

Cast

Pip, the Bard: Our narrator. A traveling storyteller. (British accent)

Princess Dandelion: Our heroine. A young and independent princess. She is very strong willed and set in her ways.

Max, the servant boy: Our hero. A young boy who has been a lowly servant all his life. He lacks confidence in himself.

Jeff, the evil sorcerer: Our villain. A twisted individual who kidnaps the princess in order to get revenge for being an outcast.

Cotton: One of Jeff's familiars. A not too intelligent, magical creature created from a lizard.

Candy: Another one of Jeff's familiars. A not too intelligent, magical creature created from a rat.

King Monty: King of the Land of Zhan and father to Princess Dandelion. He was born a king, but he really wants to become a singer.

The Wandering Bard's Tale

Sets: Monty Hall- The flats are painted like stone walls. There is a throne up center stage. Two red banners with the Monty family crest (whatever it may be) hang on the flats. One stage left and stage right of the throne.

Forest- Backdrops with a forest scene are hung over the flats. There is a tree stump located stage right.

Jeff's Lair- The Monty family banners and the throne are removed from the castle scene. There is an old looking table with alchemy equipment on it located stage left. The stage right flat has a set of shackles on it.

Scene: Forest. Pip stands with his leg up on the tree stump.

Pip: (To audience) Cheerio everyone! I thought I was the only traveler on this road. It's good to see such healthy looking adventurers! My name's Pip! I'm a traveling bard. What's that?! You don't know what a bard is? Well, I'll tell you. A bard sings songs and tells stories of great heroes. Actually, I don't really sing all that much. I did once, but it made people run away. Hmm...you look tired from your travels. I'll tell you a story to liven you up. Let's see...how do these start? Oh yes! Once upon a time, I was traveling through the Land of Zhan, which is south of Ardenshire, but east of California...so needless to say, I was lost. I was walking through the woods when suddenly I heard a noise coming my way. Well, being the brave bard that I am...I hid behind a tree stump. (Pip hides behind the tree stump. Max enters stage left carrying two buckets of water. He proceeds to walk stage right until Pip jumps out in front of him) Hello boy!

Max: Who me?

Pip: No, the boy standing behind you. (Max looks behind him, a bit confused) Yes you, young one! I was wondering if you could help me. I'm lost and I can't find my way.

Max: I'm not supposed to talk to strangers.

Pip: I'm no stranger, I'm Pip!

Max: Who?

Pip: Come on lad, I'm trying to tell a story, just work with me.

Max: (Max sees the audience) Oh, okay. Well, I can take you as far as Monty Hall.

Pip: Monty Hall?

Max: Yes, it's the home of King Monty.

Pip: But it's called Monty Hall?

Max: Yeah, it sounds better than Monty Castle.

Pip: Oh...well then boy, lead on!

Max: Yes sir!

Pip: Please, call me Pip.

Max: Yes sir, Mr. Pip, sir.

Pip: No, no, just Pip.

Max: Yes sir, er, I mean Pip.

Pip: Good. Now, do you have a name or should I just call you boy through this whole story?

Max: My name's Max.

Pip: Well Max, let's get out of these woods.

Max: Okay, follow me! (Max exits stage right. Pip moves down stage while the lights go out on the Forest scene. During the following dialogue, the scene will be changed to Monty Hall)

Pip: Young Max led me to Monty Hall. Along the way he told me about King Monty and his three daughters that he named after different kinds of flowers. As it turned out, Max was the servant of King Monty and had lived in the castle all his life. I guess living amongst nobles had taught him some manners. He was really the most polite young man I had ever met. Oh...where are *my* manners? I have gone completely off the subject. Getting back to the story...Monty Hall was the smallest castle I had ever seen. At first I wasn't sure if we had gone to the right place, but sure enough, we arrived. (Pip quickly exits stage left. Lights come up on Monty Hall. King Monty sits on his throne, looking bored)

Monty: What to do? What to do? (Sighs) Being king is very boring. Business is up. Crime is down. There is nothing for me to do. What this kingdom needs is an outlaw to mess things up so that I can fix them! (Pip enters stage left on this line, almost as if he is the answer to Monty's prayers)

Pip: Hello!

Monty: Are you an outlaw?

Pip: No, I'm Pip the traveling bard.

Monty: If you're not an outlaw then leave immed- wait, a traveling what?

Pip: A traveling bard.

Monty: Are you selling something?

Pip: No, I'm trying to tell a story.

Monty: You're a storyteller?

Pip: Yes.

Monty: Do *you* write these stories?

Pip: Uh...yes.

Monty: Great! That's just what I need!

Pip: Beg pardon?

Monty: Can you write songs?

Pip: Write songs, yes. Sing songs, no.

Monty: Excellent!

Pip: I'm afraid I'm a bit lost.

Monty: I'll explain. As you know, I'm the king.

Pip: Certainly.

Monty: Well, I don't really want to be a king.

Pip: You don't?

Monty: No, I want to be...a singer!

Pip: So you would need a-

Monty: Songwriter, yes!

Pip: I see. Okay king, you let me stay here a while and I will help you become a singer.

Monty: Uh...Pip was your name, right?

Pip: Yes, your Montiness!

Monty: Your Montiness?

Pip: Yes. That's going to become a thing. You just wait.

Monty: (Monty gives Pip a strange look) Right. The servant boy will show you to your room.
Max! (Max enters stage left)

Max: Yes your majesty?

Monty: Max, show my guest to a room please.

Max: Yes your majesty.

Pip: It looks like I'm going to be staying awhile, Max.

Max: Great, I'll go get your bags.

Pip: No need to, I can carry them.

Monty: Nonsense! That's the boy's job. Let him do it.

Pip: Of course. (Max exits stage left) Tell me your almightyness, why a singer?

Monty: Well I'm good at it. I placed third on "The King's Got Talent" singing our national anthem.

Pip: You placed third?

Monty: Yes.

Pip: On a show called "The King's Got Talent"?

Monty: Yes.

Pip: And you're the king?

Monty: Yes. Where are you going with this?

Pip: Um...nowhere. (Max enters stage left carrying a very large, very heavy bag)

Monty: Ah, good lad. Pip, if you'll just follow the boy down the hall and up the stairs, he'll show you to your room.

Pip: Thank you your highness. (Pip and Max exit stage right. Dandelion enters stage right)

Dandelion: Father, who is that strange man following Max into the west tower?

Monty: That's your Uncle Pip.

Dandelion: Father, I don't have any uncles.

Monty: You do now.

Dandelion: Father-

Monty: Couldn't you just once call me daddy?

Dandelion: Why?

Monty: I just like the sound of it.

Dandelion: Father-

Monty: Oh fine, you don't have to if you don't want to.

Dandelion: Thank you father. (Dandelion turns to exit)

Monty: Wait a second.

Dandelion: Yes father?

Monty: How did your meeting go with Prince Dunberry?

Dandelion: Father, please.

Monty: Come on tell me how it went.

Dandelion: (After a moment of hesitation) I can't stand him! I have never met anyone so in love with himself! And don't get me started on the way he dresses!

Monty: What's wrong with it?

Dandelion: He wears pink!

Monty: You can hardly notice. (Dandelion has a look of disgust) Dandelion, you have to marry someone. I'm not going to be around forever.

Dandelion: I know father.

Monty: I just want to make sure that you are taken care of like your sisters.

Dandelion: Father, I'll be fine. I don't need any *man* to take care of me. Besides, if I ever need help, my sisters are there for me.

Monty: Yes, but Rose and Tulip have their own worries. They shouldn't have to worry about you as well.

Dandelion: Father I promise you that when the right guy comes along, I will be more than happy to settle down.

Monty: Really?

Dandelion: Yes...daddy. (Dandelion kisses Monty on the cheek and exits stage right)

Monty: (Monty sighs) Ah, sweet child. (Monty looks around) Hmm...I'm bored again. (Jeff enters stage left on this line)

Jeff: (Sinister) Hello.

Monty: Are you an outlaw?

Jeff: Why yes. Yes I am.

Monty: Good, what's your name?

Jeff: Jeffrey, but you can call me Jeff, the evil sorcerer!

Monty: Never heard of you.

Jeff: Um...Evil Jeffery, Sorcery Jeff, Dark Jeff, Jeff the Moderately Ill-Tempered?

Monty: Doesn't ring any bells.

Jeff: There was a brief period where I was called “the Evil Sorcerer Formerly Known As”.

Monty: Mmm...nope.

Jeff: That hurts.

Monty: Sorcerer huh? So...you cast magical spells and such?

Jeff: That’s correct.

Monty: So, what is it you can do for my kingdom, Jeff?

Jeff: What do you need?

Monty: Something exciting!

Jeff: I can arrange that, but you might be sorry.

Monty: How so?

Jeff: You’ll see. (Jeff waves his hands around. Give me a break, he’s casting a spell) Something, something, rhymes with heap, casting spells is never cheap, the price to pay is you will SLEEP!! (Monty falls asleep) Hahaha! Now, to kidnap the princess! Cotton, Candy, get in here! (Cotton and Candy enter stage left)

Cotton/Candy: Yes your wickedness?

Jeff: Find the princess and bring her to me.

Cotton: Let’s go Candy. Sniff her out.

Candy: I’m not a dog. I’m a rat.

Cotton: Fine. Think of her as a big hunk of cheese.

Candy: Cheese? I like cheese. Let’s go find it...I mean her. (Cotton and Candy exit stage right on all fours, sniffing for the princess. Pip enters stage right and moves down stage)

Pip: (To audience) So Cotton and Candy went off looking for Princess Dandelion. All the while, Jeff waited in the throne room. He waited, and waited, and waited until Cotton and Candy finally returned with what they thought was the princess. (Pip moves off to the side to watch the scene. Cotton and Candy enter stage right holding Max)

Cotton: We found the princess!

Candy: It wasn't easy, but we did it!

Jeff: (Seeing that it isn't the princess) That's great girls. There's just one small problem.

Cotton/Candy: What?

Jeff: The princess is a girl!