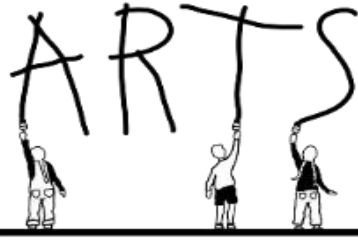


CHILDREN
FOR THE



ALICE
IN
WONDERLAND

PREVIEW

CAST OF CHARACTERS

NARRATOR 1
NARRATOR 2
NARRATOR 3 (CARD #3)
ALICE
MARGARET
QUEEN OF HEARTS
KING OF HEARTS
KNAVE OF HEARTS
WHITE RABBIT
TWEEDLEDEE
TWEEDLEDUM
MAD HATTER
MARCH HARE
DORMOUSE
CHESHIRE CAT
BLUE CATERPILLAR
HUMPTY DUMPTY
KINGZMEN #1
KINGZMEN #2
KINGZMEN #3
KINGZMEN #4
COOK
DUCHESS
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD
CHRIS P. BACON
SIR FRANCIS BACON
KEVEN BACON
PIGEON
MOCK TURTLE
CARDS
TALKING FLOWERS

This script is a preview only. It may be edited to fit the cast size.

SCENE ONE

Lights up on the two NARRATORS, they are in front of the Closed Curtains.

NARRATOR #1: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls!

NARRATOR #2: Welcome to the wonderful world of Wonderland!

NARRATOR #1: Prepare yourselves as today's story is going to be one that you will not soon forget.

NARRATOR #2: There will be talking flowers, talking cards. A Cheshire cat, a cook and a duchess.

NARRATOR #1: There will be a tea party later too and I think we're all invited.

NARRATOR #2: There are all sorts of crazy and unusual characters that you will see today. None more stranger though, than a little girl named Alice.

LITTLE RED enters

LITTLE RED: Excuse me; I seem to have lost my way...

NARRATOR #2: Who are you?

LITTLE RED: I'm Little Red Riding Hood and I'm lost. You see I was on my way to my Grandmother's house and I kept walking and walking, and I usually can find her house, but for some reason today I'm having a little bit of trouble. Maybe I need to go see an eye doctor. Or maybe I need to go see someone who can give me a map, or maybe I need to go get a drink of water because I've been walking and walking and walking and I'm very thirsty and maybe...

NARRATOR #2: Maybe you're in the wrong story!

NARRATOR #1: This is the story of Alice in Wonderland and you're in a completely different story.

LITTLE RED: Well, maybe I could join your story and both of you, along with this Alice girl, could help me find my way to my grandmother's house because you see there's this big bad wolf who's been trying to get me for quite a while now and I'm afraid

that if I go into the woods alone again he'll come after me.

NARRATOR #1: I'm sorry but we can't help you.

NARRATOR #2: We've got other things to do.

LITTLE RED: How rude! *(To Audience)* Do you think you can help me? I don't know which way to go to get to my Grandmother's house and maybe you could tell me. *(Wait for audience response.)* Well, you're no help at all either!

LITTLE RED exits

NARRATOR #1: Now where were we...?

NARRATOR #2: We were telling this lovely audience about some of the characters that we are about to meet in our story.

NARRATOR #1: And some of them are very strange!

Curtains open to reveal the ENTIRE CAST OF WONDERLAND laughing hysterically

QUEEN: *(Offstage)* Off with his head!

ALL: Uh-oh! The Queen!

Curtains close as the ENTIRE CAST OF WONDERLAND panics.

NARRATOR #2: Yes, the Queen of Hearts might frighten you little ones, but remember...

NARRATOR #1: To always stay on her good side...or she will shout...

QUEEN: *(Offstage)*: Off with your head!

NARRATOR #3 enters, wearing a CARD outfit, holding a briefcase, and crying.

NARRATOR #2: Hey there buddy what's wrong?

NARRATOR #3: The Queen just fired me. And told me "Off with my head!"

NARRATOR #1: We're so sorry to hear that. What's your name?

NARRATOR #3: Card #3

NARRATOR #1: Why did she fire you?

NARRATOR #3: Well I planted some roses in her garden, but they turned out white. So I started to paint them red so she wouldn't get mad at me. But she caught me and ordered me to take them all down and to scratch off all the paint with my nails...I just don't know how I can deal with this loss...

NARRATOR #2: That Queen can be so cruel!

QUEEN and KING enter. NARRATOR #3 hides

QUEEN: Excuse me! Off with your heads!

NARRATOR #2: Your majesty!

NARRATOR #1: Surely, your majesty, you do not mean that. *(To the audience)* And why don't you welcome all of these good people?

QUEEN: Off with their heads too!

KING: Come along, my dear.

QUEEN: Off with their heads! Off with their heads!

KING: Later, my dear. Later. We still have to find Card #3 and bring him to justice!

KING leads QUEEN offstage

NARRATOR #3: Phew! That was a close one!

NARRATOR #1: Hey! I have a brilliant idea! Since you lost your job as a card, maybe you can help us tell this story to this lovely audience.

NARRATOR #3: Do you think I am able to do that? I have no experience in this field.

NARRATOR #2: Of course you can! It's super easy.

NARRATOR #1: Yeah, these people will believe anything we say!

NARRATOR #3: Well then I accept! Thank you both!

DORMOUSE enters with a huge envelope. He lays on the floor and snores.

NARRATOR #1: Um, excuse me...excuse me....

NARRATOR #3: Don't worry I got this! *(Goes over to Dormouse and screams)* Wake up!

DORMOUSE: Don't wake me when I'm trying to sleep!

NARRATOR #2: Why did you come out here?

DORMOUSE snores

NARRATOR #3: Wake up!

DORMOUSE: A message from the Queen. *(Hands the card over to the Narrators)*

NARRATOR #3: It says get on with it or off with your heads. *(Dormouse snores)* Wake up!

DORMOUSE: Don't wake me when I'm trying to sleep.

NARRATOR #1: Tell her we're doing our best!

DORMOUSE exits while snoring

NARRATOR #2: I think we better begin our story. You may begin.

NARRATOR #1: Oh no, I insist. You begin.

NARRATOR #2: On no you go ahead.

QUEEN: *(Offstage)* Get on with it!

NARRATORS: Yes, your majesty!

NARRATOR #1: Ahem. One sunny day a little girl named Alice sat by a quiet riverbank with her sister Margaret.

ALICE and MARGARET enter and sit

MARGARET: William the conqueror, who cause was favored by the Pope, was soon submitted to by the English. Edwin and Morcar, the Earls of Mercia and North Umbria, declared for him...

ALICE: What did they declare?

MARGARET: It doesn't say.

ALICE: What did they look like?

MARGARET: There aren't any pictures.
Now pay attention, Alice.

ALICE: *(Yawns)* I am paying attention, but what is the use of a book without pictures?

MARGARET: I swear, Alice, there are many wonderful books without pictures.

ALICE: But if I had my way, all books would be filled with pictures.

MARGARET: What nonsense!

ALICE: Yes, filled with nonsense too!

MARGARET: That is enough! Now listen... Edwin and Morcar, the earls of Mercia and North Umbria, declared for him, finding it advisable to off him the crown...

As MARGARET drones on, WHITE RABBIT enters the stage. ALICE goes to it. MARGARET exits

ALICE: A white rabbit...with a pocket watch...?

RABBIT: Oh dear, oh dear! I'm late, I'm late!
(Exits)

NARRATOR #1: Alice jumped up and started to follow the rabbit.

NARRATOR #3: He went that way *(Pointing for Alice)*

ALICE: Thank you! *(Exits)*

NARRATOR #2: Alice kept following the rabbit, and then she found herself in a very strange place. A place no other little girl had ever been...

RABBIT: *(enters)* Oh no, the Queen! She'll be angry if I'm late!

ALICE: *(entering behind)* Wait Mr. Rabbit! Wait!

RABBIT: Oh, my ears and whiskers, how late it is! Oh, my dear. I'm so late! The Queen will have my head for this! *(Exits)*

ALICE: I've lost him. Where did he go? Where am I?

PIGEON enters
PIGEON: Serpent!

ALICE: I am not a serpent.

PIGEON: Serpent I say again. *(Begins to sob)* I've tried every way, but nothing seems to suits them.

ALICE: I haven't the least idea what you're talking about.

PIGEON: As if it wasn't trouble enough hatching the eggs, but I must be on the lookout for serpents, night and day! I haven't had a wink of sleep these three weeks. And just as I'd taken the highest tree in the woods, and just as I was thinking I should be free of them at last, here you are again, serpent.

ALICE: But I am not a serpent. I'm a little girl.

PIGEON: A likely story. I've seen a good many little girls in my time, but never one with such a neck as that! No, no, you are a serpent and there's no use denying it. I suppose you'll be telling me next that you never tasted an egg.

ALICE: I have tasted eggs. Little girls eat eggs too.

PIGEON: I don't believe it, but if they do, why, then they're a kind of serpent: that's all I can say. You're looking for eggs, I know that well enough. And what does it matter to me whether you're a little girl or a serpent? Be off with you!

PIGEON exits

ALICE: I'm not a – oh forget it.

HATTER and HARE enters

HARE: It's teatime!

HATTER: How do you know?

HARE: What other time could it be?

HATTER: You're right. Shall we go?

HARE: Of course we shall.

HATTER: We are.

HARE: We were.

HATTER: We will be. (They both laugh.)

HARE: Teatime!

HATTER: Tea for you.

HARE: Tea for me, tea for you.

HATTER: Tea for we! (They laugh and exit.)

ALICE: (Watching in amazement.) Oh, dear. Where am I? I don't know where I am. This is all very confusing. I'd better find a way home. This is the strangest forest I've ever seen. Very strange.

ALL: (From offstage.) Very strange!
(Laughing.)

ALICE: Hello? Where are you? Yoo-hoo!

ALL: (From offstage.) Yoo-hoo! Yoo-hoo!

QUEEN: Off with their heads!

ALL: (WILD LAUGHTER.)

ALICE: I wonder why they are laughing. I'm going to find a way home.

CHESHIRE CAT enters

ALICE: Look, it's a cat! A very large cat. Or maybe I'm smaller than I was. I've never seen cats and rabbits that were bigger than I am. (Cat starts to exit) Don't go away kitty. Please stay.

CHESHIRE CAT exits

CATERPILLAR enters

ALICE: I must have frightened it away. I wonder why it kept smiling at me like that. (Turns around to see Caterpillar) Oh! Why it's a Caterpillar!

PILLAR: Whoooooo are youuuuuu?

ALICE: I really don't know sire. I knew who I was when I woke up this morning, but I think I've changed since then.

PILLAR: What dooo youuuuuu meannn? Explain yourself.

ALICE: I can't explain myself. Everything is so confusing.

PILLAR: It isnnnnn't.

ALICE: It is to me. Why don't you tell me who you are?

PILLAR: Whhhhyyy?

ALICE: Oh! (She is angry and starts to exit)

PILLAR: Wait! Commme back. I have something toooo say.

ALICE: What is it?

PILLAR: Keep your temper. Sooo, you think you're confused, dooo youuuu?

ALICE: I know I am. Everything seems to be the wrong size, or at least a different size. Especially me.

PILLAR: Whaaat size dooo youuu want to beeeee?

ALICE: I don't know exactly. I would like to be a little larger.

PILLAR: Whhhhyyy?

ALICE: Well, I'm not used to being so small. At least I think I'm small. I really don't know.

PILLAR: In time, you'll get used to it. (He starts to exit)

ALICE: Oh, wait! Please, wait!

PILLAR: Goooooodbyyyeee.
Goooooodbyyyeee.

ALICE: Now what can I do? This place is so confusing. I think I'll go -

NARRATOR #1: Why don't you go that way?

NARRATOR #2: Or you could go that way? You'll find your way.

NARRATOR #3: Good luck!

ALICE: Oh, no. Please don't leave me here. (She sits down and begins to cry.)

Giggles are heard offstage

ALICE: What was that? Is anyone there? (More giggles.) There is someone there. (She looks around.) Where are you? I know

you're there. Where are you? *(More giggles. As she is turning around Tweedledum and Tweedledee appear.)*

TWEEDLEDUM: What is she doing?

TWEEDLEDEE: She's crying.

TWEEDLEDUM: Contrariwise, she's leaking.

TWEEDLEDEE: No how, she's crying!

TWEEDLEDUM: Contrariwise, She's le-

ALICE: Excuse me... *(Starts getting up)*

TWEEDLEDUM: Huh! She's talking!

TWEEDLEDEE: Contrariwise, she's asking.

TWEEDLEDUM: No how, she's talking.

ALICE: Pardon me, but I was wondering...where am I? *(Walks over to them).*

DUM & DEE: We'll never tell. *(They stand very still. Alice begins to cry again.)*

TWEEDLEDUM: Hey...She's leaking again!

TWEEDLEDEE: No how, she's crying.

TWEEDLEDUM: She's leaking! *(They stand perfectly still again & freeze.)*

ALICE: I'm crying!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD enters

LITTLE RED: *(Goes up to Alice and Tweedledee and Dum and tries to get their attention.)* Excuse me. Excuse me. Hello? Are you statues?

DUM & DEE: *(They ignore LITTLE RED and speak to ALICE.)* If you think we're statues, you ought to pay, you know. You're supposed to pay to look at statues, you know. You can't look at statues for nothing. No how.

DEE: If you think we're alive, you ought to speak to us.

ALICE: I'm very sorry.

DUM: Don't be concerned about it. No how.

DEE: Yes how!

ALICE: Excuse me, but do either one of you know the way out of this forest?

LITTLE RED: Yes, yes. Do you? I need to get out of this forest, too. *(They ignore her.)*

DUM: Yes how!

DEE: Yes how!

ALICE: What do I do?

LITTLE RED: You pay attention to me! I'm trying to get to my grandmother's house! *(They ignore her.)*

TWEEDLEDUM: Let's dance!

LITTLE RED: Dancing won't take me to my! Please help me! Hello! Look at me, please! I went the wrong way and I wouldn't want to do that again.

TWEEDLEDEE: Yes, let's dance! *(DUM & DEE grab ALICE and dance in a circle singing "Here we go round the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush").*

DEE: *(Stops suddenly.)* That's enough for one dance.

DUM: Let's tell her a story.

ALICE: Oh, I love good stories.

LITTLE RED: Uuugghhh! I think I'll go find someone else to help me! You three are no help at all! *(She exits)*

DEE: Which one shall we tell?

DUM: The "Walrus and The Carpenter". That's the longest.

DEE: *(Clearing his throat.)* Ahem. "The Walrus and the Carpenter were walking close at hand. They wept like anything to see such large amounts of sand. If this were only cleared away they said, "It would be just grand". Now you tell her the other part.

DUM: *(Clearing his throat.)* Ahem. "The time has come, the Walrus said, to talk of many things. Of shoes and ships and polishing wax of cabbages and Kings. And why the sea is boiling hot and whether pigs have wings." Do you like it?

ALICE: Yes, but I –

DEE: She didn't like it.

ALICE: But I did like it. Very much. It's just that I want to find my way home. But I do like you both and I enjoyed my visit with you. But it's late and I should be on my way.

DUM: Well, then, goodbye.

DEE: Yes, goodbye.

DUM: Let's have dinner.

DEE: Let's have lunch.

DUM: No how!

DEE: Yes how!

DUM: Let's have breakfast!

DEE: Let's have brunch!

DUM: No how!

DEE: Yes how! *(They exit SR arguing repeating "no how" and "yes how" until they are offstage.)*

WHITE RABBIT runs in with a huge envelope

SCENE TWO

RABBIT: I'm late, I'm late! For a very important date!

ALICE: Oh, Mr. Rabbit, there you are.

RABBIT: *(To Alice.)* Hello Maryann! Please give the Duchess this invitation.

ALICE: My name is Alice. What is the invitation for?

RABBIT: Why it's an invitation for the Duchess to play croquet with the Queen. *(Looks at his watch.)* Oh dear, oh, dear. I'm late. I'm late! I can't stay another moment Maryann. I'm late! *(He rushes off.)*

ALICE: My name is not Maryann! It's Alice!

(The COOK stands behind a table that has pots and pans, dishes, a book and a pencil. She holds a peppershaker and puts it in a pan.)

COOK: Ah-choo! Pepper! *(Throws a dish.)*
Ah-choo! More pepper! *(Throws a pot.)*
Ah-choo! There's never enough pepper!
(She writes in her book.) Oh, pepper! *(She begins to hum to herself. The DUCHESS enters carrying a baby.)* Ah-choo! Ah-choo! Pepper!

DUCHESS: SALT! Who's at the door?
Answer the door.

COOK: Pepper...pepper...pepper. *(She writes again in her book.)*

DUCHESS: Salt!

COOK: *(Throws a plate.)* Pepper! There's no one at the door.

DUCHESS: Salt! *(Singing to her baby.)*
Piggy, piggy, wiggy, iggy. Cook, answer the door.

COOK: Ah-choo! Ah-choo! *(Throws a dish and a pot.)* She continues sneezing and walks and pantomimes answering a door. ALICE looks confused at the DUCHESS and the COOK. She returns to her table and writes in her book.) Pepper!

DUCHESS: Salt! Oh, baby – piggy, piggy-baby. You silly baby. PIG!

COOK: Pepper! *(She throws another pot.)*
Duchess, answer the door. More pepper. *(She writes in her book.)*

DUCHESS: Salt! There's no one at the door.

COOK: Pepper. Pepper. Pepper. Ah – choo! Duchess, answer the door.

DUCHESS: Salt! Oooooohhhh. Piggy, piggy wiggy.

ALICE: *(To COOK.)* Excuse me, but what are you doing?

COOK: There's never too much pepper. *(She shakes more.)* Ah-choo!

ALICE: *(Looks into her pot.)* I see.

DUCHESS: *(To Alice.)* Well? Are you just going to stand there? Why don't you say – how do you do?

ALICE: How do you do?

DUCHESS: I've been better.

ALICE: Aren't you feeling well?

DUCHESS: Well, what?

ALICE: What?

DUCHESS: What are you talking about?

ALICE: Hmmmm.....I don't know, actually.

DUCHESS: You don't know much and that's a fact!

COOK: Pepper! Ah-choo! *(Throws a plate and writes in her book.)*

ALICE: Tell me, what are you writing?

COOK: Isn't it obvious?

ALICE: I'm afraid not.

DUCHESS: Of course not! Tell me is pepper a vegetable?

ALICE: No. I believe it's a mineral.

DUCHESS: A mineral! There's a large pepper mine around here somewhere.

COOK: *(Very excited.)* Pepper mine?

DUCHESS: The more there is of mine, the less there is of yours. *(She laughs. To the baby.)* Pig! *(She starts to toss it up into the air.)*

ALICE: Oh, the poor baby.

DUCHESS: *(Throws the baby at ALICE.)* Here! You may hold it if you like. I must get ready.

COOK and DUCHESS exit

ALICE: Well, I never...*(NARRATORS enter. A SE of BABY grunting like a pig is heard.)*

NARRATOR 1: What's wrong baby?

NARRATOR 2: Oh my, it's a pig!

COOK: *(Re-enters and grabs the baby.)* Perhaps I should take the baby with me. A story with no pepper!!!! Hmph!! Ridiculous! *(She sneezes into the baby's face and the baby grunts again like a pig.)*

NARRATOR #3: No wonder the Duchess kept calling it a pig. It really is a pig.

NARRATOR #1: Welcome to Wonderland!

NARRATOR #2: Which way are you going now?

ALICE: I think I'll go that way.

NARRATORS: Good luck!

NARRATORS exit

SCENE THREE

CHESHIRE CAT appears behind ALICE

ALICE: Oh my, it's that cat again. Do you know how to talk? *(CAT grins and nods)* Then why don't you speak?

CAT: That depends on what you want to know.

ALICE: Could you tell me which way I should go?

CAT: That depends on where you want to go.

ALICE: I don't care very much where...

CAT: Then it doesn't matter which way you go.

ALICE: ...as long as I get somewhere! By the way could you tell me what sort of people live around here?

CAT: *(Pointing.)* In that direction lives the March Hare. In that direction lives the Mad Hatter. Visit either you like. They're both mad.

ALICE: I don't think I want to visit mad people.

CAT: Oh, you can't help it. We're all mad here. I'm mad. You're mad.

ALICE: What makes you say that?

CAT: You're here, aren't you?

(CARDS & TALKING FLOWERS enter from stage left and right jumping about wildly again laughing.)

CARDS: We're mad! We're mad!

FLOWERS: We're mad! We're mad!

CARDS: (Pointing to the audience.) Are they mad?

FLOWERS: They're here, aren't they?

CARDS: Yes, they're here. They're here.

FLOWERS: They're mad! They're mad!

CARDS: They're mad! They're mad!

FLOWERS: We're mad! You're mad! They're mad! We're all mad! Lovely! Delicious! Delightful!

CARDS: You're mad! We're mad! They're mad! We're all mad! Exciting! Wonderful! Watermelon!

FLOWERS: (They stop abruptly.) Watermelon?

CARDS: Tomatoes! (It turns into a game.)

FLOWERS: Onions!

CARDS: Carrots!

FLOWERS: Honey Bees!

CARDS: Honey Bees?

FLOWERS: Flies!

CARDS: Ants!

FLOWERS: Beetles!

CARDS: Dogs!

FLOWERS: Dogs?

CARDS: Mad dogs! (CARDS & FLOWERS growl and then laugh hysterically.)

QUEEN: (From offstage.) Off with their heads!

ALL: THE QUEEN!!!! (They scurry about, and exit)

ALICE: Oh, my. What curious creatures. Talking flowers? Talking cards? I think they should meet the Cook.

CAT: (Ignores her.) Are you going to play croquet with the Queen.

ALICE: I haven't been invited.

CAT: (Starts to exit.) You'll see me there.

ALICE: He's gone.

CAT: (Reappears.) Have you decided?

ALICE: Decided what?

CAT: Which way to go, of course.

ALICE: Not really. I suppose the March Hare would be interesting to visit or perhaps the Hatter. Which way was which?

CAT: Either way will do. It doesn't make any difference. (CAT exits.)

ALICE: (Going after the Cat.) It doesn't? But why? (Alice tries to find out where the Cat has gone as the RABBIT enters in a great hurry.)

RABBIT: I'm late! Not a moment to lose! I'll miss the game.

ALICE: Wait! Mr. Rabbit.

RABBIT: I'm late! I'm late! Hurry! No time to waste! No time to lose! (He exits.)

ALICE: Mr. Rabbit!! Now what can I do? (Alice is left onstage alone.)

SCENE FOUR

(The Hatter, The March Hare and The Dormouse are sitting at a table with teacups, teapots, etc. The Hare and Hatter laugh and giggle wildly as the Hatter begins to pour tea. The Dormouse falls asleep. The NARRATORS enter.)

NARRATOR #1: Alice was tired and still very confused.

NARRATOR #3: And hungry too!

NARRATOR #2: The Mad Hatter and the March Hare were having a tea party that afternoon.

NARRATOR #1: Just as they did on every other afternoon, on every other day.

HATTER: Lovely tea!

HARE: Lovely day!

HATTER: Lovely. Let's have more tea.

HARE: Lovely. Let's sit down

HATTER: Why not?

HARE: Why?

HATTER: Who knows?

HATTER: Not !! (They laugh wildly.)

Dormouse wake up!

DORMOUSE: Don't wake me when I'm trying to sleep! When you wake me up you get this! (Spits, sits and snores)

HATTER: Dormouse, wake up!

DORMOUSE: When you wake me up you get double this! (Spits, sits and snores)

HATTER: What time is it?

HARE: Teatime! Will you have some tea?

HATTER: Why, no, thank you

HARE: Do you think he (*Dormouse*) wants any?

HATTER: (*Lifts Dormouse's head, peers into his face*) Dormouse! Dormouse! Do you want some tea? (*He snores*) What's that? (*He snores*) What is he saying? Does he want tea or not?

HARE: Give him some just to be sure.

HATTER: Of course, how clever you are.

HARE: Well, it is Thursday after all. The cleverest of day of the week.

HATTER: (*Pours tea into Dormouse's mouth. Dormouse spits it out*) Drink! Drink! Drink!

DORMOUSE: Mmm. Tea (*Snores*)

HARE: Change places!

They all get up and randomly change places. ALICE comes forward to the table

HATTER: What is that creature?

HARE: Did you invite her?

HATTER: Never! How could you suggest such an idea? No room! No room! Go away!

ALICE: But there is plenty of room. I'll sit here.

HARE: Have some wine? (*HARE and HATTER laugh, stop abruptly*)

ALICE: I don't see any wine.

HARE: That's because there isn't any (*They laugh*)

ALICE: Well that wasn't very polite of you to offer it.

HARE: It wasn't very polite of you to sit down without being invited.

ALICE: But – but – but...

HATTER: (*Mocking her.*) But – but – but...

ALICE: (*Upset.*) But you have room for more than three.

HATTER: You're hair needs cutting.

ALICE: You shouldn't make personal remarks. It's very rude.

HATTER: (*To Hare.*) It is?

HARE: (*To Hatter.*) Is it? (*They laugh, stop abruptly and stare at Alice*)

HATTER: A riddle!

ALICE: Oh, good. I like riddles.

HATTER: Why is a raven like a writing desk?

NARRATORS: Why is a what like a what?

ALICE: Let me see... a raven and a writing desk. I think I can guess that. It's on the tip of my tongue.

HATTER: (*Horrified.*) It is?

HARE: On the tip of her tongue?

HATTER: Let me see.

ALICE: See what?

HATTER: Your tongue! (*To Hare.*) Whoever heard of answers to riddles written on tongues?

HARE: Not !!

HATTER: Dormouse! Wake up!

DORMOUSE: Me neither! (Spits, then snores)

ALICE: But I meant that...

HATTER: Let me see!

ALICE: Oh, all right. (She sticks out her tongue.)

HATTER: I don't see a thing. Not a word.
HARE: Not a syllable.

HATTER: Put your tongue back, creature.

ALICE: All I meant was that I thought that I could answer the riddle.

HARE: You should say what you mean.

HATTER: You might as well say that I see what I eat is the same thing as I eat what I see.

HARE: And you might as well say that I like what I get is the same thing as I get what I like.

DORMOUSE: (Rising with a snort and a yawn.) You might as well say that I breathe when I sleep is the same thing as I sleep when I breathe. (Snores)

HATTER: More tea?

ALICE: Well I can't have more tea if I never had any.

HATTER: Are you full?

ALICE: No I – More tea please.

HARE: Splendid! (*Pours tea into her cup, shaking the tea kettle very hard*)

HATTER picks up a clock and starts to slap it

HATTER: Dormouse! Wake up! What day of the month is it?

DORMOUSE: The fourth (*Snores*)

HATTER: It's three days long! I told you butter wouldn't work!

HARE: It was the best butter!

HATTER: You shouldn't have put it in with the bread knife! It has crumbs in it!

HARE starts to smack the clock on the table

ALICE: What a funny clock. It tells the day of the month, but the time?

HATTER: Why shouldn't it? Time, time, time, time. Give me the clock!

HATTER places the clock on the table. Grabs a (fake) heavy instrument such as a hammer and starts to hit the clock. HARE brings the clock to the ground and continues to rapidly hit the clock with the instrument. They all start shrieking and shouting and running around the table. They abruptly stop and stare at ALICE for a few seconds not making a sound

DORMOUSE snores

HATTER: Have you guessed the riddle yet?

ALICE: No, I give up. What's the answer?

HARE: Nor do I. (*They laugh wildly.*)
Change places! (*Once again they all change places. The Hatter stands up on the table.*)

HATTER: Last year I sang for the Queen of Hearts. (*He sings.*) Twinkle, twinkle, little bat, how I wonder what you're at. Up above the world you fly, like a tea tray in the sky. Twinkle, twinkle... Dormouse wake up!

DORMOUSE: Twinkle, twinkle... (*snores*)

HATTER: Dormouse, wake up!

DORMOUSE: I heard every word... (*snores*)

HARE: Dormouse! He's asleep again! Hurry! Everyone hold your breath and count to zero! Good! Dormouse! Wake up!

DORMOUSE: I do know one. But only one. You see, once upon a time, there were three sisters, named Elsie, Lacie, and Tillie (yawns). And they lived at the bottom of a well. They were learning to draw and they drew all sorts of things, everything that begins with an "M".

ALICE: But why an "M".

DORMOUSE: Why not an "M"? (*Snores*)
Please don't interrupt me anymore.
Anyway...these three sisters, Elsie, Lacie
and Tillie who lived at the bottom of a well
were learning to draw and they...

HATTER: Yes, yes. Do get on with it!

DORMOUSE: They drew marshmallows,
mouses, and marmalade,
massssshhhheeedd potatoes and more,
more, more...(*snores*)

HARE: That was a beautiful story,
Dormouse.

ALICE: I did not find his story that amusing.

*HATTER and HARE scream in unison,
then abruptly stop and stare at ALICE*

HATTER: (Suddenly leaping onto his chair.)
Wait!

HARE: What?

HATTER: Have you got the time?

HARE: No, I haven't seen him.

HATTER: I thought so! (He points offstage.)
There he goes!

HARE: (Leaps up onto his chair.) Where?

HATTER: (Coming down from his chair.)
There! (They start to rush away dragging the
Dormouse with them.)

HARE: Catch him!

HATTER: Don't let him get away!

ALICE: Time for what? Wait. Oh, they're
gone. Where am I? I wish I'd never followed
that rabbit.

ALICE exits

SCENE FIVE

NARRATOR #1: Poor Alice.

NARRATOR #2: She'd never been to tea
party like that

LITTLE RED enters

LITTLE RED: Hello? Is anyone there?

NARRATOR #1: You're still here?

LITTLE RED: Yes, as you can see I'm still
here. I'm still lost and I would still like
someone to help me find my Grandmother's
house. And I'm worried about that big, bad
wolf too.

NARRATOR #2: Now, let's see...you're in the
wrong story...you're lost...you're still trying to
find your way to your Grandmother's house
and you're still carrying that basket, so there's
only one solution that we have to help you.

LITTLE RED: Oh, please tell me.

NARRATOR #2: You'll have to give us what's
in your basket and then we can help you find
your way to your Grandmother's house.

LITTLE RED: Oh, no! I couldn't! I've made a
very special soup for her. You see she's sick
and I always make something for her when
she's sick and I just couldn't...

NARRATOR #1: (Now in on the joke.) No,
really! It will be fine. Just give us the soup
and we'll be able to help you find your way.

NARRATOR #3: You see soup nourishes our
senses and we'll be able to point you in the
right direction after we've had some of your
very special soup.

LITTLE RED: No!!

LITTLE PIGS enter

CHRIS BACON: Did somebody mention a big,
bad wolf?

FRANCIS BACON: We have been trying to
hide from him!

KEVIN BACON: Yeah, he's super scary!

NARRATOR #3: Wait, wait, wait! Who are
you?

CHRIS BACON: Chris P. Bacon, nice to meet
you.

FRANCIS BACON: Sir Francis Bacon, nice to
meet you.

NARRATOR #3: And who are you?

KEVIN BACON: Bacon...Kevin Bacon.

FRANCIS BACON: And together, we are...

PIGS: The Three Little Pigs!

NARRATOR #2: The Three Little Pigs? You're not supposed to be in this story either.

KEVIN BACON: Maybe we took the same wrong turn as this little girl did back in the woods.

CHRIS BACON: Yeah, those woods are dark and scary.

FRANCIS BACON: But we need to collect materials to build our houses so that big, bad wolf wouldn't blow our houses down!

NARRATOR #3: What did you make your houses out of?

CHRIS BACON: I made mine out of hay.

NARRATOR #3: Well hay is not that sturdy.

CHRIS BACON: Well I know that now!

FRANCIS BACON: I was smarter. I made my house out of sticks.

NARRATOR #2: Sticks are not that strong either.

KEVIN BACON: I was the smartest. I made mine out of bricks!

NARRATOR #1: Now that is smart!

KEVIN BACON: Yeah...until that big, bad wolf climbed down my chimney!

LITTLE RED: That big, bad wolf has been following me as well! He was after my soup!

CHRIS BACON: Maybe we can look out for that big, bad wolf together.

LITTLE RED: That sounds like a fantastic idea! Do you know I have been walking for miles and miles and I've been trying to find my grandmother's house for a very long time and...

LITTLE RED and LITTLE PIGS exit

NARRATOR #2: Well hopefully that will be the last we see of them.

NARRATOR #1: Now back to our story! This place should be familiar to you Card #3

NARRATOR #3: Why is that?

NARRATOR #2: Because we are now in the Queen of Heart's royal garden of *mostly* red roses.

NARRATOR #3: Oh no! I better hide from this part of the story. I don't want the Queen to see me!

NARRATORS exit

SCENE SIX

(CARDS enter with KNAVE. They have paint brushes and buckets. They go to some trees that have roses on them and start to paint)

KNAVE: Paint the roses red, la la la la la.
Paint the roses red, tra la la la la.

CARDS: Tra la la la la

CARD #1: Watch out! You're getting paint on me!

CARD #2: No. You got paint on me.

CARD #3: Who got paint on who?

CARD #4: Paint the roses red. Tra la la la la

CARD #5: Why red? Tra la la la la. Why not blue or orange or pink or purple?

CARD #6: Why not red? Red is such a beautiful color and that's what she wants! Tra la la la la

CARD # 7: Red...Red...Red...How fun...

CARD #8: I love painting!

CARD #9: I have never been so excited to paint the Queen's roses red!

CARD #1: You're just trying to get on her good side so she won't have your head!

CARD #2: She'll have our heads anyway when she finds out that we're painting her roses!

CARD #10: Yeah! Did you hear about Card #3?

CARDS: So sad. Tra la la la la

CARD #11: She'll never have my head!

CARD #12: Nah-uh. Never!

ALICE enters

ALICE: Excuse me. Why are you painting those roses?

CARDS: Shh!!!

CARD #1: Someone might hear you!

CARD #2: We're supposed to paint the roses red.

CARD #3: I am painting as fast as I can! Tra la la la la

CARD #4: No you're not! Tra la la la la

CARD #5: Can't you see how much fasting I am painting? Tra la la la la. Are you blind?

CARD #6: Who's blind? Tra la la la la

CARD #7: I'm not blind.

CARD #8: I can see perfectly well that the roses are white and need to be painted red

KNAVE: Quiet! You see, this should have been a red rose tree, but one of our cards...who shall not be named...

CARD: It was Card #3!

KNAVE: Quiet! One of our guards planted a white rose tree instead of a red one. Needless to say, if the Queen finds out about this...

CARDS: She'll have our heads!

KNAVE: So we're trying to paint the roses red before she sees them.

KNAVE and CARDS sing "Painting the roses red, Tra La La" as ALICE watches on

KNAVE: The Queen of Hearts is baking cherry tarts on this fine afternoon.

CARD #9: Mmm. Cherry tarts, tra la la la la

CARD #10: Red cherry tarts! Tra la la la la

CARD #11: Yummy yummy yummy!

CARD #12: Do we have to paint those too?

CARD #1: Ewww. We don't have enough paint if we do!

CARD #2: You got paint on me again!

CARD #3: Who got paint on who?

CARD #4: The Queen will have our head if we paint her cherry tarts!

CARD #5: Just keep painting the roses red Tra la la la la

CARD #6: Oh, isn't this enchanting! Out of our minds, oh yes we are!

CARD #7: Keep painting or the Queen will have your head!

CARD #8: Will not!

CARD #9: Yes she will! She will have all of our heads!

KNAVE: Quiet! We have to hurry before she arrives.

ALICE: Can I help you?

KNAVE: Have you ever painted before?

ALICE: Never roses, but I've painted other things before.

KNAVE: We don't even know you. You'll ruin everything and then we will have to start everything all over again. And besides, we don't have enough paint for you.

CARD #4: I told you the Queen will have our heads if we paint her cherry tarts!

ALICE: I don't have to paint if you don't want me too.

RABBIT enters

RABBIT: Make way for the Queen! The Queen! Make way for the Queen!

KNAVE: Oh no, the Queen!

CARDS: The Queen is coming!

RABBIT: The Queen approaches! The Queen!

QUEEN, KING, HATTER, HARE, DORMOUSE, DUCHESS, COOK, CATERPILLAR, TWEEDLEDEE, TWEEDLEDUM, CHESHIRE CAT enter
KNAVE and CARDS fall to the ground and bow

QUEEN: Off with their heads!

KING: Not yet, my dear.

QUEEN: *(To Alice)* Who is this?

QUEEN: *(To King.)* Fool. *(To Alice.)* What is your name?

ALICE: My name is Alice, so please Your Majesty.

QUEEN: *(Points to Knave.)* And who is this?

ALICE: How should I know, Your Majesty? It's really no business of mine.

QUEEN: Off with her head! Off with her head!

KING: My dear, she is only a child.

QUEEN: HMPH! *(To the King.)* Turn them over!

KING: Yes, my dear. *(With his toe he turns over the Knave. The Knave and The Cards all stand up still holding their heads and bowing to the Queen. Everyone starts bowing to the Queen except Alice.)*

QUEEN: Stop that. All of you! You make me dizzy. *(Stomps her foot.)*

ALL: We make her dizzy. We make her dizzy.

QUEEN: STOP IT! *(They all stop.)* What have you been doing here?

KNAVE: May it please your Majesty, we were trying to paint the roses.

CARDS: Paint the roses red, tra, la, la, la, la!

QUEEN: Painting my roses? How dare you paint my roses.

KNAVE: But your Majesty wanted red roses.

QUEEN: Not painted ones! Off with their heads! Begonia with all of you!

KNAVE: Please, your Majesty.

QUEEN: Off with their heads!

ALL: *(Except Knave and Cards.)* Off with their heads! Off with their heads!

ALICE: No, you mustn't.

KNAVE and The CARDS exit sobbing

KING: *(To Alice.)* Sssshhh. If you know what's good for you.

ALICE: But she can't just ---

QUEEN: *(Shouting to Alice.)* Do you play croquet?

KING: *(To Alice.)* I hope you do, my dear. For your own good.

QUEEN: *(Shouts.)* Do you play croquet?

ALICE: *(Shouts back.)* Yes, I do!

QUEEN: Come along, then!

KING: *(Takes Alice by the arm.)* Come along. Come along.

ALL: Come along, come along, come along.

QUEEN and ALICE get croquet mallets (flamingos) and two balls. NARRATORS enter

NARRATOR #1: Now you see, when the Queen of Hearts plays croquet, she doesn't always play fairly.

NARRATOR #2: And of course, she always wants to win...

QUEEN: I get to go first!

QUEEN smacks the ball and members of the cast pick up the ball and make it look like Queen is doing very well.

QUEEN: I win! I win! I always win!

ALL applaud and cheer

ALICE: I suppose it is my turn now.

ALICE hits the ball and a member of the cast picks up the ball and throws it off the stage.

ALL "boo" Alice

ALICE: That wasn't very fair!

QUEEN: I am a winner and you are a loser!

NARRATOR #2: You see the Queen always win the game.

CHESHIRE CAT enters

NARRATOR #1: But the game of this particular day was interrupted by a cat.

ALICE: Cheshire cat! Now I'll have someone on my side.

CAT: How are you getting along?

ALICE: There are no rules here. No one pays any attention. And the Queen certainly doesn't play fair when it comes to croquet.

CAT: Well, what do you think of the Queen? Do you like her?

ALICE: Not at all. She's so –

QUEEN: Who are you talking to?

ALICE: A Cheshire Cat. He's a friend of mine.

KING: I don't like the look of him. However, he may kiss my hand.

CAT: I'd rather not.

ALL: Did you hear that? Oh, my! Dear me! Gracious! (etc.)

KING: Tell him to go away.

CAT: I don't feel like leaving yet.

ALICE: He's a very nice cat.

KING: I don't care if he's nice or not. I don't like the way he grins at me.

QUEEN: Neither do I. Cat! Stop that grinning.

CAT: No, I won't.

QUEEN: Off with his head!

ALICE: NO!

QUEEN: Off with her head, too!

KING: My dear, I wish you'd remove this cat.

QUEEN: Have you decided? Are you leaving or not?

CAT: I'm thinking it over.

KING: Make him go away.

QUEEN: After that cat!

ALICE: No!

QUEEN: Yes! Follow that Cat!

HATTER: (They all move in on the cat.)
Catch him!

HARE: Don't let him get away.

ALL: Catch the Cat! Catch the Cat!

ALICE: No! Stop, please! No! (They all run around the stage in different directions, but Alice and the Cat don't move. They all stop.)

QUEEN: Where did he go? Off with his head!

KING: Look! (Points to Cat.) Make him go away.

HATTER: Catch him!

HARE: There he goes! (Everyone rushes offstage.)

SCENE SEVEN

ALICE: Come on. Let's run away before they catch you.

CAT: They won't. Don't worry.

ALICE: Is anyone sane around here?

CAT: Not really...*(grins)* Say... Have you met the Mock Turtle?

ALICE: I don't even know what a mock turtle is.

CAT: It's the think mock turtle soup is made from.

ALICE: I never saw one nor heard of one.

CAT: Maybe the Mock Turtle will you her story. She's never told me. She hasn't told anyone come to think of it. Come on! She will tell you her history! (Screams) Mock Turtle!!!!

MOCK TURTLE enters very slowly, stops midway then continues to move slowly, stops then continues to move slowly. This happens while some somber music is playing. The music stops when she gets to the Cat and Alice. She sits and begins to cry.

ALICE: What's her sorrow?

CAT: Hasn't got one. Just her fancy! Oh, Mock Turtle! This young lady right here wants to hear your history. (*TURTLE continues to cry*) Well if you don't feel up to it...

TURTLE: Wait! She shall hear my history. All of it. Please sit down and do not interrupt until I have completed the entire tale.

CAT and ALICE sit down. TURTLE begins to cry

ALICE: How can she finish if she never begins?

CAT & TURTLE: Shhh!!!

TURTLE: Once...long ago...when everything was different. I was not a mock turtle, I was a real turtle. When we were little, we went to school in the sea. The master was an old turtle and we used to call him Tortoise.

ALICE: Why would you call him Tortoise if he wasn't?

TURTLE: Because he *taught* us!

CAT and TURTLE laugh hysterically

TURTLE: Really, you are very dull. You ought to be ashamed of yourself for asking such simple questions.

CAT: Please continue, Mock Turtle.

TURTLE: We used to go to school every day, we called it day school.

ALICE: That's not terribly unusual you know. I went to day school every day too.

TURTLE: Well do you study extras?

ALICE: French and Music.

TURTLE: We learned washing. Did you?

ALICE: No.

TURTLE: Doesn't sound like much of a school you got there. What about teachers? My teacher was an old crab. Do you have an old crab for a teacher?

ALICE: Depends on her mood. (*Alice laughs but they just stare, not laughing. Alice stops*) So for how many hours a day did you do lessons?

TURTLE: Ten hours the first day, nine hours the next and so on.

ALICE: What a curious plan.

CAT: That's why they're called *lessons* because they *less* from the plan every day.

CAT and TURTLE hysterically laugh
Turtle: Well now, you must tell us your history!

ALICE: My history? All of it?

TURTLE: Nooo! Just begin at the beginning, go through to the end, then stop.

ALICE: Well...

TURTLE: Come on, we haven't got all day, you know that trial will begin any moment now.

ALICE: The trail? What trial?

CAT & TURTLE: The Queen of Hearts. She made some tarts. All on a summer day. And so forth.

ALICE: But why must there be a trial?

CAT: To find the culprit I suspect.

RABBIT enters

RABBIT: The trial! The Queen of Hearts is having a trial! Oh no, oh no. I'm late! I'm late!

RABBIT, CAT and TURTLE exit

ALICE: Cheshire cat? Where did you go?
Oh, I'm hopefully lost in this strange land! As soon as I rest for a moment, I'll go back and see if I can find that cat!

SCENE EIGHT

FLOWERS enter dancing wildly and laughing

ALICE: Haven't I seen you somewhere before?

FLOWERS: How do you do?

ALICE: Could you please tell me how I can find my way out of the forest?

FLOWER #1: Look! She doesn't have any leaves!

FLOWER #2: Quiet. Quiet.

FLOWER #3: (Sobbing.) But she doesn't have any leaves!

FLOWER #4: (Sobbing) How dreadful for her!

FLOWER #5: (Sobbing) And no color!

FLOWER #6: (Sobbing) No color?!

ALICE: But I do have color.

FLOWER #7: (Sobbing) No, no. No color, whatsoever.

FLOWER #8: (Sobbing) No, no. No color at all. Nothing. Nothing.

FLOWER #9: Who cares if she has any color? I certainly do not!

FLOWER #10: Now, now that is not appropriate behavior for any flower in the Queen's garden!

ALICE: I've seen many gardens before but none of the flowers could talk.

FLOWER #11: We not only can talk but we can sing, too!

FLOWER #12: What shall we sing for her?

FLOWER #11: I'm really not quite sure.

FLOWER #12: You never are! You can never make up your mind.

FLOWER #11: I can! I just can't think right now.

FLOWER #12: You never can!

FLOWER #1: Stop arguing. Now, little girl, put your hand down and feel the ground.

FLOWER #2: In most gardens the flowerbeds are too soft. So the flowers are always asleep.

ALICE: I never thought of that before.

FLOWER #3: Frankly, my dear, in my opinion you never think at all.

FLOWER #4: I never saw anyone more stupid.

FLOWER #5: Please don't argue. Please don't argue.

FLOWER #6: Who says? Who says not to argue?

FLOWER #7: I said!

FLOWER #8: I said, too. I said, too. (Yells.) I SAID!

FLOWER #9: Said what? What did she say? Oh, who cares what any of you said!

FLOWER #10: I don't know what is going on with all of you! Stop it, please!

FLOWER #11: Well, what are you going to sing for her?

FLOWER #12: I haven't made up my mind.

FLOWER #11: You never can.

FLOWER #12: Can too!

FLOWER #11: Cannot!

FLOWER #2: All right, everyone!

FLOWER #3: Don't step on me!

FLOWER #4: Don't step on me!

FLOWER #1: Oh, good. What fun!

FLOWER #5: How do I look?

FLOWER #6: Lovely dear, just lovely!

FLOWER #7: She does look just lovely.
Lovely, lovely.

FLOWER #8: I think you look absolutely,
positively beautiful! What wonderful color
you have!

FLOWER #9: I think she looks terrible!

FLOWER #10: Please don't argue. Please!

FLOWER #11: No, let's argue some more!
What are you going to sing?

FLOWER #12: None of your business!

FLOWER #10: PLEASE don't argue!

FLOWERS start to exit

ALICE: Where are you going?

FLOWER #2: Transplanting time!

ALICE: But could you please tell me the way
out of the forest?

FLOWER #1: Don't ask me.

FLOWER #2: Don't look at me.

FLOWER #3: Don't even bother me!

FLOWER #4: (Sobbing.) Don't even touch
me. No. No. No. (Cries.)

FLOWER #5: I have problems of my own.

FLOWER #6: Move along, everyone. Move
along!

FLOWER #7: Wait for me, everyone. I'm
coming, too!

FLOWER #8: She has no color. She has no
leaves.

FLOWER #9: Who cares about her anyway!
She doesn't have any color and she doesn't
have any leaves.

FLOWER #10: (To Alice.) Please excuse our
behavior. I do hope you find your way, but
you have no color! You have no leaves!

FLOWER #11 & 12: (Sings to the tune of
"Happy Birthday".) She has no color. She
has no leaves. She has no color. She has
no leaves. She has no color. She has no
leaves. She's a misfit, I believe! (FLOWERS
join in and sing it one more time then giggle
as they exit.)

SCENE NINE

*HUMPTY sits upon a wall. KINGZMEN enter,
rapping and beatboxing*

KINGZMEN: Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses and all the king's men
Couldn't put Humpty together again.

HUMPTY DUMPTY: *Egg*-cuse me, I'm right
here! And I did not fall!

KINGZMEN #1: Hey look it's the big egg,
himself!

KINGZMEN #2: Yo, yo, yo! What up Humpty
Dumpty?

KINGZMEN #3: Yeah, what's crackin',
Humpty?

KINGZMEN #4: Dumpty, my main egg, how
are you?

HUMPTY DUMPTY: Rubbish. I'm doing
rubbish if you must know. Who are all of
you?

KINGZMEN: We are...The KingZmen!!
(Starts *beatboxing*)

KINGZMEN #1: With a Z.

KINGZMEN #2: Because we're cool like that.

KINGZMEN #3: Hey Humpty, do you want to
hear a funny *yolk*?

KINGZMEN #4: Ah man, don't tell them your
jokes. They are always so scrambled!

KINGZMEN #3: Hey! My jokes are always
funny side up.

HUMPTY DUMPTY: Don't try to butter me
up. Why did the King send his Kingsmen?

KINGZMEN #2: It's KingZmen, with a Z!

HUMPTY DUMPTY: Rubbish, Kingsmen is
spelled with an S, not a Z.

KINGZMEN #1: Don't get so hard boiled about it. We think it's cool.

KINGZMEN #4: And we're here to help you.

HUMPTY DUMPTY: What do you mean?

KINGZMEN beatbox their rhymes

KINGZMEN #1: Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall; Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. All the king's horses and all the king's men Couldn't put Humpty together again.

HUMPTY DUMPTY: But I have not fallen. Rubbish. This makes no sense.

KINGZMEN #2: Humpty Dumpty fell off his bike. Humpty Dumpty started to hike. But both of his boots and laces as well Got in a tangle so over he fell.

HUMPTY DUMPTY: Rubbish!

KINGZMEN #3: Humpty Dumpty got in his car. Humpty Dumpty didn't get far. The engine went vrooom and the horn gave a cough. Then all of the wheels came tumblin' off.
HUMPTY DUMPTY: Rubbish

KINGZMEN #4: Humpty Dumpty sat down to tea. Humpty Dumpty didn't ask me. He licked at his lips, and he nodded his head. Then Humpty Dumpty ate all the jam and the bread.

HUMPTY DUMPTY: Rubbish. I do not need to hear anymore. Please go tell the King I am fine!

KINGZMEN: Come on men, let's go!
KINGZMEN exit, still beatboxing. ALICE enters.

ALICE: Why, it's Humpty Dumpty! (She goes up to him.) He looks like an egg!

HUMPTY: It's not nice to be called an egg! State your name and your business.

ALICE: My name is Alice, and –

HUMPTY: What a stupid name! What does it mean?

ALICE: Does it have to mean something?

HUMPTY: Of course it does. My name means the shape I am, and a handsome shape it is, too. With a name like yours, you could be almost any shape.

ALICE: I suppose you're right.

HUMPTY: Of course, I'm right!

ALICE: Why do you sit here all alone?

HUMPTY: Because there's nobody else with me!

ALICE: But what if you fall?

HUMPTY: I won't. But if I ever did fall, the King promised me that...

ALICE: He would send all of his horses and his men.

HUMPTY: How did you know? You've been listening at doors, or behind trees. Haven't you? Admit it.

ALICE: It's in a book.

HUMPTY: I'm in a book?

NARRATORS enter
NARRATORS: Yes, you are.

HUMPTY: What does the book say?

ALICE: Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall. Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. All the King's horses and all the King's men couldn't put Humpty together again.

HUMPTY: Not a word of truth in the whole thing! What does a book know?

ALICE: I'm sorry if I offended you.

HUMPTY: What was your name again?

NARRATORS: Alice!

HUMPTY: Well, goodbye, Annabelle.

NARRATORS: Alice!

ALICE: Goodbye?

HUMPTY: Yes, goodbye, Marianne.

NARRATORS: Alice!

HUMPTY: Alice, who?

NARRATORS: Never mind!

ALICE: Goodbye. Until we meet again.

HUMPTY: I wouldn't know you if we did meet. You look exactly like anyone else.

ALICE: You'd recognize my face.

HUMPTY: Ah, no. Your face is the same as any other face. Two eyes, the nose in the middle, and the mouth below the nose. Now, if you had two eyes on the same side of your nose, or if your mouth were on top of your head, now that would help.

ALICE: It wouldn't look very nice.

HUMPTY: Wait until you've tried, Barbara.

NARRATORS: Alice!

ALICE: Well! Of all the – (She starts to walk away.)

NARRATOR #1: You certainly weren't very polite to her.

HUMPTY: Rubbish.

NARRATOR #2: It would serve you right if you did fall.

HUMPTY: Nonsense. (He begins to teeter on his wall.)

ALICE: Oh, no! Someone help him! He's going to fall! Help!

HUMPTY: Nonsense! (Teetering on the wall.)

ALICE: Help! He's going to fall!

HUMPTY: Rubbish! (He starts to teeter more.)

KINGZMEN enter, beatboxing

KINGZMEN: Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall, Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

ALICE: Are you going to help him?

KINGZMEN #4: That's not how the rhyme works!

HUMPTY DUMPTY: (*teetering*) Whoa, whoa...

KINGZMEN: We've got him.

The KING runs on the stage with the KNAVE, HATTER, and HARE

KING: We'll save him!

HATTER: Catch him!

HARE: Don't let him get away!

ALICE: He's going to fall!

KNAVE: Save him!

KING: We'll save you. (The Hatter and Hare and Kingsmen catch him.) He's saved. (They all help Humpty offstage. *RABBIT* enters.)

RABBIT: A very fine day. Oh dear, I'm late.

ALICE: Oh, Mr. Rabbit. Could you please help me?

RABBIT: I'm late, I'm late. The trial, the trial! (He exits.)

KINGZMEN: The trial! The trial!

KING, KNAVE, HATTER & HARE: The trial!

SCENE TEN

CAST runs onstage and prepare to setup for The Trial: There are two chairs for the King and Queen. CAST makes up the JURY.

RABBIT: The Queen! Make way for the Queen!

QUEEN: It's time for the trial!

KING: (Jumping up and down.) Can I be the judge? Can I be the judge?

QUEEN: All right! All right!

KING: I'm the judge! I'm the judge!

HATTER: Teatime! (Hare laughs.)

ALICE: (Standing by King.) Congratulations!

QUEEN: Quiet!

RABBIT: (Rushing around.) The Queen said quiet. The Queen said quiet.

LITTLE RED and LITTLE PIGS enter

LITTLE RED: Excuse me, but do you think that you could help me? I've been wandering around in the forest trying to...

QUEEN: SILENCE! Off with your head!

ALL: Hiss!

CHRIS BACON: Oh no, I don't think you want to do that.

FRANCIS BACON: Yeah, Little Red is our best friend now.

KEVIN BACON: And she just washed and curled her hair so it would look nice for her sick grandmother.

QUEEN: SILENCE! Off with all of your heads!

LITTLE RED: Well, aren't you a little abrupt! I don't think I've ever met anyone like you before. You know my Grandmother would be very disappointed in your behavior because she has always said that...

QUEEN: (Screams.) STOP! STOP! STOP YOUR CHATTERING!! Off with your head! Off with your head! Off with your head!

CHRIS BACON: Hey lady, we're just trying to get out of this story and into our own.

ALICE: Excuse me, but my name is Alice and I don't think we've met.

LITTLE RED: Oh, I've heard about you before. I wonder if you could help me find my way to my Grandmother's house!

QUEEN: OFF WITH THEIR HEADS!

ALICE: I think we've made the Queen angry!

FRANCIS BACON: I think she is very rude.

KEVIN BACON: Come on piggies, let's keep looking for our story. You coming, Little Red?

LITTLE RED: Yes, I can't wait for you to meet my grandmother. She is super nice and sweet and...

LITTLE RED and LITTLE PIGS exit

QUEEN: Quiet!

NARRATORS: (Sitting in their chairs.) Ahh...the trial!

ALICE: What trial?

QUEEN: Quiet!

HATTER: (Writing on a piece of paper.) Teatime!

ALICE: What are you writing?

HATTER: My name.

ALICE: Why?

HATTER: So I won't forget it! Let's get on with it!

QUEEN: Bring in the prisoner!

RABBIT: Prisoner, prisoner. (The Knave crosses center.) The Queen of Hearts she made some tarts, all on a summer day. The Knave of Hearts, he stole those tarts and took them quite away.

ALL: Boo! Hiss!

KING: Accused? Have you anything to say?

QUEEN: Off with his head!

KING: Not yet, dear.

KNAVE: I appeal to the sympathy of the jury. I couldn't help myself. The Queen's cherry tarts smelled so good, and they looked so delicious.

JURY: Ahhhhh!

DUCHESS: And the moral of that is if you want to keep your head, don't get caught!

COOK: Pepper! More pepper! Ahhh-Choo!

KNAVE: I couldn't help myself. Before I knew it, I'd eaten them all. Every one of the cherry tarts.

QUEEN: My dear, how were they?

KNAVE: Delicious, Your Majesty!

JURY: Ahhhhh!

HUMPTY: Rubbish!

HATTER: I want one.

HARE: So do I! (They sob on each other's shoulders.)

DUM: He couldn't help it. No how!

DEE: Yes he could! Yes how!

KNAVE: I appeal to all of you to be kind. Have pity on a poor hungry Knave.

HATTER: It's tragic. (Still crying.)

HARE: It's terrible. (Crying.) Everyone in the court starts to sob.)

QUEEN: Call in our witnesses!

RABBIT: First witness!

HATTER: Thank you. Thank you. I love you all.

KING: Take off your hat.

HATTER: It isn't mine.

KING: Stolen. (To Jury.) Write that down. State your case.

HATTER: I'm a very poor man, Your Majesty...

NARRATORS: You're a very poor speaker. (Everyone cheers.)

KING: Quiet the jury.

RABBIT: Sssshhhh!

KING: You may stand down.

HATTER: But I can't go any lower. I'm on the floor as it is.

KING: Then you may go.

HATTER: But I haven't stated my case.

KING: We don't have all day! Call the next witness.

RABBIT: Next witness! (The Cook charges up to the King and shakes pepper at him.)

COOK: I'm next.

ALL: Hurray!

QUEEN: Off with her head!

COOK: (Shakes pepper at her.) Have some pepper!

QUEEN: Ah-choo!

JURY: Ah-choo!

KING: Call the next witness!

COOK: But I haven't stated my case!

RABBIT: Next witness!

COOK: (Shakes pepper at the Rabbit.) More Pepper! More Pepper!

DUCHESS: If you have something to say, make sure no one hears you.

COOK: Ah-choo!

JURY: Ah-choo!

QUEEN: (Throws a shoe at them.) On with the party!

ALICE: Party? What party? And what about the trial and the poor Knave?

ALL: (Mocking her.) What about the trial and the poor Knave.

KING: (To the Queen.) Yes, my dear.

RABBIT: The Queen says on with the party. (They rearrange all the chairs and tables. They rush about madly getting bowls, cups, etc.)

ALICE: (To Narrators.) Who is the party for?

NARRATOR #1: Why it's for you!

NARRATOR #2: Who else would it be for?

ALICE: Me? But why? I'm so confused.

QUEEN: You're late.

KING: That's right my dear.

ALICE: I'm sorry.

QUEEN: Have some chicken.

KING: Try the soup.

DORMOUSE: Have some tea.

HATTER: Bread and butter.

KNAVE: Pudding?

HUMPTY: Eggs?

KINGZMEN: Love that egg man!

RABBIT: Cake!

PILLAR: Peas.

FLOWERS: Honey.

CARDS: Tarts.

KNAVE: Tarts?

ALL: I want one!

MOUSE: Cheese.

DUM & DEE: Beans.

COOK: Pepper! (She throws a plate from the table.)

DUCHESS: Salt!

ALICE: But I don't see any food!

HARE: We told you.

HATTER: Too late! No room, no room.

ALICE: But I'm hungry. (They all continue their party pretending to eat food. (The Cheshire Cat has appeared downstage.)

ALICE: (Looking very sad.) Cheshire Cat. (She sits down and pets the Cat.)

CAT: How was the party?

ALICE: Terrible.

CAT: Do you want to go home now?

ALICE: Oh, yes, please.

CAT: Well, just follow the path that way and you'll be home before you know it.

ALICE: Oh, thank you very much!

QUEEN: (Sees the Cat.) LOOK!

KING: It's the Cat! Make it go away.

QUEEN: After that Cat. Off with his head!

ALL: Catch the Cat!

Everyone rushes around the stage in a circle but do not get the cat, they are shrieking and shouting. Alice gets very dazed and gets out of the circle and slumps to the floor

MARGARET enters, still reading her book next to ALICE.

MARGARET: Alice! Wake up! Alice!

ALICE (*Waking up*) Margaret!!!

MARGARET: Oh my, what a long sleep you had.

ALICE: Margaret, I went to wonderland and I saw oh so many curious things. I followed a white rabbit down the rabbit hole. And a caterpillar and a duchess with a cook, and a Cheshire cat that grins, and I played croquet with the Queen of Hearts and she kept screaming off with your head! Off with your head!

MARGARET: Oh my dear, you've been asleep and dreaming.

ALICE: Dreaming? But it seemed so real...

MARGARET: Dreams often do. That must have been some dream you had. Your cheeks...there is almost no color to them.

ALICE: No color?

MARGARET: Oh! And look what I found (*Has red and white roses*) Roses! Only a few of them were red, it was as if someone had painted these on the bush. How funny.

ALICE: Painted roses?

MARGARET: (*Looks at a pocket watch*) Oh my, we're late! Come along now Alice. Since you overslept, we are terribly late for the tea party. You know how I hate being late!

ALICE: Yes, Margaret. Sorry to hold you up, let's go!

*ALICE and MARGARET exit
NARRATORS enter*

NARRATOR #1: So, Alice finally found her way home.

NARRATOR #3: Or was she home the whole time?

NARRATOR #2: Alice didn't think she had been dreaming but she wasn't quite sure when she went to the spot where she had first seen the White Rabbit.

NARRATOR #1: She watched and she waited, but the White Rabbit never came by again.

NARRATOR #3: Alice never forgot her adventures in Wonderland.

NARRATOR #1: Though she often wondered

NARRATOR #2: Was it really a dream?

NARRATORS: What do you think?

BLACKOUT

BOWS