



The Magical Tale of Snow White

A Traditional Family Pantomime by Brian Luff

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Note: In this modern version of Snow White, the characters who have traditionally been known as “dwarves” are referred to throughout as “The Miners”. There are seven of them: Brainy, Grouchy, Flaky, Mouthy, Witless, Listless and Keith. Some producers may choose to cast these parts as children or people of short stature.

LIST OF CHARACTERS

Queen Griselda – A particularly evil queen
Snow White - Queen Griselda’s step-daughter
Dame Daisy Maisy - the panto dame
Hugh Humperdinck - Dame Daisy Maisy’s happy-go-lucky son
Prince Harry of Corbett - a handsome prince
Diabolos Stubble - Griselda’s nasty henchman
The Mirror – a powerful but cheeky spirit

The Miners:

Brainy - the clever one
Grouchy - the grumpy one
Flaky - the cowardly one
Mouthy - the loud one
Witless – the not very bright one
Listless - the lazy one
Keith – the one called Keith.

Plus, a chorus of villagers, children, palace guards, vampire bats, skeletons and spirits.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene One - The Town Square

Scene Two - A clearing in the woods outside town

Scene Three - The Queen's Apartment

Scene Four - Dame Daisy Maisy's Flower Shop.

Scene Five - The Palace Garden

Scene Six - A clearing in the woods outside town

Scene Seven - The Magic Forest.

ACT TWO

Scene One - The Miners' Cottage

Scene Two - The Palace Dungeon

Scene Three - A clearing in the woods outside town

Scene Four - The Miners' Cottage

Scene Five - The Palace Garden

ACT ONE

Dark, scary music. Enter Queen Griselda on tabs. An ornate mirror stands centre stage.

Griselda Good evening peasants! I am the heinous, hideous and thoroughly vile Queen Griselda!

Crash of thunder, flash of lightning.

Audience Booooo!

Griselda Oh, stop booing me you treacherous mob! I should remind you that disrespecting the queen is against the laws of this land and will be punished with banishment, imprisonment, or at the very least, an on-the-spot fine.

Audience Booooo!

Griselda Silence! Now, where was I? Oh yes, I am Queen Griselda. Also known as Evil Queen Griselda, Wicked Queen Griselda and Maleficent Queen Griselda. (*Aside to audience*) Although we have to be a bit careful with that last name. It's probably some kind of copyright infringement. We don't want Disney on our backs again! You may have heard of my step daughter Snow White. A willful, disobedient girl who lives here at the palace with me. Snow White comes in very handy for cooking and scrubbing the floors and doing odd jobs. Like replacing the tiles on the roof. Or dredging the lake. And so much cheaper than hiring a servant. Would *you* like to work for me as servants, boys and girls?

Audience No!

Griselda Of course you wouldn't! You're all too cheeky and lazy and full of chocolate and fast food. You'd make rubbish servants anyway!

Audience Boooo!

Griselda I cannot afford to hire staff and pay them a decent wage because I'm as poor as a church mouse. What I need is to cunningly get my hands on some gold. But the gold mine next door to my land is as secure as the Tower of London. It's guarded night and day by a bunch of monstrous, mean, miserly miners. And one day, using all my diabolical magic powers, I shall get rid of those miners for good and lay my hands on their gold. Then I will be rich! Rich!

Crash of thunder, flash of lightning.

Audience Boooo!

Griselda Until then I will have to marry a wealthy husband, and my heart is set on Prince Harry of Corbett. He's as handsome and filthy rich as Harry Styles, Harry Kane and Harry

Redknapp put together. But when we meet, will it be snog, marry or avoid? There's only one way to find out. I shall ask my magic mirror.

Spotlight on the magic mirror. Eerie sound effects.

Griselda Mirror, mirror on the wall...

Mirror You called, your evilness?

Griselda Yes.

Mirror What can I do for you?

Griselda Oh, mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of them all?

Mirror Mm. Define "fair".

Griselda Fair? Oh, er... gorgeous, attractive, good-looking, dazzling...

Mirror I see.

Griselda Well?

(Beat)

Mirror What was the question again?

Griselda *(Losing patience)* Who is the fairest of them all?

Mirror Ok. I can see where you're going with this.

Griselda And the answer?

Mirror Well, obviously it's you.

Griselda *(To audience)* Finally!

Mirror That is to say, it *was* you.

Griselda What???

Mirror Until today.

Griselda Well, who is it now?

Mirror It is... Snow White.

Griselda Snow White?

Mirror Yes. Your step-daughter has come of age today, while your former beauty fades away...

Griselda No!

Mirror You shall henceforth be called “The Highness Formally Known As Fair.”

Lights down on the mirror. Queen Griselda growls and turns to the audience. An evil green light floods the stage.

Griselda *(To audience)* A thousand curses!

Crash of thunder, flash of lightning.

Griselda If Prince Harry of Corbett falls in love with Snow White, I’ll be husbandless, homeless and penniless. I must get rid of Snow White. Only then will I once again be the fairest of them all.

Griselda laughs a dastardly laugh and exits. Crash of thunder, flash of lightning.

Scene One

Tabs open to reveal the town square. Villagers and children are onstage. Enter Snow White.

Song 1

Snow White leads the big opening number. At the end of the song she steps forward to talk to the audience.

Snow White Hello ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls! My name is Snow White and I live at the palace with my step-mother Queen Griselda. Today is a very special day for me. It’s my eighteenth birthday. Will you say Happy Birthday, boys and girls?

Audience Yes!

Snow White I’ll count to three. 1... 2... 3...

Audience Happy Birthday!

Snow White Thank you! Thank you so much. I’m sure we’re all going to be great friends. We are going to be friends, aren’t we boys and girls?

Audience Yes!

Scary music. Enter Stubble, evil henchman to Queen Griselda.

Stubble *(To audience)* What's all this shouting about? I hate it when people sound like they're happy and having a good time.

Villagers Boooooo!

Stubble *(To audience)* In case you are wondering, I am Queen Griselda's charming and handsome henchman. I go by the name of Diabolos Stubble.

Snow White What do you want Stubble? We were all having such fun before you arrived.

Stubble I bring bad news from the palace.

Snow White What bad news?

Stubble Queen Griselda is putting up taxes.

All Putting up taxes?

Stubble Yes. She's raising the tax on eggs, veg, beds, threads, clothes pegs and chicken legs.

All That's not fair!

Stubble I haven't finished yet. Beans, greens, jeans, exercise machines, magazines, gasoline and submarines.

Snow White But submarines haven't even been invented yet.

Stubble Her majesty is planning ahead. Oh, and water.

Snow White Water? You can't tax water.

Stubble Water in all forms. Liquid, frozen and gas.

Snow White But how will the villagers survive?

Stubble That's their problem. If the monstrous, mean, miserly miners will not share their gold with the royal purse, then the evil queen has no other choice.

All Booooo!

Snow White *(To audience)* Why does everyone always call my step-mother evil? She's really not that bad. Do you think she's evil, boys and girls?

Audience Yes!

Snow White *(To audience)* Oh dear. Queen Griselda has obviously said something to upset you. *(Turning to Stubble)* Are you still here?

Stubble Yes. I have further news from the palace. The Queen is expecting a royal guest.

Snow White A royal guest? Who?

Stubble Her majesty will make an announcement this afternoon at three o'clock. Now, all of you, get back to work!

All Booooo!

Stubble exits. The villagers and children scatter from the stage.

Snow White *(Audience)* I bet it's not a royal visitor at all. It's probably a surprise birthday party for me! Anyway, I have to go and finish my chores at the palace now. I'll see you later, boys and girls.

Snow White runs off. Enter Hugh from the opposite side..

Hugh Hello, everyone! Have you seen Snow White?

Audience Yes!

Hugh Which way did she go?

Audience react.

Hugh Aw! Sounds like I just missed her. That's a shame, I wanted to wish her Happy Birthday. Oh, by the way, my name is Hugh. Hugh Humperdinck. Pleased to meet you. I work in the village in my mother's flower shop. I've got an idea, whenever I come on I'll shout "Howdy-do, kids!" and you shout out "Howdy-Do, Hugh!" Do you think you can do that?

Audience Yes!

Hugh Ok, let's try it. I'll go off and come on again.

Hugh runs off and quickly re-appears.

Hugh Howdy-do, kids!

Audience Howdy-Do, Hugh!

Hugh Not bad. But I'm sure you can do better than that. Howdy-do, kids!

Audience Howdy-Do, Hugh!

Hugh That's absolutely fantastic! Let me tell you a bit about myself. I've been working in my mum's flower shop ever since I was knee high to a geranium. I didn't like the flowers at first but they grew on me. We sell all kinds of flowers in the shop. We've got a flower that grows in the dark. That's called a light bulb. We've got a flower that keeps dying and then coming back to life. That's called a reincarnation. But my favourite flower is definitely the chrysanthemum-mum-nan... the chrysinthi-mun-man-mon... the tulip. Oh, and we get loads of famous people in the shop. Once I saw Michael J Fox. I knew it was him because he had his back to the fuchsias. These are the jokes, folks. And they're not going to get any better I can assure you. I tell you what, I'll sing you a song.

Song 2

Hugh sings a happy-go-lucky song about having fun and staying cheerful. At the end of the song...

Hugh That was fun. But I wish Snow White had been here to listen to it. In fact, I wish I could be with Snow White all the time. She's so clever and lovely and modest. She's my best friend in the world. But, between you and me, I wish she could be so much more than that.

Dame Daisy Maisy (*Offstage*) Hugh! What are you up to?

Hugh Look out, it's my mother.

Enter Dame Daisy Maisy. Her dress and headwear feature yellow feathers.

Dame Daisy (*Offstage*) Hugh Humperdinck! You are supposed to be serving in the flower shop.

Hugh Sorry, mother.

Dame Daisy Get off with you, you lazy boy!

Hugh See you later, boys and girls!

Hugh runs off waving.

Dame Daisy Yoo hoo, everyone! I'm Dame Daisy Maisy, but people call me Daisy. They also call me quite a lot of other things too. At school they used to call me Oopsie Daisy. That was my son Hugh. "What?", I hear you say, you don't look old enough to have a grown up son! Yes, I am what is known as a yummy mummy. A scrummy, yummy,

mummy. A nummy, wummy, scrummy, yummy, mummy. I have the skin of a woman half my age, and she's not getting it back I can tell you. Welcome to the classy part of the show. We can all get to know each other a little better in a moment, but first, in line with hundreds of years of tradition, I am contractually obligated to mention the fact that I am a poor widow! Have you got that? (*shouts again*) I am a poor widow!

Audience Ahhhhhh!

Dame Daisy Lovely. Once again... I am a poor widow!

Audience Ahhhhhh!

Dame Daisy One for luck. I am a poor widow!

Audience Ahhhhhh!

Dame Daisy Excellent. Thank you for your heartfelt sympathy. That's got that out of the way. Now we can all get on with our lives. To continue: Being a poor widow I am, of course, looking for a man. So, as you can see, I keep myself looking trim and beautiful. I've had enlargements, reductions, tucks and reshapes. I've had things pinned, plucked, peeled, pummeled, stapled, and filled. You name it, I've had it lifted. Eyebrows: lifted. Knees: lifted. Rear end: lifted, moved three inches to the left, and then lifted again. Almost nothing you see before you is a body part I started with. Isn't medical science wonderful. And the right accessories are very important, too, aren't they. My necklace was custom-made by Faberge. He wanted to make me an egg but I don't like eggs. They make me constipated. I make all my own clothes. I designed this little number myself. What do you think? (*She does a little twirl*) It's inspired by Coco Chanel, Coco the Clown and the Copacabana. Hence the yellow feathers, which look particularly fabulous when I merengue and do the cha-cha in the hottest spot north of Havana. (*Aside*) That's a Barry Manilow reference, by the way. I told you this was going to be the classy bit of the show. I have transformed myself from an ugly duckling into a lovely duckling. Or do I mean swan? I've won "America's Top Model", I came second in "Britain's Got Talent" doing my impression of Kylie Minogue and I've twice been voted "Sexiest Woman in [*name of an unfashionable nearby location*].

Song 3

Dame Daisy sings a song about being a sexy. At the end of the song she exits. Enter Hugh.

Hugh I thought she was never going to go. Howdy-do kids!

Audience Howdy-Do Hugh!

Hugh I'm sure you've guessed by now that I'm really fond of Snow White. But why would a princess want to marry a boy who works in a flower shop? In any case, I'm much too shy to tell her.

Enter Snow White

Snow White Hello Hugh. What were you talking about?

Hugh Oh, nothing.

Snow White Why are you blushing?

Hugh I'm not blushing.

Snow White You are, blushing!

Hugh Oh, no I'm not!

Snow White Oh, yes you are!

Hugh Oh, no I'm not!

Audience Oh, yes you are!

Hugh Oh, no I'm not!

Audience Oh, yes you are!

Enter Dame Daisy.

Dame Daisy Yoo hoo! Hello everyone!

Hugh Hello, mother.

Dame Daisy Why are you blushing, Hugh?

Hugh I'm not blushing.

Dame Daisy Oh, yes you are.

Hugh Don't start that again!

Snow White (*To Dame Daisy*) Hugh was just about to tell me something important.

Dame Daisy Never mind that now. Who's this mysterious royal visitor everyone's talking about?

Hugh I don't like the sound of it. What if Queen Griselda is trying to find a rich husband for Snow White?

Snow White Well, she can try as hard as she likes. I will *never* marry for money. I will only ever marry for love!

Hugh Aw!

Dame Daisy But the mysterious visitor might be the perfect match for you.

Snow White I doubt it.

Dame Daisy Why don't you let me tell your fortune. I'm a very talented fortune teller, you know.

Snow White How exciting!

Hugh What nonsense!

Dame Daisy *(To Snow White)* But first you have to cross my palm with silver.

Snow White Oh. I'm afraid I don't have any silver.

Dame Daisy What have you got?

Snow White I've only got this gold coin.

Dame Daisy Perfect.

Snow White Have you got any change?

Dame Daisy *(Checking pockets)* Not on me. no. Hugh, have you got change of a gold coin.

Hugh Sorry, mother, I don't carry cash. Only plastic.

Snow White Can I owe it to you?

Dame Daisy In the interests of moving this item forward, yes.

Snow White Thank you.

Dame Daisy produces a crystal ball and peers into it.

Snow White What's that?

Dame Daisy *(Mysteriously)* This is my crystal ball. Forged in the dark furnaces of Olympus, empowered by enchanted elves, and carried aloft to this land by giant, bewitched eagles!

Snow White Where did you get it?

Dame Daisy In the Pound Shop.

Snow White Oh.

Hugh How much was it?

Dame Daisy glares at Hugh.

Dame Daisy I shall ignore that stupid remark.

Snow White What can you see in the crystal ball?

Dame Daisy (*Trance-like*) I can see... I can see... a mysterious stranger. He is tall and dark and handsome.

Snow White Oooh.

Hugh Who is it?

Dame Daisy I recognise his face, but I can't think of his name.

Snow White Is it a singer?

Dame Daisy No.

Snow White Is it an actor?

Dame Daisy It could be.

Snow White How many syllables?

Dame Daisy I don't know!

Hugh Ryan Gosling?

Dame Daisy No.

Snow White Jake Gyllenhaal?

Dame Daisy No.

Hugh Bradley Cooper?

Dame Daisy No.

Hugh Bradley Walsh?

Snow White What?

Dame Daisy I've got it!

Hugh /Snow White Hooray!

(Beat)

Dame Daisy It's Gary Lineker.

Hugh Gary Lineker?

Snow White Gary Lineker's not tall, dark or handsome!

Dame Daisy I can only say what I see.

Hugh That crystal ball is rubbish. The Pound Shop saw you coming.

Dame Daisy Well, I can't help it if you don't believe in magic.

Snow White I believe in magic...

Song 4

Dame Daisy Maisy, Hugh and Snow White sing a song about believing in magic, At the end of the song Hugh and Dame Daisy exit.

Enter Prince Harry of Corbett.

Prince Harry Excuse me! You over there! Peasant girl!

Snow White I, sir, am not a peasant.

Prince Harry I wonder if you might help me...

Snow White *(Walking off)* I'm sorry, my mother taught me to never speak to strangers.

Prince Harry I am not a stranger. Surely you recognise me.

Snow White Recognise you?

Prince Harry Yes. I'm on the television and in the gossip magazines all the time.

Snow White Really?

Prince Harry Where I come from, my face is even on some of the coins and banknotes.

He turns his face to a profile view and grandly points to his nose.

Snow White Sorry, I've never seen you before.

Prince Harry I was rather hoping there would be crowds thronging the streets on my arrival. A tickertape parade, perhaps! *(To audience)* They could at least have asked me to turn on the Christmas lights.

Snow White Who do you think you are?

Prince Harry I've been on that programme as well.

Snow White I don't care! I do not know you, sir!

Prince Harry But I am Crown Prince Harry of Corbett.

Snow White Oh?

Prince Harry I have an appointment to see Queen Griselda.

Snow White That's my step-mother.

Prince Harry Then, that explains a great deal.

Snow White Does it?

Prince Harry Yes! You are indeed as beautiful as the stories tell.

Snow White Am I?

Prince Harry Oh, yes. A radiant beauty fit for a prince of my... stature.

Snow White *(To the audience)* What an arrogant man! But I have to admit, my knees have gone all trembly.

Prince Harry I fear I may be lost. Can you direct me to the palace?

Snow White Of course I can. Carry on down this street for a hundred yards, then turn left at the Rose & Crown, right at the Fox & Hounds and go straight across at the Slug & Lettuce. You can't miss it.

Prince Harry Left at the Fox & Hounds, right at the Rose & Crown and straight across at the Slug & Lettuce.

Snow White No, left at the Rose & Crown, right at the Fox & Hounds and straight across at the Slug & Lettuce.

Prince Harry Thank you.

Snow White *(To the audience)* He needs to get a SatNav.

Prince Harry It has been a delight to meet you. I sincerely hope we meet again.

Prince Harry exits.

Snow White Mm, so that's the mysterious stranger. And he certainly doesn't look anything like Gary Lineker. See you later, boys and girls...

Snow White runs off. Queen Griselda enters holding a large hand mirror.

Griselda Hello again, you sniveling oafs.

Audience Booooo!

Griselda Oh, be quiet or I'll turn you all into frogs.

Audience Booooo!

Griselda Mirror, mirror in my hand, who is the fairest in the land.

Mirror You only asked me ten minutes ago.

Griselda Any change?

Mirror Of course not. The fairest in the land is still Snow White.

Griselda Curses!

Mirror But now the plot has... thickened.

Griselda Thickened?

Mirror Yes. Snow White has met Prince Harry of Corbett.

Griselda That's not good news, is it?

Mirror No. And I think she secretly quite fancies him.

Griselda Then there is no time to loose. I must destroy Snow White!

Mirror Anything else I can do for you?

Griselda No.

Mirror Order a takeaway?

Griselda No, thank you.

Mirror Foot rub?

Griselda No.

Mirror I'll be off then.

Queen Griselda puts the mirror away and calls offstage.

Griselda Stubble! Where are you, Stubble?

Enter Stubble.

Stubble Coming, your majesty!

Griselda Stubble, I have some important orders for you.

Stubble That's what I'm here for.

Griselda I want you to make sure that Prince Harry does not lay eyes upon Snow White again.

Stubble May I ask why, your majesty?

Griselda Because, Stubble, he is supposed to fall in love with me! Not that wretched servant girl.

Stubble But, your majesty, that servant girl is your step-daughter.

Griselda All is fair in love and war, Stubble.

Stubble We're at war?

Griselda That's a figure of speech!

Stubble Who are we at war with?

Griselda No-one! We are not at war with anyone, Stubble! Now, repeat your orders back to me.

Stubble (*Slowly*) I have to make sure...

Griselda Yes...

Stubble That Prince Harry sees Snow White...

Griselda Does *not* see Snow White...

Stubble Does *not* see Snow White...

Griselda Right...

Stubble Until the end of the war.

Griselda That's close enough. Now summon the villagers, I have an announcement to make.

Stubble produces a bell and rings it.

Stubble Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye! All villagers are instructed to gather in the town square!

Enter Snow White, Hugh, Dame Daisy and some villagers.

First Villager What's happening?

Second Villager I don't know. What time is it?

First Villager Three o'clock.

Second Villager Must be the queen's speech.

Stubble Prepare for an announcement from Her Majesty Queen Griselda.

Griselda My people, as you know, thanks to the greed and selfishness of the monstrous, mean, miserly miners..

All Booooooo!

Griselda Who insist on keeping all of the gold for themselves....

All Booooooo!

Griselda Times are very hard in the kingdom. Therefore...

All (*Together*) We need something to lift our spirits!

Griselda I have decided to do something to lift your spirits.

All Hooray!

Dame Daisy (*To Hugh*) I hope it's not another series of Dancing on Ice.

Griselda Today is my step-daughter's 18th birthday.

All Hooray!

Griselda So, I am declaring a national holiday!

All Hooray!

Griselda And holding a grand feast!

Hugh I bet we're not invited.

Griselda You are *all* invited!

All Hurray!

Griselda There will be sausages on sticks, spicy meatballs on sticks, little pieces of cheese and pineapple on sticks...

Dame Daisy Is *all* the food going to be on sticks?

Hugh Not much of a feast.

Griselda And of course... Twiglets!

Villagers Hurray!

Griselda On sticks.

Dame Daisy Griselda's really pushing the boat out, isn't she?

Hugh I don't trust her. She's up to something?

Dame Daisy Well, when we go to the ball, we'll find out.

All exit except for Snow White.

Snow White (*To audience*) Oh, boys and girls, my step mother didn't forget my birthday. This is the happiest day of my life!

Snow White walks downstage and the tabs close behind her.

Song 5

Snow White sings a song about happiness. At the end of the song...

Scene Two

Tabs open to reveal a clearing in the woods outside town. Enter Hugh.

Hugh Howdy-do, kids!

Audience Howdy-do, Hugh!

Hugh I'm not much looking forward to the queen's grand feast. It sounds a bit stingy to me. And it's all the fault of those monstrous, mean, miserly miners who won't share their gold.

The sound of marching feet offstage.

Hugh What's that noise? Is someone coming? It sounds like marching feet!

Marching feet get louder and louder.

Hugh I think I better hide until I know what what's going on.

Hugh hides.

Enter Brainy, Grouchy, Flaky, Mouthy, Witless, Listless and Keith - seven bearded miners marching purposefully and carrying picks and shovels on their shoulders.

Brainy Left, right, left right...

Hugh (*From his hiding place*) Oh no! It's the monstrous, mean, miserly miners! They look like a scary bunch don't they? With their big pointy hammers and their long, hairy beards.

Brainy Left, right, left right, halt!

Grouchy (*To Brainy*) It's about bloomin' time we took a break. I'm fed up with marching!

Brainy We've only been going for 10 minutes!

Keith (*To Grouchy*) Grouchy, you *know* we have to get to the mine early today to start digging out that new seam of gold.

Listless (*Yawning & stretching*) Well, I *hate* early starts.

Flaky I agree with Listless. We should only have to work in the afternoons.

Witless Flaky and Listless are right.

Brainy Listen to me, men! We can't just work in the afternoons! It's the early bird that catches the worm.

Witless I don't want to catch worms.

Brainy spots Hugh hiding.

Grouchy We're not catching worms, Witless.

Witless Good.

Brainy spots Hugh hiding.

Brainy Hey you! Over there! What are you doing?

Hugh (*Breaking cover*) Me? Oh, I was just... having a rest?

Mouthy He was hiding!

Listless He's probably a spy from Queen Griselda?

Hugh No! I'm not a spy.

Witless Am I a spy?

Brainy No, Witless, you are not a spy.

Witless Thank goodness for that.

Brainy Grab him!

Mouthy and Keith grab hold of Hugh and bring him centre stage.

Brainy What's your name, lad?

Hugh I'm Hugh. Hugh Humperdinck.

Mouthy What kind of a name is that?

Hugh My mother gave it to me.

Flaky I'd give it back if I was you.

Hugh (*To all*) I know who you are.

Keith Oh, you do, do you?

Hugh Yes. You're those monstrous, mean, miserly miners who keep all the gold for yourselves.

Brainy Is that what they say about us?

Hugh Yes.

Brainy Well, it's not true.

Hugh Isn't it?

Grouchy No! We're just *protecting* our gold!

Listless Because the queen has tried to steal it from us so many times.

Hugh Steal it?

Witless Yes.

Brainy We're not so much mean as... security conscious.

Hugh So, you're not going to kill me?

Mouthy Kill you? Why would we want to kill you?

Brainy Let me introduce you to everyone. I'm Brainy and this is Grouchy, Flaky, Mouthy, Witless, Listless... and Keith.

Keith I'm Keith.

Hugh Hello Keith. (*To the others*) I can't help thinking I've heard you gentlemen called by different names.

Brainy You're right. When there was only two of us, we were called Dick and Dom.

Grouchy Then there was three of us, and we were Emerson Lake and Palmer.

Mouthy Then we were John, Paul, George and Ringo.

Listless Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky Mick and Tich.

Grouchy Then Pugh, Pugh, Barney McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble and Grub.

Brainy When the team finally grew to seven we paid a creative agency to do a complete re-brand.

Mouthy Ever since then we've been Brainy, Grouchy, Flaky, Mouthy, Witless, Listless and Keith.

Keith I'm Keith.

Hugh Hello Keith.

Brainy And now that we're friends, I have a gift for you.

Brainy hands Hugh a rusty old bugle.

Hugh A gift?

Brainy Yes. It's a traditional gold miners' bugle.

Hugh What's a gold miners' bugle?

Brainy Miners blow a bugle like this if we get into trouble. If we need to help each other out.

Hugh I can't take this.

Brainy Take it. And blow it the moment to get any grief from Queen Griselda.

Grouchy We'll be right there for you.

Mouthy Any time of the day or night.

Hugh *(To audience)* Wow! Just like International Rescue in Thunderbirds!

Keith Would you like us to sing you our song, Hugh?

Hugh Yes, Keith. I'd like that. I'd like that very much.

Song 6

The miners sing a marching song about going to work. At the end of the song they all march off.

Hugh (*To audience*) Those miners weren't bad at all, were they boys and girls?

Audience No!

Enter Snow White.

Snow White Howdy-do, Hugh. What are you up to?

Hugh What would you say if I told you that the monstrous, mean, miserly miners are not monstrous, mean and miserly at all. In fact, they're a very friendly bunch.

Snow White Are they?

Hugh Yes! And they gave me this bugle.

Snow White Well, why do people say such nasty things about them?

Hugh Because, Queen Griselda deliberately spreads horrible rumours about them.

Snow White Why would she do that?

Hugh They're too clever for her! She can't work out how to steal their gold, so she despises them.

Snow White Hugh Humperdinck, you are *always* saying terrible things about my step mother! Anyone would think that she was a witch.

Hugh She *is* a witch.

Snow White What?

Hugh Queen Griselda is quite *literally* a witch. An enchantress! A fully paid-up, card-carrying member of the National Federation of Witches, Necromancers and Sorcerers!

Snow White (*To audience*) Wow! How did I not notice that?

Hugh She probably rides around on a broomstick when we're not looking!

Snow White Wait a minute, if my step-mother is a witch, why doesn't she wear a great big pointy hat.

Hugh Too obvious. Too “on-the-nose”. Basically, she’s in disguise.

Snow White Wow! My step-mother a witch. That’s an awful lot to take in.

Hugh Come on, I’ll walk you back into town. It’ll soon be time to get ready for your birthday feast.

Snow White That’s kind of you, Hugh. But I think I’d like to be on my own for a while.

Hugh Ok, Snow White. I understand. I’ll see you later, then. *(To the audience)* Bye everyone!

Hugh runs off.

Snow White *(To audience)* This is turning out to be a very strange birthday, I must say. I’ll just sit here for a while and gather my thoughts.

Enter Prince Harry.

Prince Harry Well, hello! Fancy bumping into you again.

Snow White Hello.

Prince Harry I realise now that I don’t even know your name.

Snow White Mm, I’m not sure whether I should tell you my name.

Prince Harry Why not?

Snow White It seems a little... premature.

Prince Harry Oh?

Snow White I’ll tell you what. Why don’t you try and guess it.

Prince Harry Very well. I think your name must be something pure and frail and delicate. Like a flower. An elegant white flower.

Snow White You’re getting warm.

Prince Harry A rare and pretty thing, like snow falling gently on a winter’s day.

Snow White Now, you’re getting *very* warm.

Prince Harry Your name is like a light dusting of sparkling snow on fragile white petals.

Snow White Yes.

Prince Harry Is your name... Gladys Winterbottom?

Snow White What?

Prince Harry Flora Butterworth?

Snow White No!

Prince Harry Freida MacTavish?

Snow White No!

Prince Harry Nelly MacTavish?

Snow White No! I fear that your highness is teasing me.

Prince Harry I'm sorry, yes, I am only teasing. Because... I've already guessed your name.

Snow White Have you?

Prince Harry Of course.

Prince Harry gently takes Snow White's hand. They walk downstage and the tabs close behind them.

Prince Harry And it's the most beautiful name I've ever heard... Snow White.

Their eyes meet.

Snow White How did you find out?

Prince Harry I Googled you.

Snow White (*A little angry*) What?

Prince Harry Oh, don't be angry with me, Snow White. I simply *had* to know who you were. Because...

Snow White Because what?

Prince Harry Because, I think we were meant to meet.

Snow White Really?

Prince Harry We belong together.

Snow White *(To audience)* My knees have gone all trembly again.

Prince Harry Our future is in the stars, Snow White.

Song 7

Prince Harry and Snow White sing a romantic duet together. At the end of the song...

Scene 3

Tabs open to reveal the queen's apartment. Spotlight on the mirror. Enter Griselda in a flood of green light.

Audience Booooo!

Griselda Oh, shut your traps. You sound like a herd of cows with a head cold.

She peers into the mirror.

Griselda Mirror, Mirror, on the wall, who is the nastiest of them all?

Mirror Well, I've given this a lot of thought, and here are the results, in no particular order.

Griselda Get on with it!

Mirror Do you want to hear a countdown of the top ten?

Griselda The top three will suffice.

Mirror Very well. In third place... Piers Morgan.

Griselda *(To audience)* Mm, bit of a lazy joke but he is a very nasty piece of work.

Mirror In second place... Boris Johnson.

Griselda *(To audience)* Mm. It would be nice to have something a bit more topical than that, but a good call nonetheless. Richly deserved, I'm sure.

Mirror And in first place, for the twentieth year in a row, it is, of course, the very nastiest of nasties... Queen Griselda.

Griselda (*Evil laugh*) Ah, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! It's good to know I'm still top of at least one league.

Mirror Do you want to hear the nominations in the other categories?

Griselda No thank you.

Mirror Head massage?

Griselda No.

Mirror I'll be off, then.

Spotlight dims on the mirror.

Griselda (*Calling into the wings*) Stubble!

Stubble comes running on.

Stubble You called, your majesty?

Griselda Yes, Stubble, I have a secret mission for you.

Stubble Your majesty?

Griselda It's a very dark, dirty and despicable mission.

Stubble My favourite kind.

Griselda I want you to take Snow White for a little walk to the woods.

Stubble That sounds very pleasant.

Griselda It isn't pleasant, Stubble. It isn't pleasant at all!

Stubble Oh.

Griselda Because, when you get to the woods...

Stubble Yes?

Griselda produces a small casket.

Griselda I want you put something into this casket.

Stubble You want me to pick up some conkers?

Griselda No.

Stubble Collect mushrooms?

Griselda No.

Stubble Then, what am I putting in the casket?

Griselda You are putting in the casket... a heart.

Stubble A heart?

Griselda A human heart, yes.

Stubble Where on earth am I going to get a human heart in the middle of the woods?

Griselda I should have thought that was obvious, Stubble! You are going to get it... from a human.

Stubble A human? Which human?

Griselda Why, Snow White, of course.

Stubble Hold on a minute! I studied biology when I was at school and I'm pretty sure that human beings need a heart to live.

Griselda Correct.

Stubble So, how is Snow White going to get to her birthday party if her heart is in this casket?

Griselda Snow White is not going to her birthday party, Stubble.

Stubble She isn't?

Griselda No. Because when you remove Snow's White heart from her body, she will become a *former* princess.

Stubble A former princess? (*The penny drops*) Oh, I see!

Griselda (*To the audience*) You can't get the staff.

Stubble That is, indeed... despicable.

Griselda Thank you.

Stubble To tell you the truth, it's quite a bit *more* despicable than I was expecting.

Griselda Really?

Stubble In fact, I'd say on a scale of one to ten of despicable-ness, that scores about...

Griselda Eleven?

Stubble I was going to say twelve.

Griselda (*Losing patience*) Don't just stand there, Stubble! Go and find Snow White and commit the dark and evil deed right away.

Stubble Yes, your majesty.

Griselda I want that wretched girl's heart in this casket by close of play today. Then we can forget all about it and watch *Antiques Roadshow*.

Stubble And if I fail?

Griselda If you fail, Stubble, it will be *your* heart in this casket.

Stubble Gulp!

Griselda Along with a few other body parts that you will struggle to live without.

Stubble Yes, your majesty.

Griselda Begone!

Stubble grabs the casket and runs off. Griselda looks into the mirror.

Griselda (*Evil laugh*) Ah, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!! (*Even bigger*) Ah, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!!!

Enter Prince Harry.

Prince Harry Sorry, is this a bad time?

Griselda (*Flirtily*) Well, hello.

Prince Harry I am Prince Harry of Corbett.

Griselda I know who you are, Harry!

Prince Harry Delighted to make your acquaintance, Queen Griselda.

Griselda I must say you've even more delicious-looking in the flesh than you are in your portraits.

Prince Harry I received this invitation. Something about a wedding?

Griselda Yes! You are invited to a very *special* wedding.

Prince Harry May I ask, whose wedding?

Griselda Why, *yours* of course.

Prince Harry Mine? But who is the bride?

Griselda Oh, don't be so bashful, Harry.

Griselda grabs Harry in a tango-like dance hold and dips him backwards towards the floor.

Griselda How could you possibly resist my ravishing charms? I know that you must already be dazzled, spellbound and utterly smitten by my beauty!

Prince Harry Smitten?

Griselda (*Nose to nose*) Smitten.

Prince Harry It is indeed true that I am spellbound and smitten.

Griselda I knew it!

Prince Harry But... (*to audience*) how can I put this delicately? (*To Griselda*) It is not your majesty with whom I am smitten?

Griselda It's not?

Griselda processes this information for a moment, then lets go of Prince Harry, dropping him onto the floor with a thud.

Prince Harry (*Getting up*) I'm sorry but it's your beautiful step-daughter, Snow White that enchants me. I am in love with her.

Griselda In love?

Prince Harry Yes!

Griselda Right, I've heard just about enough of this romantic claptrap.

Griselda raises her arms as if to cast a spell on Prince Harry. There is a bright flash of lightening and an eerie green light floods the stage again.

Griselda By all the powers of heaven & earth, I cast a spell on you...

Prince Harry A spell?

Griselda That you shall fall in love with me before this night is through.

Prince Harry (*Turning the audience*) Uh, oh.

Another flash of lightning. Enter two spirits. Prince Harry closes his eyes and falls back into their arms before being dragged away.

Song 8

Griselda walks downstage. Tabs close behind her. She sings about love magic, and being bad. At the end of the song, Griselda exits and...

Scene Four

Tabs open to reveal Dame Daisy's Flower Shop. Pots of flowers everywhere. There is plastic sheeting on the floor.

Dame Daisy Yoo hoo everyone! Ooh, I'm having such a busy day. I've got to deliver all the flowers for Snow White's birthday party. Funnily enough, I always give my son Hugh a flower for his birthday. I give him a Sunflower. Get it? Son-flower? A flower for my son. Well, I shouldn't have to explain it. Alright, here's another florist joke for you. How do you kiss a florist? With tulips. Get it? Two-lips? Wow, tough room. Ok, I'll try one more. Why did the flower with no smell confuse people? Because it didn't make any sense. Oh, for heaven's sake, "Sense" sounds like "scents"! It's not rocket science...

Enter Hugh.

Hugh (*To audience*) Howdy-do kids?

Audience Howdy-do Hugh!

Hugh Hello, mother. Have you been telling more of your rubbish jokes?

Dame Daisy How dare you, Hugh Humperdinck! My jokes are not rubbish! (*Indicating the audience*) They're just a little bit too witty and sophisticated for this audience.

Hugh What are you up to?

Dame Daisy I'm sorting out the flower delivery for Snow White's party.

Hugh Why is there plastic sheeting on the floor?

Dame Daisy Because I need to water the plants.

Hugh Would you like me to help?

Dame Daisy Yes, Hugh, that would be very kind of you.

Dame Daisy puts on a plastic rain hat and a plastic apron.

Hugh What are you doing?

Dame Daisy Just a precaution. Now, hold up the flowers and when you say “sprinkle”, I’ll pour the water.

Dame Daisy picks up a watering can.

Hugh Yes mother.

Hugh holds up a pot of flowers and holds it in front of Dame Daisy.

Hugh Are you ready?

Dame Daisy Yes.

Hugh Sprinkle.

Daisy sprinkles water all over Hugh’s head.

Dame Daisy (*Rhythmic, like a song*) Water, water every day, cares for flowers the Daisy way!

Hugh What are you doing?

Daisy stops watering Hugh’s head.

Dame Daisy Watering the flowers.

Hugh No you’re not! You’re watering me!

Dame Daisy Am I?

Hugh Yes!

Dame Daisy Oh, I am so sorry, I forgot to put my glasses on.

Dame Daisy puts on a big pair of glasses with very thick lenses.

Dame Daisy That's better.

Hugh Good!

Dame Daisy Start again.

Hugh holds up the pot of flowers again.

Hugh Are you ready?

Dame Daisy Yes.

Hugh Sprinkle.

Daisy once again sprinkles water all over Hugh's head.

Dame Daisy (*Rhythmic, like a song*) Water, water every day, cares for flowers the Daisy way!

Hugh You did it again!

Dame Daisy Did what?

Hugh You watered me instead of the flowers!

Dame Daisy Did I?

Hugh Yes!!!

Dame Daisy I am so sorry, these are the wrong glasses.

Hugh Really?

Dame Daisy Yes, I should have put on my reading glasses.

Dame Daisy puts on a different pair of glasses.

Dame Daisy There. That's much better! Start again.

Hugh holds up the pot of flowers again.

Hugh Are you ready?

Dame Daisy Yes.

Hugh Sprinkle.

Daisy once again sprinkles water all over Hugh's head.

Dame Daisy (*Rhythmic, like a song*) Water, water every day, cares for flowers the Daisy way!

Hugh No! Stop! You are *still* watering me instead of the flowers!

Dame Daisy I'm sorry.

Hugh puts down the flowers and runs off.

Dame Daisy Where are you going?

Hugh I won't be a moment.

Dame Daisy (*To audience*) I suppose I should have gone to Specsavers.

Enter Hugh carrying a large pump-action water pistol.

Hugh Right! Now you're going to hold up the flowers and I'm going to do the watering.

Dame Daisy Oh dear.

Hugh Pick up the flowers.

Dame Daisy Do I have to?

Hugh Pick up the flowers!

Daisy picks up a pot of flowers.

Hugh Are you ready?

Dame Daisy Yes.

Hugh Say "sprinkle".

Dame Daisy I don't want to.

Hugh Say "sprinkle"!

Dame Daisy Sprinkle.

Hugh sprays water into Dame Daisy's face.

Hugh *(Rhythmic, like a song)* Water, water every day, cares for flowers the Daisy way!

Dame Daisy Agggghhhhhhhh!

Hugh There you go, mother. I think we're even now.

Dame Daisy Right, Hugh Humperdinck! You've asked for it!

Dame Daisy runs into the wings.

Hugh *(To audience)* I've got a bad feeling about this.

Dame Daisy runs on carrying another large pump action water pistol.

Hugh Uh oh.

Dame Daisy *En garde!*

Hugh and Dame Daisy slowly circle each other, their water pistols poised for action.

Dame Daisy *(To audience)* Should I do it boys and girls? Should I let him have it?

Audience Yes!

Hugh No!

Dame Daisy Yes!.

Hugh No!

The pair simultaneously spray each other with water. Now and again one of them accidentally sprays a little water into the audience.

Hugh Alright! Truce! You win!

They stop spraying each other.

Dame Daisy *(To audience)* Mother always wins.

Hugh Shouldn't we water the plants now?

Dame Daisy I did it before you arrived.

Hugh *(To audience)* I can't believe I fell for this again.

Dame Daisy and Hugh walk downstage and the tabs close behind them.

Dame Daisy Shall we sing a song?

Hugh Well, we've got to do something while they mop up all that water.

Song 9

Dame Daisy and Hugh sing a funny song. At the end of the song...

Scene 5

Tabs open to reveal the palace garden. Enter Snow White, Queen Griselda and Stubble.

Snow White Hello everyone. Having a nice time?

Audience Yes!

Snow White Are you looking forward to my birthday party?

Audience Yes!

Griselda enters followed by Stubble.

Griselda Ah, Snow White! You look lovely today!

Snow White Thank you, step-mother. Oh, there's something I wanted to tell you.

Griselda What's that, darling?

Snow White I've invited an extra guest to the party.

Griselda Really? Who's that?

Snow White Prince Harry of Corbett.

Griselda What?

Snow White I think I may be in love with him.

Griselda Don't be ridiculous, Snow White, you are far too young to be in love. You have your... *(evil glance to the audience)* whole life... to fall in love.

Snow White You wouldn't say that if you were me.

Griselda Anyway, I have a very special treat for you. I've instructed Stubble to take you for a nice walk in the countryside.

Stubble Yes! I thought you'd like to do a little... bird-watching.

Snow White Bird watching? I don't know anything about birds.

Griselda Then now is an excellent time to learn.

Snow White (*Audience*) I don't even like *Springwatch* with Chris Packham.

Stubble takes Snow White by the hand.

Stubble Come on, Snow White, you'll have a lovely time.

Snow White (*To audience*) Do you think I should go birdwatching with Stubble, boys and girls?

Audience No!

Snow White (*To audience*) I will be safe, won't I boys and girls?

Audience No!

Stubble You'll be perfectly safe. Let's go.

Stubble leads a worried-looking Snow White off stage.

Griselda (*To audience*) And that, as they say, is that. We have seen the last of Snow White, and I am once again going to be the fairest of them all! (*Evil laugh*) Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Audience Boooooo!

Griselda exits. Blackout.

Lights fade up again as Hugh enters, followed by some villagers.

Hugh Howdy-do, kids!

Audience Howdy-do, Hugh!

Hugh Have you seen Snow White today?

Audience Yes!

Hugh Which way did she go?

Audience reaction.

Hugh Was she on her own?

Audience reaction.

First Villager I saw her with Stubble!

Second Villager Yes, they were heading for the woods.

Hugh Well that is odd. I wonder what she was doing with Stubble.

Audience reaction.

Hugh Oh, I'm sure everything is fine. I'm going to let you into a little secret, boys and girls. I've decided to tell Snow White how I really feel about her, and ask her to marry me. I know I'm just a poor lad who works in a flower shop, but I'm sure that true love will find a way.

Song 10

Hugh sings a love song for Snow White. The villagers join in. At the end of the song, enter Dame Daisy.

Dame Daisy That was a very nice, dear. You've got lovely pipes. You should enter for *The Voice*. I'm sure Will.i.am would turn around for you.

Hugh Thank you.

Dame Daisy Where's Snow White?

Hugh Well, actually, mother, I am a bit worried about her.

Dame Daisy Worried?

The stage is suddenly flooded with green light again. A flash of lightning, and a huge crash of thunder.

Dame Daisy Well, they didn't predict *that* on the Countryfile Weather Forecast.

Enter Griselda.

Villagers Boooooo!

Griselda (*Evil laugh*) Ah, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! I bring sad and tragic news from the palace.

Hugh Tragic news?

Dame Daisy Well, why are you laughing?

Griselda Force of habit.

Dame Daisy Oh.

Griselda Snow White... is gone!

Dame Daisy Gone? Gone where?

Griselda Gone missing. Gone away. Gone AWOL. Snow White has disappeared into thin air. You will never see her again! Not ever!

Hugh But I *love* her!

Griselda *You* love her as well?

Hugh Yes!

Griselda (*To audience*) My, my, Snow White *was* a popular girl.

Villagers What have you done with her?

Griselda I haven't done anything to her. She's probably run away from home. You know what teenage girls are like. Maybe she's joined a circus.

Dame Daisy A circus?

Hugh There's something fishy going on here.

Griselda Now listen up, you lot! I have a royal announcement.

Villagers Not another royal announcement!

Griselda Snow White's birthday party is hereby... cancelled.

Villagers That's very disappointing!

Griselda And will be replaced by my engagement party. (*To audience*) It would be a shame to waste the sausages on sticks.

Hugh But who are you marrying?

Griselda Excellent question!

Hugh Thank you.

Griselda I will be marrying Prince Harry of Corbett.

Villagers Who?

Griselda (*Clap, clap*) Fetch... the groom!

Two spirits march Prince Harry onto the stage. He is bound and chained.

Prince Harry What's happening? Why have I been brought here?

Griselda Oh, calm down! Aren't you looking forward to your wedding?

Prince Harry We've talked about this! I am never going to marry you! You'll have to kill me first!

Griselda (*Privately to audience*) Well that simply wouldn't do. We cannot have *two* murders in one day.

Villagers What was that?

Griselda Silence! (*To Prince Harry*) By this time tomorrow we will be married, and I will be the happiest evil tyrant in the world. (*Evil laugh*) Ah, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ah, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Dame Daisy (*To audience*) Oooh, that laugh sends shivers down my corset.

More thunder and lightning. Griselda exits. Curtain.

Scene 6

Dame Daisy and Hugh enter on tabs.

Dame Daisy Well, I suppose we'd better deliver the flowers for Griselda's wedding.

Hugh No way! We are going to search for Snow White right now!

Dame Daisy And how do you suggest we do that?

Hugh I've got a secret weapon?

Dame Daisy A secret weapon?

Hugh Yes.

Dame Daisy Don't tell me. You've found a magic lamp?

Hugh No.

Dame Daisy Magic ring?

Hugh Nope. I've got this!

Hugh produces the rusty old bugle.

Dame Daisy What's that?

Hugh It's a bugle.

Dame Daisy A bugle? Where did you get that?

Hugh It was given to me by some friends.

Dame Daisy Who?

Hugh The miners.

Dame Daisy What? The monstrous, mean, miserly miners?

Hugh They're not monstrous, mean or miserly, mother. They're misunderstood.

Dame Daisy Seriously?

Hugh They told me to blow this bugle if I'm ever in trouble.

Dame Daisy *(To the audience)* Well, this is a very unexpected turn.

Hugh They said they'd come and help.

Dame Daisy Are you sure about this?

Hugh Don't try and stop me. I'm going to blow it.

Hugh raises the bugle to his lips and blows. It makes a pathetic squeaking sound and a big cloud of dust comes out of the end.

Dame Daisy Well, that's not very impressive.

Hugh I blew as hard as I could.

Dame Daisy (*Snatching it*) Give me that thing.

Dame Daisy blows the bugle. We hear a groovy little jazz trumpet solo.

Hugh That was amazing! Who taught you to play like that?

Dame Daisy Louis Armstrong.

Hugh Who's Louis Armstrong?

Dame Daisy Look it up.

Hugh Blow it again!

Dame Daisy blows the bugle again. After a few moments we hear a reprise of the miners' song and all seven of them march onto the stage.

Brainy Left, right, left, right... halt!

Hugh Brainy!

Brainy You blew, Hugh?

Hugh Actually, it was my mum that blew the bugle.

Grouchy Impressive. She should go on *Britain's Got Talent*.

Dame Daisy Well I never. It's the monstrous mean and miserly miners. In the flesh. I never thought I'd see them with my own eyes. (*To audience*) They're taller than I imagined.

Hugh Mother, let me introduce you to Brainy, Grouchy, Flaky, Mouthy, Witless, Listless... and Keith.

Keith I'm Keith.

Daisy Maisy Hello, Keith.

Brainy What can we do for you, Hugh?

Hugh (*To Brainy*). It's my friend Snow White. She's in danger. Can you help us find her?

Brainy No problem, Hugh. I promise we'll find her.

Mouthy It's what we do.

Grouchy Then we'll take her deep into the forest to stay with us.

Keith She'll be safe there from Queen Griselda.

Listless (*Yawning*) Do we *have* to go now?

Brainy Yes, Listless we have to go now.

Listless Can't we just take a little snooze, first?

Flaky No!

Witless Who is Snow White?

Brainy Witless, we've explained this to you before. Snow White is a princess.

Witless Is she a goody or a baddie?

Flaky She's a goody!

Witless Oh, good. I prefer them.

Brainy Hugh, you stay with your mother and we'll set off right away and track down Snow White.

Hugh Right.

Grouchy But watch out for the vampire bats in the forest.

Dame Daisy Bats?

Hugh Thanks for the heads-up, Grouchy.

Dame Daisy See you later, fellas. Good luck!

All exit. Tabs open to reveal a clearing in the woods outside town. Enter Stubble followed by Snow White. He is carrying the casket.

Snow White What a lovely day! I've really enjoyed birdwatching with you, Stubble.

Stubble Thank you, princess.

Snow White We've seen sparrows, blackbirds, thrushes, starlings...

As Snow White happily lists the birds she has seen, Stubble goes behind her and draws a sword. The audience react. Stubble puts a finger to his mouth to quieten the crowd.

Stubble We saw an owl didn't we...

Snow White Yes.

Stubble slowly raises the sword above his head.

Snow White And ducks and a goose, and a raven. And robins, and finches and magpies, and cuckoos. I think my favourite bird was the Great Crested Grebe...

Stubble Please stop listing the names of birds!

Snow White *(Still with her back to him)* Why?

Stubble You're putting me off.

Snow White Putting you off what?

Snow White turns around. Stubble is ready to strike.

Stubble Slaying you!

Snow White steps backwards and gasps.

Snow White Slaying me?

Stubble Yes!

Snow White Why would you want to slay me?

Stubble Because I have to put your heart in a casket.

Snow White What for?

Stubble Those are my orders from Queen Griselda!

Snow White Why would my step-mother want to do that?

Stubble I don't know!

Snow White Didn't you ask?

Stubble No!

Snow White Why not?

Stubble Will you please stop asking questions! I'm trying to slay you!

Suddenly, the seven miners run on stage, their swords drawn.

Brainy *(To Stubble)* Stop!

Mouthy Drop your sword!

Grouchy Step away from that princess!

The miners surround Stubble. He drops his sword.

Stubble Who are you?

Brainy I'm Brainy and this is Grouchy, Flaky, Mouthy, Witless, Listless... and Keith.

Keith I'm Keith.

Stubble Hello, Keith.

Listless We are here to rescue Snow White.

Witless And take her deep into the forest.

Brainy *(To Witless)* Don't tell him that! It's a secret.

Witless Sorry.

Snow White Will someone please tell me what's going on?

Brainy Your friend Hugh sent us to rescue you!

Snow White Aw! Hugh is such a sweetie.

Mouthy You're perfectly safe now, Snow White.

Grouchy But only if you come with us.

Brainy points his sword at Stubble's throat.

Brainy And as for you, Diabolos Stubble...

Stubble Don't kill me!

Brainy Get out of here and tell Griselda what you have seen.

Keith The queen will not dare to mess with us again!

Brainy Well said, Keith.

Keith Thank you.

Stubble starts to exit.

Stubble (*Turning to audience*) I'll let you into a secret, boys and girls. I don't think I could ever have brought myself to harm Snow White.

He runs off. Snow White exits in the opposite direction with the seven miners. Curtain.

Scene 7

A frightened-looking Snow White enters on tabs with the miners circling her for protection.

Flaky I'm s-s-scared.

Grouchy Oh, be quiet, Flaky.

Brainy (*To Snow White*) Flaky is afraid of absolutely everything.

Witless Spiders...

Listless Heights...

Keith Wide open spaces...

Mouthy Confined spaces...

Grouchy Cats, rats, top hats, baseball caps, bath taps...

Brainy Dogs, frogs, logs...

Witless Hedgehogs.

Flaky I'm not afraid of hedgehogs! Oh, no wait, I am.

Mouthy Enough of this banter! We must get back to the cottage before dark.

Listless (*To Flaky*) Yes, the *vampire bats* will be out soon...

Flakey B-b-b-bats?

Brainy Stop teasing him.

Mouthy I'm not afraid of bats!

Witless Neither am I.

Snow White Well, I am.

Brainy I'm sure the bats won't come out this evening.

Grouchy You wish.

Brainy Come on men, let's go!

They all head off stage with Snow White. Tabs open to reveal the Magic Forest. Eerie mist drifts across the stage. Hugh enters with Dame Daisy.

Hugh Howdy-do kids!

Audience Howdy-do, Hugh!

Hugh What is this place?

Dame Daisy I think we must have strayed into the Magic Forest. I knew we should have turned left at Wetherspoons. I told you to bring an A-Z.

Hugh What's an A-Z?

Dame Daisy Never mind.

There is the sound of flapping wings.

Hugh What was that?

Dame Daisy It sounded like... the wings of a bat.

Upstage, a single bat runs across the stage, fluttering its wings, and disappears into the trees.

Hugh Have you seen any bats, boys and girls?

Audience Yes!!!

Hugh Are you sure?

Two bats flutter across the stage and vanish.

Dame Daisy Where did you see the bats?

Audience Behind you!

Three bats flutter across the stage and disappear.

Hugh Where?

Audience Behind you!

Hugh and Dame Daisy turn around as a line of six bats come towards them, all frantically flapping their wings.

Dame Daisy Oh no! I hate bats. They get in your hair, they fly up your jumper, and sometimes they even... drink your blood.

Hugh I sure they won't want your blood, mother. It probably tastes like Guinness.

Dame Daisy Don't be cheeky.

Hugh *(To the bats)* Are you here to drink our blood?

First Bat No!

Second Bat We have already feasted today!

First Bat We went to KFC.

Dame Daisy Then, why are you here?

Third Bat We're here to sing a song of course.

Dame Daisy *(To audience)* I think a part of me knew they were going to say that.

Song 11

Hugh and Dame Daisy perform a spooky number with the bats. At the end of the song, the bats flutter away, followed by Hugh and Dame Daisy.

Enter the miners with Snow White.

Brainy We're almost home now, Snow White.

Mouthy And soon it will be morning.

Snow White Thank heavens! That forest was very unnerving in the dark.

Listless (*Yawning*) It will be good to get some sleep.

Flakey And to be safe from those b-b-b-bats!

Grouchy You're out of harm's way now, Snow White.

Mouthy Yes, we'll take care of you.

As they start to leave the stage.

Witless Can I ask you a question, Snow White?

Snow White Yes, of course.

Witless Are you any good at cooking?

Keith Don't be so rude, Witless. Snow White is our guest.

Witless Sorry, Keith.

Dramatic music. They exit. Curtain.

ACT II

Scene One

Tabs open on the miners' cottage. Snow White is on stage with all seven of them. Brainy and Keith hand her a big mug and a plate of biscuits.

Brainy Cup of tea, Snow White?

Snow White Thank you Brainy.

Keith Chocolate Hob Nob?

Snow White Thank you, Keith.

Keith You're welcome.

Snow White You've all been so kind to me.

Mouthy We just want to make you feel at home, Snow White.

Grouchy Yes. Think of our house as your house.

Song 12

The miners sing a mad little song about their house. Snow White joins in. At the end of the song...

Brainy And now it's time to go to work.

Listless (*Yawning*) I'm too tired to go to work.

Grouchy Come on Listless, wakey, wakey!

Snow White What a shame you have to go. We're having such fun.

Mouthy Don't worry, Snow White, we'll be back soon.

Grouchy And while we're at the mine we've arranged for someone else to keep you company.

Snow White Someone else?

Keith Yes. I think you might recognise him.

Enter Hugh.

Hugh Howdy-do, kids!

Audience Howdy-do, Hugh!

Snow White Oh, Hugh, I'm so pleased to see you. The miners would never have saved me if it wasn't for you!

Hugh It was nothing.

Snow White Are you blushing again?

Hugh No.

Snow White Oh yes you are.

Hugh Oh, no I'm not!

Snow White (*With audience*) Oh, yes you are!

Hugh (*To Snow White*) Alright, I admit it. I am blushing a little bit. But it's only because I'm so pleased to see you.

Snow White I still can't believe my step-mother persuaded the entire kingdom that the miners were monstrous, mean and miserly.

The miners' marching music starts up, beckoning them to work.

Brainy We'll see you later, Snow White. Now, it's off to work we go!

The miners pick up their picks and shovels and march off stage singing their signature song.

Snow White Have a good day, fellas!

Hugh What a lovely bunch they are.

Snow White Yes, but I'm still scared.

Hugh You don't need to be scared anymore.

Snow White But I'm worried about Prince Harry.

Hugh Prince Harry?

Snow White Yes, Hugh. I think I love him.

Hugh But, Snow White, I thought you loved... me?

Snow White I do love you Hugh. You're my best friend in the whole world.

Hugh Oh.

Snow White But with Prince Harry it's... different.

Hugh and Snow White walk downstage, and the tabs close behind them.

Hugh Different?

Snow White He makes my knees go all trembly.

Hugh (*Sadly*) Ok, I understand.

Snow White And I think my step-mother may have put some kind of wicked spell on him.

Hugh Don't worry Snow White. You can rely on the miners and me. Everything is going to turn out just fine.

Song 13

Hugh and Snow White sing a song about everything turning out fine in the end. At the end of the song...

Scene 2

Tab's open on the dungeons below Queen Griselda's palace. The stage is flooded in green light as Griselda enters. The mirror is set on stage. Prince Harry is tied up in chains.

Griselda Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! I do so love it when a plan comes together!

Audience Boooooooo!

Griselda Zip it, peasants! Don't you know that the louder you boo me, the more powerful my magic becomes?

Audience Boooooooo!

Griselda At last, I have in this casket the still-warm heart of Snow White, which I shall soon be feeding to the big black crows in the palace garden.

Prince Harry It's not true! Tell me it's not true!

Griselda *(To Harry)* Oh, be quiet! I shall deal with you later!

Griselda approaches the mirror. A spotlight comes up on it.

Griselda *(To mirror)* Mirror, Mirror on the wall, am I once again the fairest of them all?

Silence.

Griselda Mirror? I am speaking to you. Will you not answer me?

Mirror Hold on, hold on. I'm just checking Wikipedia.

Griselda And?

Mirror Well, I've got some good news and some bad news.

Griselda Oh.

Mirror What do you want first?

Griselda The bad news.

Mirror The bad news is that you are *still* not the fairest of them all.

Griselda What? Why not???

Mirror Because Snow White is... alive.

Prince Harry Thank the stars!

Griselda Alive? She cannot be alive, I have her heart in this casket.

Mirror Griselda, you have “a” heart is that casket. But not Snow White's heart.

Griselda “A” heart?

Mirror Yes. Stubble was so afraid of you that he placed in that casket the heart of a fawn.

Griselda A fawn? (*Beat*) What’s a fawn?

Mirror A young deer.

Griselda A young deer? But that’s so sad. I love baby deer. (*Aside to audience*) I always cry my eyes out during “Bambi”.

Mirror So do I.

Griselda What’s the good news?

Mirror Arsenal lost at home.

Prince Harry Hooray!

Griselda (*Growling*) A thousand curses! Where is Snow White now?

Mirror You’re not going to like it.

Griselda Tell me!

Mirror She is being protected by your... arch enemies.

Griselda The miners? Snow White is with the monstrous, mean, miserly miners?

Mirror Don’t shoot the messenger.

Griselda (*Furious*) Stubble! Where are you, you useless nitwit?

Stubble enters, shaking in his boots.

Stubble Y-y-your majesty?

Griselda Stubble, you are an idiot.

Stubble Would it help if I said I was sorry?

Griselda No!

Stubble I'll do the washing up for week.

Griselda I've got a dishwasher!

Stubble falls to his knees.

Stubble Oh, your majesty, please do not kill me. Please, please, please, please, please, please, please!

Griselda Get up!

Stubble I haven't finished yet. Please, please, please, please, please, please, please!

Griselda I shall not kill you Stubble.

Stubble Oh, thank you, your majesty.

Griselda Yet.

Stubble Oh.

Griselda Because, I need you to stand guard over Prince Harry. Make sure he doesn't try and escape.

Stubble Yes, your majesty.

Griselda Meanwhile, I shall go and conjure my most powerful magic spell ever, in order to get rid of Snow White once and for all!

Queen Griselda starts to exit.

Griselda Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! See you later, peasants.

Audience Booooooo!

Griselda exits. Stubble crosses to the tied and bound Prince Harry.

Stubble Well, well, well. Harry.

Prince Harry Prince Harry to you.

Stubble You will never escape while I'm here to guard you.

Prince Harry Are you sure?

Stubble Yes.

Prince Harry Because, I have... friends.

Stubble Friends?

Prince Harry Friends in high places. Friends on the outside. Friends who say "I'll be there for you."

Stubble Really?

Prince Harry Yes.

Stubble Well, I can assure you that *nothing* is going to distract me from standing guard over you.

Prince Harry I wouldn't be too sure.

Dame Daisy (*Offstage*). Yoo hoo!

Stubble What was that?

Prince Harry Maybe it's one of my friends. Or one of my friends' friends.

Dame Daisy (*Offstage*). Yoo hoo!

Stubble (*Drawing sword*) Who goes there?

Dame Daisy enters, dressed up to the nines.

Dame Daisy (*To Stubble*) Well, hello big boy.

Stubble Who are you?

Dame Daisy I should have thought that was obvious. I am Dame Daisy Maisy.

Stubble What a delicious name.

Dame Daisy A strangely attractive woman of a certain age.

Stubble How alluring.

Dame Daisy More to the point, who is this devilishly handsome man I see before me.

Prince Harry I am Prince Harry of Corbett.

Dame Daisy *(To Harry)* Not you... *(To Stubble)*... you!

Stubble *(Bowing)* Diabolos Stubble at your service. Evil henchman to Queen Griselda.

Dame Daisy Oooh, I like an evil henchman.

Stubble May I enquire... are you married?

Dame Daisy Since you ask, I am a poor widow. *(To audience)* Come on, pay attention, I am a poor widow!

Audience Ahhhhhh!

Dame Daisy Let's never do that again.

Stubble Oh, Dame Daisy Maisy, you are magnificent!

Dame Daisy I know.

Stubble Let me kiss your hand.

Stubble takes Dame Daisy's hand and kisses it.

Stubble Let me kiss your arm.

He takes Dame Daisy's arm and kisses it.

Stubble Let me kiss your neck.

He kisses Dame Daisy's neck.

Dame Daisy Oooh. You're not backwards in coming forwards are you? Or forwards in coming backwards.

Stubble *(Nose to nose)* I'm a very misunderstood man you know. I need a good woman.

Dame Daisy Well, while you're waiting for a good woman to come along you might as

well have me.

Stubble (*Nose to nose*) Kiss me!

Dame Daisy Now, now, I never kiss on the first date.

Stubble Oh?

Dame Daisy But I'm sure we could think of something else to do.

Stubble Like what?

Dame Daisy We could play... Scrabble.

Stubble Scrabble?

Dame Daisy Strip Scrabble. (*To audience*) I'll do anything for a Triple Word Score.

Stubble Oh, Daisy Maisy! Daisy Maisy, Daisy Maisy, Daisy Maisy!

Dame Daisy That's my name, don't wear it out.

Stubble I am enraptured. I yearn for romance.

Dame Daisy I feel another song coming on.

Song 14

Dame Daisy and Stubble sing a funny but romantic duet together. Although still tied up, Prince Harry eventually joins in and the three of them finish the number together. At the end of the song, Daisy Maisy chases Stubble off stage.

Prince Harry (*To audience*) What was *that* all about? I thought she'd come to rescue me.

Queen Griselda enters with a big book of spells.

Audience Booooo!

Griselda (*To Prince Harry*) Where's Stubble? He's supposed to be guarding you.

Prince Harry I think Stubble just met the love of his life.

Griselda What? This is a dungeon, not a speed-dating club.

Prince Harry I *knew* Snow White would escape. You'll never get your hands on her now, you evil witch.

Griselda Now, now. Sticks and stones. *(To audience)* I see this as a temporary set-back. It's only a matter of time until Snow White is destroyed and I am once again the fairest in the land.

Griselda opens her book of spells.

Prince Harry What's that?

Griselda This is my big book of magic spells. It also has some very good recipes for fish, and instructions on how to make my show-stopping lemon sponge cake, as seen on the Great British Bake-Off. *(Turning the pages)* Now, let me see. Shall I turn Snow White into a slimy frog, or simply bake her in an apple pie? *(To audience)* Wait! That's it! An apple! That's the hideous plan I've been looking for! An apple! Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Griselda exits leaving Prince Harry still tied up on stage. Her evil laugh echoes.

Prince Harry *(To audience)* I have to admit, I thought *someone* would have come to rescue me by now.

Enter Hugh.

Hugh *(Whispering)* Howdy-do, kids!

He hushes the audience to shout back quietly.

Hugh *(Whispering)* Hiya, Harry.

Prince Harry I can't keep up with this. Who are you?

Hugh I am a friend of Snow White.

Hugh quickly unlocks the prince's chains and removes his ropes.

Prince Harry At last! I've been in this dungeon for simply ages.

Hugh *(A bit sarcastically)* Well, I'm very sorry to hear that.

Prince Harry Listen to me! Griselda knows that Snow White is still alive.

Hugh No! How?

Prince Harry The mirror told her.

Hugh The mirror? Mirrors can't talk

Prince Harry It's a magic mirror.

Hugh Where did she get a magic mirror?

Prince Harry How should I know? Argos?

Hugh Come on, we need to get out of here fast and warn Snow White as soon as possible.

Prince Harry Let's go.

Hugh and Harry run off stage. Enter Griselda carrying a big red apple.

Griselda *(To audience)* This juicy red apple will seal Snow White's fate.

Audience Boooooo!!!

Griselda What could be more tempting than this? And I have injected it with the nastiest poisons known to science. Hemlock, deadly nightshade, belladonna and that hot sauce they put on doner kebabs. As soon as Snow White takes one bite she will be as dead as a dodo!

Audience Boooooo!!!

Griselda Hold on! Where did Prince Harry go? Oh, for pity's sake this dungeon is about as secure as a diamond vault in Hatton Garden.

Griselda walks downstage. The tabs close behind her.

Griselda Where's my Filofax. *(To audience)* What do you mean, what's a Filofax? They were all the rage in the eighties, you know. And this is a limited edition "Evil Filofax". Black cover made from bats' wings and a special insert in the back for writing incantations.

She takes out a pen and starts scribbling.

Griselda Right, note to self: 1) Use my most powerful magic to recapture Prince Harry. 2) Dress up as an old woman and deliver the poison apple to Snow White. 3) Sing a villainous song.

Song 15

Queen Griselda sings a song about being wicked. At the end of the song she holds the poison apple aloft.

Griselda A dark disguise I shall assume,
This fruit shall seal Snow White's doom!

Griselda exits cackling.

Griselda Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Audience Boooo!

Curtain

Scene 3

Enter Hugh and Prince Harry on tabs.

Hugh (*Calling off*) Oh do try and keep up, mother!

Enter Dame Daisy.

Dame Daisy I'm going as fast as I can. But me plates of meat are killing me.

Prince Harry Plates of meat?

Hugh Feet. It's cockney rhyming slang.

Prince Harry Is it?

Hugh Yes. Mother likes to think of herself as a cockney. Even though she was born in [*somewhere posh nearby*]

Dame Daisy I'll teach you.

Prince Harry We haven't got time. We have to warn Snow White!

Dame Daisy Harry, we all know this story is not going to move forward until they're changed the scenery behind this curtain. So, pay attention! This is Dame Daisy Maisy's crash course in Cockney Rhyming Slang.

Prince Harry Go on then.

Dame Daisy and Hugh point to each body part as they mention it.

Dame Daisy This is your Loaf of Bread.

Huge Head.

Dame Daisy On the front of your Loaf of Bread, you've got yer Boat Race.

Prince Harry Boat Race?

Hugh Face.

Prince Harry Ah.

Dame Daisy You see with your Mince Pies.

Hugh Eyes.

Dame Daisy And you listen with yer King Lears.

Hugh Ears.

Dame Daisy Yer Plates of Meat are at the end of yer Bacon & Eggs.

Prince Harry Legs?

Hugh Correct.

Dame Daisy And at the end of yer Chalk Farms...

Prince Harry Arms?

Dame Daisy Are your Brighton Sands.

Prince Harry Hands!

Dame Daisy By George, I think he's got it.

Hugh Meanwhile, sticking out of your Brighton Sands are your Bell Ringers.

Prince Harry Fingers!

Hugh Yes.

Prince Harry Hold on! "Ringers" doesn't rhyme with "fingers".

Hugh You have to apply a bit of "poetic licence".

Prince Harry Where do you get a poetic licence?

Hugh From the Post Office.

Prince Harry Oh, right.

Hugh Everything's connected, you see. Your Barnet Fair grows out of the top of your Loaf of Bread.

Dame Daisy And your Dusty Bin is the pointy bit at the bottom of your Boat Race.

Tabs open to reveal a clearing in the forest. It is night. Hugh, Dame Daisy and Prince Harry walk into the scene.

Hugh You chew with your Hampstead Heath, which are inside your North & South.

Dame Daisy And you can wiggle your Marilyn Monroes at the end of your Plates of Meat.

Prince Harry Well, well. I never *dreamed* that today would turn into an anatomy lesson. Isn't the human body an amazing thing?

Hugh It certainly is, Harry. It certainly is.

Dream sequence:

The stage is suddenly flooded with ultra violet light. Instantly, a line of at least six white skeletons enter from stage left, dancing to the tune of Tchaikovsky's Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy. The skeletons' bones literally glow in the eerie light of the AV effect.

Song 16

Theirs arms linked, the skeletons dance across the stage performing a simple, repetitive little ballet step to the rhythm of the music. Dame Daisy, Prince Harry and Hugh link arms and hook themselves onto the end of the line, joining in with the dance.

Harry and Hugh keep up quite well, but Dame Daisy struggles to stay in time with the music. She ends up performing a bizarre little ballet of her own, with a series of eccentric whirls, twirls and kicks.

At the end of the dance, they all exit.

There is a flash of lightning and the light changes to green. Queen Griselda slowly enters in a single spotlight. She is dressed as a disheveled old woman in a dark hood.

Griselda New lamps for old! New lamps for old! *(Removing hood)* No wait, that's the wrong panto, isn't it! I'll start again. *(Replacing hood)* Oooh, I'm just a poor old woman! Have pity on me. *(Peering from hood)* Do you like my disguise, boys and girls? This should fool Snow White, shouldn't it? Soon the wicked deed will be done!

More thunder and lightning.

Audience Boooooo!

Griselda exits. Curtain.

Scene 4

Enter Snow White on tabs. Griselda enters from the opposite side in her old woman disguise.

Griselda Excuse me...

Snow White Are you talking to me?

Griselda Yes. Would you like to buy one of my beautiful, red, juicy apples?

Griselda offers Snow White the poisoned apple.

Snow White Aw! What a cute little old lady.

Griselda They are the most delicious apples in the kingdom. I grow them in my own fertile orchard. A single bite will quench your thirst for a week.

Snow White Well, I'm not really supposed to speak with strangers...

Griselda Oh, go on. Treat yourself!

Snow White Mm. That apple does look absolutely delicious!

Griselda Just take a bite. You won't regret it.

Snow White Should I take a bite of the apple, boys and girls?

Audience No!

Snow White What's that?

Audience No!

Snow White I'm sure it couldn't do any harm. She looks like such a kindly old lady.

Snow White takes the apple.

Snow White Mmmm. It smells so appetising.

Griselda Go on, take a bite. You know you want to. Bite it, bite it, bite it...

Snow White takes a bite from the apple. Griselda throws back her hood and cackles.

Griselda *(Evil laugh)* Ah! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ah! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Snow White Step-mother?

Snow White grabs her throat and falls to her knees coughing. Griselda produces her small mirror.

Griselda Mirror, Mirror in my hand, am I *finally* the fairest in the land?

Snow White collapses onto the stage.

Mirror Yes, Griselda, you are.

Griselda At last!

Mirror Subject to verification of course.

Griselda Verification?

Mirror Yes. Obviously Snow White has to be pronounced dead by a fully qualified physician and a death certificate has to be issued and signed by the registrar at the town hall.

Griselda (*To audience*) It used to be so much easier to be evil before they introduced all this red tape!

Blackout.

Tabs open to reveal the miners' cottage. Snow White is now lying on a bed in the centre of the stage. She is surrounded by all seven miners. Sad music.

Hugh and Prince Harry rush in.

Hugh Oh no! Are we too late!

Prince Harry Is Snow White dead?

Brainy We found her outside and brought her in right away.

Mouthy holds up the apple with a bite taken out of it.

Mouthy This was lying beside her.

Prince Harry places his hand on Snow White's forehead.

Hugh Her face is so cold.

Prince Harry puts his hand near her mouth.

Prince Harry But she's still breathing. Very faint breathing.

Brainy Snow White is strong. She is determinedly clinging onto life.

Grouchy But her spirit is starting to fade.

Keith Only one thing can save her now?

Hugh What? I'll do anything!

Keith Snow White will only be awakened by true love's kiss.

Hugh I'll do it.

Brainy No, Hugh, wait! There will not be a second chance. Are you sure?

Hugh stops and looks at Prince Harry.

Hugh On second thoughts, I think you'd better do it Harry. We all know she loves you.

Witless and Listless put their arms around Hugh to comfort him.

Brainy Well done, Hugh. You're doing the right thing.

Prince Harry draws close to Snow White's lips. He looks at Hugh.

Hugh Go on Harry.

Prince Harry kisses Snow White. There is a flourish of triumphant music. She sits up. Everyone on stage applauds and the audience join in.

Snow White What happened? All I remember is that there was a little old lady. She gave me an apple.

Hugh It sounds like Queen Griselda has been up to her old tricks again

Brainy (*Showing the apple*) This apple must be poisoned.

Witless I don't understand. How could something with such a lovely name as "apple" not be honest, trustworthy and reliable?

(Beat)

Grouchy Don't overthink it, Witless.

Prince Harry You're safe now, Snow White. The miners found you just in time.

Snow White I can never thank you enough.

Grouchy Wait! There's someone outside.

Grouchy and Mouthy run outside to investigate.

Hugh Not more drama. I thought we were finally wrapping things up

Grouchy & Mouthy drag in Stubble.

Prince Harry Stubble! What are you doing here?

Brainy Have you come to try and harm Snow White?

Stubble No! I'm here to see if she's OK!

Hugh A likely story.

Stubble It's true! I've left Queen Griselda and I'm going to mend my ways!

Prince Harry (*Drawing a sword*) Should we trust him, boys and girls?

Audience No!

Prince Harry Should we?

Audience No!

Prince Harry puts his sword to Stubble's throat.

Prince Harry Prepare to meet your maker, Stubble!

Stubble Please...

Dame Daisy runs on.

Dame Daisy Don't hurt him! Let him go!

Prince Harry Why should we let him go?

Dame Daisy If Stubble has truly decided to mend his ways, I'll have him.

Stubble What?

Dame Daisy grabs Stubble by the lapels.

Dame Daisy Come here, big boy. Now you listen to me! You have two choices. Prince Harry here can run you through with his sword, or you can marry me and come and work in my flower shop.

Stubble Can I have a few moments to think about it?

Dame Daisy Take your time.

Prince Harry stands on one side of Stubble with his sword, Dame Daisy stands on the other side. Stubble looks left and right at both of them.

Stubble Looks like I have only one choice.

Dame Daisy What?

Stubble I'll take the sword.

Dame Daisy What?

Prince Harry raises his sword to strike.

Stubble Only joking!!! *(To Dame Daisy)* How could I possibly resist that face?

Dame Daisy *(Squeezing his cheek)* Good lad!

Stubble takes Dame Daisy by the arm.

Dame Daisy *(To audience)* Oooh, now *my* knees have gone all trembly.

All Hooray!

The miners enter, dragging Queen Griselda in chains behind them..

Hugh Well, look who's here.

Brainy We caught her trying to escape.

Griselda *(Seeing Snow White)*. Snow White? How can you possibly be alive?

Snow White Because, step-mother good *always* triumphs over evil.

Griselda *(To audience)* I hate that cliché.

Hugh Your wicked reign is over, Griselda!

Prince Harry And it's time for you to be punished for your foul deeds.

Griselda That's what you think.

Griselda produces her magic mirror.

Dame Daisy Look out! She's reaching for the mirror!

Griselda Mirror, mirror in my hand...

Dame Daisy snatches the mirror from Griselda.

Dame Daisy Give me that, mirror!

Griselda No!

Dame Daisy (*Holding the mirror*) Right. I've always wanted to do this. (*Looking into the mirror*) Mirror, mirror, cast your eye, and say how beautiful am I?

Mirror Aaaaaaggghhhh! Nooooo!

There is a cracking noise followed by a loud smash of glass.

Dame Daisy Oopsie Daisy.

Griselda (*Sobbing*) My mirror! You broke my mirror!

Hugh (*To audience*) Mother's face was just too beautiful for it.

Mouthy She must have over-loaded its circuits.

Brainy Without her magic mirror, Queen Griselda's power is gone.

Griselda (*Wailing*) No!!!

The villagers have started to gather.

Prince Harry Ladies and gentlemen. I have an announcement! I am Crown Prince Harry of Corbett! I was invited here by Queen Griselda. But she imprisoned me, put a spell on me, and tried to force me to marry her.

All Villagers That seems very unreasonable!

Prince Harry Then she tried to kill her own step-daughter.

All Villagers Booooooo!

Prince Harry Twice!

All Villagers Booooooo!

Griselda My good people! Have mercy on me! I can change!

All Villagers We don't believe you!

Griselda I can mend my ways!

All Oh, no you can't!

Griselda I can!

All Oh, no you can't!

Prince Harry Queen Griselda, I sentence you to be banished from this land forever! You will forthwith be transported on a prison ship!

Griselda Banished? Where to?

All Australia!

Griselda No! Anything but that!

Prince Harry Take her away!

Griselda is marched off stage by two palace guards.

Villagers Hurrah!

Dame Daisy Well, that's the last we'll see of her.

Hugh Come on everyone, there's a Royal Wedding to arrange.

Prince Harry Is there?

Snow White Will you marry me, Prince Harry of Corbett?

Prince Harry I will.

Harry and Snow White hold hands.

Prince Harry You've made me the happiest man in the world.

Dame Daisy And now we can all live happily ever after!

Song 17

Prince Harry, Snow White, Hugh, Dame Daisy and Stubble sing a happy celebratory song. At the end of the song, curtain.

Scene 5

Hugh enters on tabs.

Hugh Howdy-do, kids!

Audience Howdy-do, Hugh!

Hugh Have you enjoyed yourselves?

Audience Yes!!!

Hugh Snow White's getting married. Even Stubble's getting married. But what about me?

Dame Daisy enters.

Dame Daisy Hugh Humperdinck, there is absolutely nothing wrong with living with your mother!

Hugh If you say so.

Dame Daisy Cheer up, Hugh. There are plenty of fish in the sea.

Hugh But I don't want to marry a fish.

Dame Daisy I know, let's sing your favourite song.

Hugh Oh, go on then.

Dame Daisy Would you like to sing a song with us, boys and girls?

Audience Yes!

Song 18

Dame Daisy and Hugh teach a song to the audience. A big board is wheeled on stage with the words of the song on it. At the end of the song...

Tabs open to reveal the palace garden set for a wedding.

Song 19

The entire company come on and take their bows, including Dame Daisy, hand in hand with Stubble. Finally, the company form an archway with their arms and Prince Harry and Snow White, in bride and groom costumes, run through it before taking their bows.

Hugh Three Cheers for Prince Harry and Princess Snow White! Hip, hip...

All Hooray!

Hugh Hip, hip...

All Hooray!

Hugh Hip, hip...

All Hooray!

Reprise of Song 19

Curtain.

THE END