

SARA *(to MARTIN)* Do you mean we should stand up to the witch?

ALISON *(to MARTIN)* Like... make the witch change?

MARTIN Yeah.

ALISON But she's a witch. It'd be far too hard!

GOOD FAIRY *(turning to MARTIN & ALISON)* Yes. It's very kind of you to offer, but...you're only kids. I don't think you should get involved.

MARTIN *(to the audience and other children)* What do you think? Should we help the Good Fairy and fight the Witch?

AUDIENCE *(quietly)* Yes!

MARTIN Sorry, I didn't quite catch that - Should we should help the Good Fairy and fight the Witch?

AUDIENCE *(louder)* YES!

A/M/S Pardon?

AUDIENCE *(shouting very loud)* YES!!
[The four children cover their ears and wince.]

A/M/S We'll help the Good Fairy... *(punching the air)* and fight the Witch!

JOHN But it's only a...

A/M/S *(interrupting together)* Shut up, John!

GOOD FAIRY Oh, you are such brave children. And if you could help put things right, everyone would be so grateful!

JOHN *(still trying to get back to reality)* No, no! This is crazy! Witches only exist in fairy tales!

SARA *(to JOHN)* Shush, spoilsport! Like you said - this is a pantomime. Enjoy it! *(theatrically)* We're on a mission! We must defeat evil!

MARTIN Anyway, it's a lot more fun than school!

[JOHN shrugs.]

SARA (to GOOD FAIRY) Where do we start?

GOOD FAIRY We've got to get hold of those three magic objects...

ALISON Do you know where they are? Are they hidden?

GOOD FAIRY Not exactly...

MARTIN So... how will we find them?

GOOD FAIRY You'll have to get into the stories.

SARA Get into them? How can we do that?

GOOD FAIRY Oh, that's easy. That doorway... (pause as A/M/S turn to look) is the entrance to Pantoland, where all Pantomime stories are made.

Incidental - Magic Doorway (Long)

[The children approach the doorway slowly.]

A/M/S Wow!

JOHN (to audience, making 'loopy' gesture) Weird!

GOOD FAIRY Just go through, and find the stories you need. Good luck!

Incidental - Good Fairy Twinkle

[Exit GOOD FAIRY, J/A/M/S stand by the doorway.]

MARTIN So, we've got to go through this doorway....

ALISON That's what she said.

JOHN (ironically to others) We're off to save the panto, are we?

A/M/S (together) Yes!

[JOHN makes a resigned shrug, and joins in anyway!]

Song - WE'RE OFF!

[Enter BOO & HISS.]

BOO (indicating STAGE AUDIENCE) They're still here then.

HISS Not up to much, this audience – all that cheering for baddies – tut, tut, tut.

BOO But they did encourage the children to fight the witch...

HISS I suppose so. Maybe they've had a change of heart.

BOO Let's hope so! (addressing real audience, hands on hips:) Do you think you could boo and hiss properly... at the right people?

HISS Please say yes... Pantoland is in such a mess.

BOO *(looking over shoulder)* Oh no! The Witch is coming! Hide!

Incidental - Witch's Entry

[BOO & HISS run to crouch by Doorway. WITCH enters.]

WITCH Hah, hah, hah! Now to deal with those four `orrible little kids....
(sweetly, as if calling a cat) Kiddies! Kiddies! Here, Kiddy-
Kiddies! *(angrily)* Ach! Where have they gone?
And where are my servants? *(calling)* Spotty? Grotty?

[Enter SPOTTY & GROTTY, running.]

SPOT / GROT Hello Mistress.

WITCH You know those kids I told you about?

SPOT / GROT Yes, Mistress.

SPOTTY `Orrible schoolchildren.

GROTTY Smelly goody-goodies! Where are they?

WITCH They've disappeared!

SPOTTY *(looking left and right)* Where'd they go?

GROTTY *(cunningly)* Who saw them go?
(looking at the audience and pointing) They must have!

WITCH Yes! Well done, Grotty! Extra slime for you tonight!

GROTTY *(rubbing his tummy, like Homer Simpson)* Mmm!Slime!

WITCH *(to the audience)* He's right! You lot were here when they went!
Which way did they go? *(pointing to left)* That way?

SPOT / GROT *(pointing to right)* That way?

AUDIENCE *(pointing in different directions)* They went that way!

SPOTTY Look Mistress! *(pointing to the Pantoland door with a gasp)*
That's the way they must have gone!

WITCH Hah! They've gone into Pantoland! Well, now I've got them trapped!
They'll get all tangled up in the stories, and then....I'll pounce!

SPOT / GROT Clever Mistress!

WITCH I wonder what they're up to...?

GROTTY *(sneering)* Well, they're goody-goodies, aren't they?
They'll be doing something nice!

WITCH / SP / GR Ugh! Yuk!

SPOTTY Or something kind

WITCH / SP / GR *(making vomiting gesture)* Ugh! Yuk!

WITCH Well, it doesn't matter, we'll soon find them, and then.....

SPOT / GROT and then...

WITCH / SP/ GR ...they'll be dealt with! Hah, hah, hah!

[BOO & HISS prompt audience from upstage]

AUDIENCE BOO!!! HISS!!!

BOO / HISS *(thumbs up)* That's more like it!

[WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY wave fists at BOO & HISS.]

WITCH *(snarling)* Pah! It's those miserable creatures, Boo and Hiss!

SPOTTY Come on! Let's get them!

Incidental - Chase

[WICKED WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY chase BOO & HISS ending with all exiting through the Pantoland doorway.]

SCENE 3 In Pantoland – Jack and the Beanstalk

[Enter JOHN & MARTIN, walking towards the doorway.]

JOHN Looks like we're back where we started!

MARTIN Perhaps we took a wrong turning.

*[JACK enters, wandering downstage, talking to himself. The two boys, by the door, watch and listen. TIP: JACK only needs to get the very **first version** of his 'list' correct. The rest are meant to be wrong, so mistakes don't matter!]*

JACK *(feeling in his pocket)* Oh no! I've lost the list!
Oh dear... Let's see if I can remember what Mum wanted.
[thinking hard and counting on his fingers.]
Fairy soap, a wobbly jelly, and curry sauce.
Yes, that was it! I must remember all the way to the shop...
[He starts moving, counting as before.]
... saucy soap, a curried jelly, and a wobbly fairy.
Err... No, that's not right...

MARTIN Excuse me.....

JACK Please don't interrupt! You'll make me forget....
A curried fairy, a saucy jelly, and wobbly soap ...
No, that's wrong, too! *(crossly)* Now I'll never remember!

MARTIN Sorry!

JACK *(miserably)* As if I didn't have enough to worry about with the giant!

MARTIN Can we help?

JACK You any good with giants?

MARTIN What do you mean?

JACK I'll tell you my story. *(steps forward, facing the real audience)*
My name's Jack. I live with my mother. We're very poor...

JOHN *(knowingly)* ...and your mother told you to sell your cow, to get money for food.

JACK *(turning to JOHN, amazed)* Yes! How did you know?

JOHN *(to audience)* Oh, I read it somewhere...

MARTIN *(knowingly)* ...only you exchanged the cow for some beans?

JACK Yes. I bet you think I'm stupid, swapping a cow for beans, but they were supposed to be magic beans.

MARTIN Did you plant them?

JACK Yes, but nothing happened. They weren't magic at all.

MARTIN No beanstalk?

JACK No. Nothing grew at all. End of story!

MARTIN *(to JOHN)* ...and I think we know why! But what about the giant?

JACK That's the worst thing! Though nothing grew, the giant still came!

MARTIN *(suddenly interested, nudging JOHN)* Did he bring his magic goose?

JACK *(sadly)* Probably. I haven't seen him. Why are you so interested?

JOHN Don't try and explain, Martin!

JACK *(moving away)* Oh, it's pandemonium round here! All the stories are going wrong! *(moving back)* Humpty Dumpty came to our house yesterday, looking for a wall! I told him he was in the wrong story...

MARTIN *(looking off, to where the DWARFS will come on)*
Hold on, there's someone coming!

[The SEVEN DWARFS begin as they march in, carrying spades over their shoulders. On 'Company... (Hic!) HALT!' they stop in a line and stand down their spades simultaneously, as if they were rifles.]

Song - WE'RE THE SEVEN DWARFS

JACK Like that!

DWARF 7 Goodness me! Is that the time? Better get a move on! Come along!
[DWARFS hurriedly get back into line, ready to march off.]

DWARF 1 Must be going!
 DWARF 2 Better be on our way!
 DWARF 3 Sorry we can't stop!
 DWARF 4 Things to do!
 DWARF 5 Places to go!
 DWARF 6 People to see!
 DWARF 7 Hey! My hiccups have gone!
 ALL DWARFS Byeeeee!!

DWARF 7 *(quickly)* Hup, two, three, four! Hup, two, three, four! *(until off)*
[DWARFS march off.]

GIANT *(as before)* Fee, Fie, Foe, Fum! Shake and quiver - here I come!

JOHN *(alarmed)* He sounds very big! What do we do if he comes this way?

JACK *(making to run away)* Hide, of course!

MARTIN Wait! It's no good running away. We'll help you tackle him.
(to JOHN) The Good Fairy needs the goose, remember?

JOHN How are we going to take it from a giant?

MARTIN We'll need a bit of courage, that's for sure.....

Song - FEE, FIE, FO, FUM!

JACK *(immediately after the song)* Look out! He's coming!
[All three boys crouch, covering their eyes. Enter GIANT, carrying a goose, which he puts down before approaching the boys.]

GIANT *(cute)* Hello! Are you playing hide and seek? Can I join in?

JOHN *(without removing his hands from his eyes)* No! Run away! QUICK!

JACK We're hiding from the giant.

GIANT But I can see you!

JOHN Yes, but we're hoping the giant won't!

GIANT I am the giant, and I can see you!

JOHN What? *(He opens his fingers a little, then takes his hands away altogether, standing up)* Who did you say you were?

GIANT I'm the giant!

JACK You're supposed to live up a beanstalk and have a goose that lays golden eggs.

GIANT *(gets goose)* Well, I do have a goose, but it only lays goose eggs! Yuk!

JOHN *(nudging MARTIN)* Don't you want the goose, then?

GIANT No. Dad told me to get rid of it, but I can't leave it just anywhere...
[JOHN & MARTIN look at each other.]

MARTIN Would you mind giving it to us?

GIANT *(thinking)* Er... Well, you can have it if... Jack invites me to his house!

JOHN Whaddya say, Jack?

JACK Well, the trouble is - he's still a giant!

MARTIN But such a very small one!

JACK Hmm... Have you got any computer games?

GIANT Hundreds of them!

JACK Oh! Well... ok, but let's go to your house first. You can get your games!

GIANT OK.

JOHN *(to MARTIN)* Looks like Jack's found a friend!

MARTIN Yes... *(hinting)* but the Giant still needs to give us something...

GIANT What? Oh yes! *(handing the goose to MARTIN)* Here you are. *(giving a cute little wave)* Bye-bye, Gertie Goose! I'll miss you! *(to JACK, pulling a face)* ... but I won't miss those eggs!

JACK Oh, I forgot! I still have to go to the shop!

GIANT I'll come with you. What have you got to get?

AUDIENCE Fairy soap, a wobbly jelly, and curry sauce!

JACK *(as they go off together)* Er...some curried soap, a saucy jelly... No, that's not it... a curried fairy? I'll get it right in a bit... saucy soap...
[Exit JACK & GIANT.]

MARTIN Well, those two have made friends.

AUDIENCE Ahhh!

JOHN But now we'd better find our friends!

MARTIN Oh, yeah! Alison and Sara! I wonder where they are...

JOHN And we've got to find two more objects. Better go back through that door...

MARTIN *(looking at him)* Don't tell me you're starting to believe all this?

JOHN *(with a cagey smile)* I might be!

Incidental - Magic Doorway (Short)

[JOHN & MARTIN go through doorway. MOO enters R.]

MOO *(calling)* Tail? Tail! *(crossly)* Tut... Where is Tail? *[Exit R.]*

Scene 4 Working the Audience!

[Enter BOO & HISS.]

HISS Hello!

BOO Remember us?

HISS We thought we'd give you a bit of encouragement.

BOO A nice little sing-song.

HISS It's very easy to learn, and we want you all to join in.
(moving to Right) I'll teach the people on this side.

BOO *(moving to Left)* And I'll teach the people on this side.

HISS Are you all ready?

AUDIENCE Yes.

BOO I didn't quite catch that. Are you all ready?

AUDIENCE *(loudly)* YES!

BOO Good. Then let's begin by practising the words.
Say after me: *(very slowly)* Pan-to Pan-de-mo-ni-um.

AUDIENCE *(same speed as BOO)* Pan-to Pan-de-mo-ni-um.

HISS Very good! Now a little faster. Pan-to Pan-de-mo-ni-um.

AUDIENCE *(same speed as HISS)* Pan-to Pan-de-mo-ni-um.

HISS Great! That's the words learnt! Now for the tune.
We'll sing it first, to show you how it goes.

Song - PANTO PANDEMONIUM

BOO Now it's your turn. My side can go first. Are you ready?

AUDIENCE (Left) Yes!

[Left side sing 'Panto Pandemonium'. BOO conducts.]

HISS Not bad, but it wasn't very loud. *(to AUDIENCE Right)* Can we do better than that?

AUDIENCE (Right) Yes!

BOO Oh no you can't!
AUDIENCE (Right) Oh yes we can!
AUDIENCE (Left) Oh no you can't!
AUDIENCE (Right) Oh yes we can!

BOO Prove it then.

*[Right side sing '**Panto Pandemonium**'. HISS conducts.]*

BOO That was pretty good, actually.

HISS Well now we all know the song, let's sing it together, as loud as we possibly can. It might scare off the Wicked Witch!

*[ALL sing '**Panto Pandemonium**', BOO & HISS conduct. WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY creep in, holding fingers to their lips to tell AUDIENCE to keep their presence secret. They move to where they can be seen when standing, and not when crouching.]*

BOO Very good. Hopefully that'll do the trick.

HISS We mustn't let the Wicked Witch get away with anything!

BOO No. Don't ever help her.

CHILD *(shouting)* Look out! There she is!

[Baddies duck down, BOO/HISS turn to look.]

BOO Where? I can't see her.

[BOO/HISS turn back, baddies stand up.]

AUDIENCE Behind you!

[Baddies duck down, BOO/HISS turn to look.]

HISS Where?

[BOO/HISS turn back, baddies stand up.]

AUDIENCE Behind you!

[Baddies duck down, BOO/HISS turn to look.]

BOO/HISS There's no-one there!

[BOO/HISS turn back, baddies stand up.]

AUDIENCE Behind you!

BOO *(to HISS, without turning)* Do you think they're teasing, Hiss?

[Baddies start to creep up behind BOO & HISS.]

AUDIENCE *(very urgently)* Behind you!

HISS *(to BOO)* I think they're teasing, Boo.

WITCH/SP /GR *(menacingly)* Oh no they're not!

BOO / HISS *(in unison, turning to see the Witch, Spotty and Grotty)*
Oh no! They're not! Let's get out of here!
[BOO & HISS run away from the baddies.]

WITCH After them!
Incidental - Chase
[WICKED WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY chase BOO & HISS again, ending with all exiting through Pantoland doorway. Enter MOO, Right.]

MOO Tail! Tail! Where are you?
(asks two people at random, who both shake their heads) Have you seen Tail? *(to everyone)* Has anyone seen Tail?

AUDIENCE *(firmly)* NO! We haven't seen Tail!

MOO *(tearfully)* I was only asking!

Incidental - Witch's Entry
[MOO gives a little scream and runs off Right as the WICKED WITCH enters, with SPOTTY & GROTTY.]

WITCH *(looking around)* Where are they? Where are those horrible kids?

GROTTY What makes you so sure they were here?

WITCH Because I can smell them, Grotty! I can always smell goodness! It hangs in the air and gets *(shouting)* RIGHT UP MY NOSE!

SPOTTY Yeah, goodness stinks! *(holding nose)* Phwah!

WITCH They've been here, that's for sure, but where are they *now*?

GROTTY *(indicating audience)* We could always ask them again...

SPOTTY They won't tell us! They're all nicey-nicey!

WITCH *(nastily)* Well, we'll ask them in a nicey-nicey way then!
(over-sweetly to the audience) Good evening everyone! Hello! So good to see you! Just wondering... Were those nice children here?

AUDIENCE *(innocently)* No...
WITCH / SP / GR *(nastily)* Oh, yes they were!
AUDIENCE Oh, no they weren't!
WITCH Oh... We don't believe you anyway!

[Enter BOO & HISS with their prompt signs.]

GROTTY *(pointing to WICKED WITCH)* Anyway, when she rules Pantoland...

SPOTTY ...which will be very soon...

GROTTY *(pointing at audience)* ...she's not going to allow people like you into the audience!

SPOTTY NO! It'll be baddies only!

[BOO prompts Audience.]

AUDIENCE **BOO!**

SPOTTY Yeah, all baddies!
[HISS prompts Audience.]

AUDIENCE **HISS!**

GROTTY No goodies!
[BOO & HISS prompt Audience.]

AUDIENCE **BOO! HISS!**
[BOO & HISS give thumbs up.]

WITCH But first, we've got to find out what those smelly kids are up to.
They mustn't spoil my great day!

SPOTTY They can't be far away! Come on!

WITCH / SP / GR *(to the audience)* We'll be back!
[BOO & HISS prompt audience.]

AUDIENCE **BOO! HISS!**
*[Exit WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY. BOO & HISS move to
centre stage.]*

BOO *(to HISS, pointing at Audience)* They're definitely improving.

HISS *(to BOO)* They did lie, though – the children were here.

BOO That's true. *(to Audience)* Complicated business, trying to do the
right thing.

HISS *(to BOO)* But at least they're trying.

BOO Yes - there's hope for them yet.

BOO / HISS *(to Audience)* Keep up the good work!

Incidental - Magic Doorway (Short)
[Exit BOO & HISS.]

[OPTION: DWARFS could march through at this point, singing their song again.]

Scene 5 **CINDERELLA**

[Enter TAIL Right, & moves to centre calling for MOO.]

TAIL *(sadly)* Moo! Moo? Did any of you see Moo come this way?

AUDIENCE *(pointing Right)* He went that way!

TAIL But I've just come from that way! Oh dear...
(calling as he goes to exit Right) Moo... Where are you? Moo...

*[Enter SARA & ALISON through door. SARA moves
around looking for the boys.]*

ALISON Looks like we're back on the stage again!
SARA I can't see the boys anywhere. Perhaps they went another way...
ALISON We haven't met anyone, yet!
SARA No, but there's someone coming now...

[First two lines of the following conversation are delivered loudly offstage, then enter MAGNOLIA & APPLE WHITE. MAGNOLIA is holding a shoe.]

MAGNOLIA It's mine!
APPLE WHITE No it isn't, it's mine!
MAGNOLIA I saw it first!
APPLE WHITE *(grabbing the shoe)* Yes, but I got it first!
MAGNOLIA Seeing it first always counts! *(She grabs the shoe back)*
APPLE WHITE No it doesn't! Getting it first always wins! *(Grabs shoe)*
MAGNOLIA It doesn't!
APPLE WHITE It does!
MAGNOLIA Doesn't!
APPLE WHITE Does!
MAGNOLIA It's mine!
APPLE WHITE No it isn't, it's mine!

[Both are holding the shoe, now. They spot the two girls.]

MAGNOLIA Who are you?
ALISON I'm Alison.
SARA And I'm Sara. Who are you? *(to ALISON)* As if we couldn't guess!
APPLE WHITE All right, then, clever-clogs, who are we?
ALISON Oh, that's easy - you're the Ugly.....er, I mean, you're Cinderella's step-sisters.
MAGNOLIA Oh, you know the story, do you?
SARA Of course we do!
APPLE WHITE Yes, but they don't know our version of it, do they?
MAGNOLIA No. You see, in our version I get to marry the Prince!
APPLE WHITE No you don't! I do!
MAGNOLIA *(tugging at the shoe)* Don't!
APPLE WHITE *(also tugging)* Do!
MAGNOLIA Don't!
APPLE WHITE Do!

MAG / APP (together) Well, one of us does!

ALISON But I thought the shoe would only fit one person!

APPLE WHITE (letting go of the shoe) Oh, that's the old version! Since the Wicked Witch got control, there's no good magic in the stories. So we've stolen the shoe...

MAGNOLIA ...and now, instead of Cinderella, one of us can marry the Prince!

APPLE WHITE Yes! Me!

MAGNOLIA No... Me!

[SARA and ALISON move to one side.]

Song - IT'S GOTTA BE ME!

[MAGNOLIA chases APPLE WHITE offstage with the shoe, then returns to stand smugly Stage Right. Enter CINDERELLA, looking very downhearted.]

MAGNOLIA (to AUDIENCE) Oh, here she is! Little Goody Two-Shoes Cinderella!

[Re-enter APPLE WHITE, to stand Left.]

APPLE WHITE (to AUDIENCE) Doesn't she look sad? All because she can't marry the prince, and I can!

MAGNOLIA I can, you mean!! Give me that shoe!

CINDERELLA It isn't fair, Magnolia!

SARA Is that your name - "Magnolia?"

MAGNOLIA Yes. Pretty, isn't it? And my sister's name is "Apple White".

ALISON Apple White and Magnolia ...what...unusual names!

APPLE WHITE Ah, well, you see, our Father's a painter and decorator.

SARA (not meaning it) Lovely. But I've just thought of something...

MAG / AP / CIND (together) Yes?

SARA Have you stopped quarrelling long enough to try the shoe on? The Prince isn't going to marry anyone if the shoe doesn't fit, is he?

MAGNOLIA You know, she's right! We hadn't thought of that! Give it here...I'll try it on, first...

[She tries - it doesn't fit.]

APPLE WHITE (gleefully) It doesn't fit! It doesn't fit! Here, give it to me!

[She tries too, but again, it doesn't fit.]

ALISON Now let Cinderella try it on.

[APPLE WHITE is reluctant, but ALISON grabs the slipper giving it to CINDERELLA, who tries it on. It doesn't fit her.]

CINDERELLA It must fit! I wore it at the ball last night! Why won't it go on?

SARA That's what I thought would happen!
[The others look astonished.]
It's all because of the Wicked Witch, you see!

MAG / AP / CIND No, we don't see!

SARA Well, the shoe in the story will only fit one person, right?

MAG / AP / CIND Right!

SARA So, now there's no good magic, it won't fit anybody!

MAGNOLIA *(gasp)* The Witch told us all the baddies would win!

APPLE WHITE *(angrily)* She's cheated us!

CINDERELLA *(sadly)* None of us will be able to marry the Prince, now!

MAGNOLIA *(cross)* And I'd bought a new dress for the wedding!

APPLE WHITE *(stamping her foot on the word 'hate')* Oh...I hate that witch!
[APPLE WHITE moves downstage to one side, thinking.]

MAGNOLIA So do I!

CINDERELLA *(sadly)* ...and me...

ALISON We all do! But I think we can help you...if you'll let us have the shoe.

MAGNOLIA *(giving it to ALISON crossly)* Take it – it's no good to us, is it?

SARA We're going to give it to the Good Fairy, so she can put the stories back to normal.

APPLE WHITE *(returning to centre)* Good! Because I've suddenly thought of something. Magnolia?

MAGNOLIA *(sweetly)* What have you thought of, Apple White?

APPLE WHITE If we married the Prince, we'd have to be good... ALL THE TIME!

MAGNOLIA *(horrified)* ALL the time?

APPLE WHITE Every minute! If you're Royal, you always have to behave yourself!

MAGNOLIA Oh dear! We wouldn't like that!

CINDERELLA But what about me?

SARA Oh, if the Good Fairy does her stuff, you'll be all right.

CINDERELLA I hope so. *(to MAGNOLIA and APPLE WHITE)* And if I do marry the Prince, I promise I'll invite you two to my wedding feast!

MAGNOLIA Oooh! What about that! Us two eating at the Palace!

APPLE WHITE I'll need a new party dress!

MAGNOLIA Me too!

APPLE WHITE I've got an Argos *[or other]* catalogue indoors, we could look in there...

[The sisters start to exit, speaking as they go.]

MAGNOLIA *(linking arms with APPLE WHITE)* Do Argos do ball gowns?

APPLE WHITE No, but I saw some lovely shower curtains that would suit you...

CINDERELLA *(to SARA & ALISON)* Thank you so much for your help. I do hope you're successful – a lot of people are relying on you.

SARA We'll do our best.

CINDERELLA Well, I'd better go. I've got lots of housework to do...

SARA Not for much longer, if we can help it!

ALISON *(holding up the shoe)* Don't worry, I'm sure you'll get this back before the Prince turns up!

CINDERELLA Good luck! *(She exits.)*

SARA Well, that's one object found!

ALISON Yes, but I'm a bit worried about the boys. Where are they?

SARA We'd better go and find them. They must be somewhere in Pantoland...

Incidental - Magic Doorway (Short)

[Exit SARA & ALISON]

Incidental - Witch's Entry

[Enter WICKED WITCH, GROTTY & SPOTTY.]

SPOTTY There's no-one here!

WITCH I thought you said you could hear girls' voices, Grotty.

GROTTY I did! We must have missed them.

WITCH Something's going on here, and I don't like it! I bet that lot *(pointing at the audience)* know something, but it's no good asking them!

SPOTTY Those kids have got to be in Pantoland, somewhere!

WITCH Of course they are! And we'll catch them before long!

GROTTY But....they're only *kids*. They can't do anything to hurt us, can they?

SPOTTY You never know with goodies!

WITCH Don't you worry! It's all under control! My Master Plan will not fail.

[Exit WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY. If the audience hiss and boo here, W/S/G can snarl back as they exit!]

SCENE 6 Aladdin

Incidental - Magic Doorway (Short)

[Enter MARTIN & JOHN, through the door.]

MARTIN Where are those girls? We must have looked everywhere, now!
[Enter TAIL through doorway.]

JOHN Who's this?

[They stand aside, and TAIL comes in, calling for MOO.]

TAIL (*calling:*) Moo! Where are you, Moo? (*seeing the boys*) Oh, hello!

JOHN Hello.

TAIL You haven't seen Moo, have you?

MARTIN Moo? What does Moo look like?

TAIL Moo is the front end, the one with the cow face. I've got the tail, see?
(*He shows the tail attached to his trousers.*) Have you seen Moo?

JOHN No, sorry. How did you come to lose each other?

TAIL It was the Wicked Witch. She cut us in half!

MARTIN Cut you in half? Why did she do that?

TAIL Because she thought we knew where the Giant was.

JOHN And did you?

TAIL Yes. He was playing in the woods. But we didn't tell her, she just wanted his goose... Oh! You've got it! (*alarmed*) Did you steal it?

JOHN No! We're not thieves!

MARTIN We're trying to get back the Good Fairy's magic. Since she lost it, everything's gone wrong.

[TAIL gets out an enormous hankie and mops away tears.]

TAIL (*sadly*) You're right. It's Pandemonium. The world's full of baddies and I'm lost without my Moo. (*blows nose loudly*)

AUDIENCE Aaahhh!!

JOHN Not everything's gone bad. Jack's found a friend, and so has the Giant.

MARTIN Maybe we're making a bit of a difference already! Come on, let's keep going! We've got more magic to find!

TAIL I really hope you can do it! Perhaps it would help me get back together with Moo. (*begins to mop eyes again*)

JOHN Aw, don't cry, Tail!

MARTIN Don't give up, Tail! Keep looking!

TAIL *(smiling ruefully)* All right! I will!
(exits to one side, calling) Moo! Where are you, Moo? Moo...

JOHN That Witch is really horrible! *(shudders)*

MARTIN Look out! The door's opening again!

[Enter SARA & ALISON.]

SARA There you are! We were looking for you!

MARTIN Where have you been? We were looking for you!

SARA We've been in the Cinderella story, and look what we've got!

[SARA shows the shoe.]

JOHN Oh, well done!

MARTIN We got into Jack and The Beanstalk, and look...

[Shows the goose.]

ALISON That's great! We've got two of the three objects!

SARA Now we just need to find....

[Enter ALADDIN, rubbing his lamp.]

J/A/M/S *(together)* Aladdin!

ALADDIN Did you call me?

MARTIN Yes, we need your help.

ALADDIN You need help? It's me that needs help, if I'm going to beat my wicked Uncle Abanazer.

SARA Why?

ALADDIN He's going to shut me in a horrible cave 'til I find the treasure he's after.

SARA Oh dear! Aren't you supposed to have a genie to help you?

ALADDIN Yes! But I've rubbed and polished this lamp as hard as I can, and still nothing happens!

ALISON Ah, we know why! It's been got at by the Wicked Witch!

SARA But we think we can help you.

ALADDIN You can?

SARA Yes, if you let us borrow the lamp.

JOHN We promise to bring it back.

MARTIN We just need to give it to the Good Fairy, so she can return its magic...

ALISON Then all pantomimes, everywhere, can end happily – including yours!

ALADDIN And I'll get my three wishes?

JOHN Yes! What will you wish for?

ALADDIN I'll have to wish myself out of the cave, first. But then... well, I'll only have two wishes left....

SARA You'll have to wish very carefully....

ALADDIN I've thought about that, but I still can't decide...

[During the song, any stage AUDIENCE doubling as extra BADDIES exit to change costumes for Master Plan dance.]

Song - WHAT WOULD YOU WISH?

JOHN So, will you let us borrow the lamp? We need to get its magic back!

ALADDIN Ok., then. *(hands lamp to JOHN)* I hope your plan works. Otherwise, I'll be stuck in that cave for ever!

ALISON It'll work. It's got to!

ALADDIN Good luck!

[Exit ALADDIN.]

SARA Right. We've got all three objects. Back to the Good Fairy!

MARTIN Which way, do you think?

JOHN It's got to be through that doorway!

SARA Come on. We've nearly done it!

Incidental - Magic Doorway (Short)
[Exit J/A/M/S as before.]

SCENE 7 The final confrontation

Incidental - Witch Theme
[Enter WICKED WITCH, GROTTY & SPOTTY.]

WITCH Pah! Those nasty children aren't here, either!

SPOTTY What shall we do?

GROTTY There's nowhere else to look.

WITCH *(pointing to Audience)* This 'orrible lot are still here, though!

AUDIENCE **Hissssssss.....**
[Enter BOO & HISS, with thumbs up.]

WITCH Never mind! It's time to put my Master Plan into action!

SPOT / GROT Go, Mistress!
[During the next few lines, BOO & HISS prompt AUDIENCE as necessary, while SPOTTY & GROTTY make menacing gestures.]

AUDIENCE **BOOO! Hisss!**

WITCH I shall summon all my slaves, all my powers, and – whatever those goodies do – I shall beat them!

AUDIENCE **BOOO! Hisss!**

WITCH What can that stupid Fairy do without her magic? Nothing!!

AUDIENCE **BOOO!!!! HISSS!!!**

WITCH *(shouting loudly)* Listen!
[All goes very quiet, and WITCH speaks in a sinister voice.]
I call upon my helpers, everywhere!
(shouting) Witches, goblins, creatures of the night!
Help me overcome those snivelling goodies for ever!
[Extra BADDIES creep in to move menacingly, scaring the 'audience'.]

Song - MASTER PLAN

[The song / dance ends with WITCH / BADDIES cackling.]
Incidental - Good Fairy Twinkle
[Enter GOOD FAIRY and J/A/M/S through Pantoland door. MARTIN, JOHN & ALISON carry goose, shoe and lamp respectively. Extra BADDIES to sides, snarling. BOO & HISS hold positions. WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY are centre, backing away from GOOD FAIRY.]

WITCH *(stamping her foot in anger)* Aargh! They've got the goose and the shoe and the lamp! I hate them! I hate them!

GOOD FAIRY *(walking downstage, waving her wand at the WITCH, who backs away to the side)* There'll be no more hating round here, thank you! And no more pandemonium.
[WITCH snarls. The three magic objects are placed on the floor, Stage R. A 'magic' spotlight lights that area. WITCH and BADDIES cower and wince. GOOD FAIRY touches each object with her wand in time with the sound effect.]

Incidental - Three Magic Sounds

GOOD FAIRY There! That's all the good magic back!

AUDIENCE Hooray! *(ALL applaud)*

GOOD FAIRY Jack! Cinderella! Aladdin! Come and get what belongs to you!

[Enter JACK, CINDERELLA & ALADDIN. Each picks up their object when addressed, then moves aside.]

(to JACK) Jack, may you never go hungry!
 (to CINDERELLA) Cinderella, may you live happily ever after!
 (to ALADDIN) Aladdin, may your wishes come true!
 (to AUDIENCE) We must banish all that's wicked from this place and let the good magic in!
 (to J/A/M/S) Children: get the baddies into the magic light!

[J/A/M/S approach WITCH, SPOTTY & GROTTY.]

Boo – Hiss – come and help them.

[BOO & HISS begin to chant directly at the WITCH, encouraging the stage audience to join in.]

BOO/HISS/J/A/M/S *(loudly to WITCH)* Into the light! Into the light! *(etc., repeat ad lib.)*

WITCH *(shouts as she retreats to one side)* No! I'm not going in there!

SPOTTY *(following)* Nor am I!

GROTTY *(following)* Nor me!

WITCH / SP / GR *(shouting very loudly)* We don't want to be good!

[Chant stops abruptly. BADDIES are all cowering.]

GOOD FAIRY Are you sure? Do you want to be bad for ever?
 What about you, Grotty?

BOO/HISS/J/A/M/S *(chant whispered ad lib at GROTTY)* Into the light! Into the light!

[AUDIENCE join in. Chant stops when GROTTY speaks.]

GROTTY Er...maybe... I wouldn't mind being good, sometimes.

WITCH *(shaking her fist)* Traitor!

GOOD FAIRY Well, that's a start. Would you like to try out the magic light?
 Help him everyone!

AUDIENCE *(softly chanting)* Into the light! Into the light! Into the light!

[GROTTY moves cautiously into the light, then relaxes with a happy smile. The chanting stops.]

SARA Well done, Grotty. You can be friends with us now!

[GROTTY moves to join J/A/M/S, who welcome him.]

GOOD FAIRY What about you, Spotty?

SPOTTY Well... I suppose just occasionally I could be nice to people...

[Hesitant nodding reaction from the extra baddies. As the WITCH speaks, she moves towards SPOTTY, who backs away towards the light, so she's driving him into it!]

WITCH You nasty, weak, disloyal, pathetic, despicable traitor!

GOOD FAIRY Well done, Witch, you've driven him into the light!

WITCH Noooooooooo!!

[Once in the light, SPOTTY stands up straighter, with a smile. After a moment, he gives a thumbs up sign.]

GOOD FAIRY *(to SPOTTY & GROTTY)* How does that feel, Spotty?

SPOTTY It feels good! *(pointing at J/A/M/S)* Can I join them now?

GOOD FAIRY Yes, and you'll find life a lot nicer from now on!
And now... *(to WITCH)* What about you?

[The WITCH is standing alone, arms folded, looking sad and sulky. The song is directed towards her.]

Song - STEP INTO LIGHT

[Dialogue within the song:]

WITCH *(Cymbal crash cue)* But what's the point of me trying to be good?
GOOD FAIRY Well, you'd like yourself more.

WITCH *(Cymbal crash cue)* Like myself? Really?
GOOD FAIRY Yes! And you'd have lots of friends.

WITCH *(Cymbal crash cue)* Friends?
(sadly) I've never had friends, only slaves.

SARA *(Cymbal crash cue)* You'd like having friends.

WITCH Would they be nice to me?

JOHN That's what friends are for!

GOOD FAIRY *(Cymbal crash cue)* If you wanted to be good, I would be your friend

WITCH Really?

GOOD FAIRY *(Cymbal crash cue)* *(offering her hand)* Won't you come? Please?

[The WITCH hesitantly goes to her. GOOD FAIRY takes WITCH's hand, and mimes conversation. Other BADDIES walk nervously into the light and happily out again. WITCH is led into the light at the very end of the song.]

GOOD FAIRY There! That wasn't so bad, was it?

WITCH *(shuddering)* Ohh... it feels very strange...

GOOD FAIRY Does it?

WITCH

Hang on a minute... *(Pause... **Everyone leans in**)*
No – it still feels strange. *(**Everyone straightens up with a sigh**)*
Wait – hang on another minute... *(Pause... **Everyone leans in**)*
(with realisation:) I feel... happy! Is this what it's like to feel good?

[ALL smile, thumbs up, nod, etc.]

I like it! I haven't felt this good for years!

GOOD FAIRY

Well done, everyone! You've saved the Witch, saved the
pantomime, and saved the day! Pantos everywhere can begin!

*[MOO and TAIL enter from opposite sides, run to meet
and miss each other, turn back and do high fives. The
whole cast come onto stage, to join in the final song.]*

Song - GOODBYE!



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