

**Aladdin**  
**a Pantomime**



**by Michael Gaunt**

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# **Aladdin a Pantomime**

**by Michael Gaunt  
(2018 version)**

*Cast in order of appearance.*

Abanazer  
Slave of the Ring  
Whishee Washie  
Aladdin  
Sergeant Whyte  
Constable Wong  
Widow Twankey  
Emperor of China  
Empress of China  
Princess  
So-shy  
Genie of the Lamp  
Wan Hung Lo  
Chorus. (Wing, Ying, Tong, Foo, Yang, Ding, Dong, Yung.)

## **Act 1 Scene 1 Abanazer's Den (Front of Cloth)**

*(Blackout. Loud clash of thunder, lighting flash followed by maniacal laughter)*

ABAN: Ha, Ha, Ha. This is the great Abanazer speaking. Listen carefully to what I have to say, for I have travelled a long time in my quest. *(The sound alternates around the speakers, stage left, stage right and to the back of auditorium)* That's right look around, see if you can see where I am. Perhaps I am over here, or maybe over here? No you cannot see me for I am a great magician with wondrous powers.

*(An explosion stage left. Abanazer Enters)*

Here I am! I have searched far and wide to find this ring, which has magical powers, but they are insignificant compared to the priceless treasure I am still seeking. It is a wondrous all powerful lamp which has lain hidden for centuries away from prying eyes. Whoever processes the lamp has complete power over the world, and I Abanazer intend to be that person. Now let's see if the ring can help me find it. Watch! *(He rubs the ring. Flash. The slave of the ring appears stage right, sitting on a wheeled desk chair with a laptop on her knee. She is a bimbo and talks with a 'call centre' type manner.)*

SLAVE: Thank you for calling 'Slave of the Ring Direct Hotline'. Your call may be recorded for training purposes. This is Sharon speaking. I am the Slave of the Ring, how may I assist you today? Your slightest wish I must obey.

ABAN: Yes! Yes! I am aware of all that. Listen slave. I am searching for the fabulous magic lamp. I demand to know where it is!

SLAVE: One moment sir. *(Taps keys and we hear computer type beeps!)* The lamp of which you speak lies deep in the bowels of the earth. A cave in the mountains of China is where it lies.

ABAN: Then bring it to me now!

SLAVE: *(Beep. Beep. Beep.)* The computer says no sir!

ABAN: What do you mean! Get it sorted now!

SLAVE: *(Beep.)* Yes sir. *(Beep.)* I'm sorry sir but the power is not sufficient to bring the lamp here.

ABAN: Bah! Then you will show me where the cave is and I will fetch it.

SLAVE: *(Beep. Beep. Beep.)* I shall have to put you on hold for a moment. *(Beep.Beep.)* ..... Yes I have found the information now sir. I can show you the way to the cave, but beware the lamp is cursed. The legend states that only on one night in the year can the cave entrance be revealed, and only one special person is allowed into the cave. If anyone else enters they will be destroyed.

ABAN: What's that you say? When is this night? Who is this person?

SLAVE: *(Beep.)* When the moon is in its zenith and the planets of Jupiter and Mars align then will the entrance be revealed. *(Beep.)* The chosen person is a humble innocent boy called Aladdin who lives with his widowed mother in the City of Peking. That is in China sir.

ABAN: Yes I know where Peking is cretin! To Peking then, I shall seek out the widow and her son Aladdin and force him to get the lamp for me. Ha. Ha. Ha. Then when I Abanazer have control of the lamp I shall be supreme ruler of the World. Let's get on with it. Slave, transport me to Peking.

SLAVE: You wish is my pleasure sir. Is there anything else I can assist you with today?

ABAN: NO! Just get on with it! Ha. Ha. Ha. *(Both exit. Evil laughter.)*

## **Act 1 Scene 2 City of Peking**

*(Peking Market place. Song and dance with the Chorus. Aladdin and Whishee Washie enter at end running as if being chased. Chorus stay on stage.)*

ALAD: Its alright, we can stop running. I think we've shaken off those two policemen. *(Whishee panting hard grabs Aladdin)* Whishee are you OK? *(Whishee points to mouth, shakes his head)* He can't talk! What shall I do? I know 'charades'. Tell me what is wrong using mime. *(Whishee is not sure about it but holds up three fingers)* Three words. *(Holds up one finger)* First word. *(Whishee points to eye)* Finger? *(He shakes his head in disgust)*

W.H.L: Eye. The first word is eye. *(Whishee nods. He holds up two fingers.)*

ALAD: Second word. *(Whishee signs a big chest)* Two big? *(Whishee repeats action with one hand and the other on hip)* One medium?

TONG: Ample. *(Whishee makes shorter sign)* Shorter? Am? The first two words are I am. *(Whishee nods. Then holds up three fingers.)*

ALAD: Third word. (*Whishee makes a circle.*) Whole thing. (*Whishee pulls a face and wags his nose.*)

FOO: Is the answer I am banned from Pride Park? (*Local football ground*) (*Whishee shakes head points to ear puts hands on knees and stoops forward.*)

YING: Sounds like, stooped.

ALAD: Sounds like 'I am stooped'. No idea!

WHIS: (*Has his breath back.*) I AM POOPED! I have not run like that since I shared a revolving door with Usain Bolt. I'm knickered.

ALAD Don't you mean knackered?

WHIS No my breath is coming in short pants! Aladdin why did you climb the palace wall and stare at the Princess? You know it is against the law to look at the Princess.

ALAD: But I have heard how beautiful she is, I just had to see for myself.

W.H.L: And was it worth it I ask?

ALAD: Worth it of course it was worth it! She is the most beautiful girl in the world. Once you have seen her I'm sure you will agree, AND I intend to marry her!

WHIS: Now I know you are stark raving mad. Marry into royalty? You're dafter than Meghan Markle, and madder than a dwarf with a yo-yo. You'll need a fortune first, and you don't do the Lotto. You have to be 'In it to win it' doesn't mean DROPPED IN IT!

ALAD: Well I can always dream can't I?

W.H.L: Shows over. (*Talking about Aladdin and Whishee*)

FOO: Half wits!

YING: More like a quarter at best.

WHIS: All this running has made me tired. I'll have a nap 'cause I'm so pooped! (*Sits down and falls asleep*)

ALAD: Look at him boys and girls. A bit of exercise and he falls asleep. Look if you hear him say 'I'm so pooped' will you all shout 'Wake up Whishee'.

AUD.: Yes

WHIS: I'm so pooped!

ALAD: He's at it again come along shout.

CHORUS and AUD.: 'Wake up Whishee'

WHIS: What? What? Oh yes, I must stay awake.

ALAD: Now I expect you want to know who we are. I'm Aladdin and this is my

brother Whishee Washie.

WHIS: Oh I'm so pooped.

AUD.: 'Wake up Whishee'

WHIS: Oh righto. Look out Aladdin the policemen are coming this way. *(He has seen the two policemen coming through the audience.)*

ALAD: *(To audience.)* Come on we'll hide in the Laundry. Whatever you do, please don't tell them you have seen us! *(Both exit pushing and pulling each other as Sergeant Whyte and Constable Wong enter from the rear of Auditorium, searching for Aladdin and Whishee. Ad libs with the audience. "Have you seen them?" "Anything suspicious etc.?" Get audience members to stand up and look under the seats. They both have truncheons and whistles, which they blow a lot when on a chase. They line the chorus up in a line and stage. Lots of chatter from the chorus on stage.)*

WHYTE: *(To chorus.)* Now then. Now then. Let's have some hush!

WONG: *(To chorus.)* Now then. Now then. Let's have some hush!

WHYTE: Quiet. *(Hits him with truncheon)* I've done that bit. You, have you seen him?

FOO: No sir!

WHYTE: You. What's your name?

W.H.L: Wan Hung Lo.

WHYTE: Does it? Anyway, we have to find Aladdin because he **gazed** *(draws the word out)* on the Princess.

W.H.L: Well we haven't seen him.

WHYTE: Drat! Aladdin's escaped. He's used those long legs of his to leg it.

WONG: I think he only gets us to chase him because he can't afford David Lloyd's fee's.

WHYTE: No, you **don't** think, PC Wong. *(Hits him)* You don't know nothing. I'm your sergeant because I don't know twice as much as you.

WONG: I do know nothing, Whyte! Wasn't it me who cordoned off Chellaston *(local place)* after I spotted a suspicious object in a local woman's vehicle?

WHYTE: And wasn't that suspicious object later identified as a valid tax disk? *(Hits him)* Whereas I was the one who suspected the man covered in creosote with trellis in his hair was in fact - a fence.

WONG: Was that the man who kept head-butting your truncheon until you were forced to arrest him for damaging police property?

WHYTE: Yes. *(Hits him)* And I don't like Aladdin for the same reason. He once ruined my uniform. He washed it until all the colour ran out of it.

WONG: That's a clear bleach of the police. *(Whyte hits him.)* I can see fairy lights.

Ooh, that reminds me; I nailed a flashing light on top of the police panda.

WHYTE: I'm surprised it didn't bite you. Did you check the light worked?

WONG: It did. Then it didn't. And then it did. And then it didn't.

WHYTE: Fool. (*Hits. Chorus are chattering.*) And be quiet you lot. (*To Wong*)  
Listen. I've been thinking about our good cop, bad cop routine. I think you should reinforce my threats by repeating the last things I say.

WONG: What do you mean?

WHYTE: If I say 'defy us and you die' you say (*pointing*) 'die, die'. If I say 'give up or else' you say 'or else, or else'. It's very intimidating. Let's practice on these suspects. (*To Dong, who is moving away.*) You! Don't think you can sneak away so **easily**.

WONG: Silly. Silly. Silly. (*hits Dong*)

WHYTE: Where's Aladdin? We thought he was here, but **he's not**.

WONG: (*points*) He's snot. He's snot. He's snot. (*hits chorus*)

DING: Did he come with you?

WHYTE: Sometimes I think he came from the psychiatric **unit**.

WONG: (*points*) You nit. You nit. You nit. (*hits chorus*)

WHYTE: Tell us all. If ears were guilt yours would stick out like Gary **Lineker's**.

WONG: (*points*) In knickers. In knickers. In knickers. (*hits chorus*)

DONG: Has he really **gazed** (*draws the word out*) on the Princess?

WHYTE: Yes, he **gazed** (*draws out*) and now he's on **the run**.

WONG: (*conducts William Tell overture*) derun, derun, derun-dun-dun. (*hits chorus*)

W.H.L: I may have seen someone running - a young LAD. (*elbows DING*)

DING: Eh? Oh, yes. He went IN the sewers.

WHYTE: The sewers? You saw **a lad in there**?

WONG: (*pointing off*) Aladdin there. Aladdin there.

WHYTE: Aladdin! Quick, Wong, follow me. No follow him. I saw him first. Where is he? (*both exit blowing whistles in opposite directions*)

DONG: Very clever, Wan Hung Lo.

W.H.L.: Yes but it won't be long before they realise. Come on let's go and warn Aladdin and Whishiee. *(Exit in shuffly Chinese walk)*

*(Noise off stage, Music 'There is Nothing like a Dame', then Widow Twankey arrives riding a bike with a trailer containing washing, knickers, bras, flying as flags. The funnier the items are the better. She continues into opposite wings. Loud crash, bike stops suddenly, toilet flush, a couple of rolls of toilet paper thrown on stage. She enters with a toilet seat around her neck.)*

TWAN: Huh! Stupid place to put a toilet! Hello everybody! *(To the wings)* Have they all gone home? I said hello everybody.

AUD.: Hello

TWAN: My name is Widow Twankey, I run the Chinese laundry here. Yes dear Widow! UNATTACHED! AVAILABLE! You have to lay in on with trowel sometimes! What I'm looking for is a handsome man! Hello big boys! Yes, here I am the girl who puts the 'Cor in corsets, the 'urge in surgical stockings and the 'tense in incontinence pants. Now let's see who's down here in the audience. *(She picks three audience members in turn.)* Oh, I say, you're handsome, do you happen to be free? Hello and what is your name? Where are you from? *(Answer from audience.)* I'm sorry. *(Answer again.)* No I heard. I'm just sorry! Oh, and look at this gorgeous one. Ohhh I say, he can pull my Christmas cracker whenever he wants to! Oh all you men are so handsome ... *(pause....picks a third, gives a withering look.)* Apart from him. Do you like the dress? You know NEXT, well I got this from the shop next door. The Charity Shop. They want fifty quid for it but I knocked them down. Did'nt pay any less just knock them down! *(Song here. Perhaps "Nobody does it like me".)*

ALAD: *(Enters carrying a basket.)* Hello Mother!

TWAN: You have met my little boy Aladdin, he's the apple of my eye, although he does sometimes give me the pip! Hasn't he got long legs? He was such a surprise when he arrived; I was expecting a roll of carpet! And he's so clever you know. He was walking at four months old. *(Pause)* The bottom fell out of his pram! But I don't know what I'd do without him. *(Gets upset, large sobs)* It's been such a struggle since his father cleared off. The rotten devil ran off with my best friend! Oh dear, I don't half miss her!

ALAD: Did you ever find out where he went?

TWAN: No. He was last seen riding piggy back with Lord Lucan on Shergar. He was a hippy from H'Allestree *(Local place.)* Looked like Tarzan, walked like Jane and smelt like Cheetah. He was repelled by soap but attracted by cash. Just the thought of money laundering had him in a spin.

ALAD: How did you meet?

TWAN: He held the door open for me.

ALAD: That's nice! What did he say?

TWAN I'd give it five minutes before I'd go in there if I were you.

ALAD He had a medical problem?

TWAN Yes. Alcoholic constipation. He found it impossible to pass a pub!

ALAD: I've got the shopping you asked for.

TWAN: Oh, isn't he good.

ALAD: Soap? (*From the basket*)

TWAN: Scented?

ALAD: No I brought it with me. Flour.

TWAN: Self Raising?

ALAD: No I had to pick it up myself!

TWAN: Eggs?

ALAD: Yes, and they've gone up again.

TWAN: Chickens have lost all sense of direction! Did you get something for lunch?

ALAD: No, I've already eaten in that floating restaurant in the harbour. The 'Junk'.

TWAN: I don't suppose you thought about me! Don't tell me what you have had?

ALAD: I started with bamboo shoots, then sweet and sour pork, birds nest soup, chicken fried rice, chop suey and foo yung.

TWAN: I said don't tell me! I went in the other day and ordered Chicken Surprise. When they brought it I lifted the lid and there were two little red eyes looking up at me from the middle of the pot. I said, "Here, this isn't Chicken Surprise, what are these" and the waiter apologised. He'd brought me 'Peeking Duck'! Oh, please yourselves!

ALAD: Ohhhh! (*Holding stomach*)

TWAN: What's the matter?

ALAD: I've got stomach-ache!

TWAN: Not surprised, eating all that 'Junk' food! And you won't want these sweets, so come on let's give them to the boys and girls. (*They do so*) Come on Whishee you can help. (*Whishee enters and they move into the audience giving away sweets*)

WHIS: Oh I'm so pooped!

AUD.: Wake up Whishee!

W.H.L: (*Enters carrying a scroll*) Good morning Widow Twankey..



TWAN: I see you have the parchments? (*Points to a scroll in his belt*)

W.H.L: No I always walk like this! Oh, yes a scroll has been delivered for you.

ALAD: Who is it from Mother? (*W.H.L.Exits*)

TWAN: Well ! .... Well I ..... Well I never ..... Well I never did!

WHIS: Get away, you must have done!

TWAN: Watch it! (*Reads letter*) Isn't that nice, well how nice, oh yes very nice.

ALAD: & WHIS: WHO IS IT FROM?

TWAN: It's from your father's long lost brother.

ALAD: But father had no siblings?

WHIS: I don't think we had better pursue that? Wasn't he an only one as well?

TWAN: Couldn't have been, because he knows all about me. He says here that your father told him how beautiful I was and that he's longing to see me. Well! I must say he sounds such a charming and sensible man. Delightful! Right come along you two you can help with all the work in the laundry.

ALAD: But Mum, Whyte and Wong are trying to grab us.

TWAN: Well they will just have to grab you by the mangles.  
(*Drags them both off by the ears.*)

ALAD & WHIS: But Mum!

(*Fanfare. Enter, Emperor, Empress, Princess, So-Shy, Whyte and Wong*)

WONG: Make way. Make way. His eminence the Emperor of all of China approaches. All subjects shall do obeisance to their imperial majesties.

WHYTE: His Royal Highness has instructed me to bring to the attention of all his subjects the following declaration. This document written on ancient scrolls, delivered unto me this very day, here in the City of ...

EMPRES: Just get on with it man!

WHYTE: But I was getting on with Madam.

WONG: That's right, he was getting on with it Madam.

WHYTE: (*Hits him*) Quiet I've done that bit!

EMPRES: Look all you have to say is that it is against the law to look on the face of the Princess.

WONG: Is it?

EMP: Quiet! Here have a Fisherman Friend.

WONG: Ta. ... Phew it's hot I need some water. (*Exit stage left.*)

EMP: However, the first man to come to me with a huge fortune ...

EMPRES: Shall have her hand in marriage!

PRIN: But father, mother!

EMPRES: We have no choice daughter. We've become like vegetarian sausage makers – we can't make ends meet.

EMP: Shall have her hand in marriage! Now what could be simpler than that Wong?

WHYTE: No Sire I'm Whyte.

EMP: Oh dear, I never can tell Whyte from Wong. Oh by the way, anyone caught looking at the Princess ...

EMPRES: Shall have his head cut off! ..... Yes, we know.

WHYTE: I don't know why they bother to bring us, they do it all themselves.

EMP: Quiet! Here have a Fisherman Friend.

WHYTE: Ta. ... Phew *(It's hot!)*

EMPRES: What do you think of our great City of Peking, daughter?

PRIN: It would be far more interesting if I could walk around without this veil.

EMPRES: Nonsense my child. Your father knows what is best. Now around this corner is a new Costa Coffee. Last one there pays for the muffins and cookies. *(All exit, bar Whyte, pushing and shoving to get there first.)*

*(End of scene. Curtains close behind Whyte.)*

**Act 1 Scene 3 Outskirts of Peking (Front Cloth)**

*(Whyte stay on stage, stage right. To audience.)*

WHYTE: I'm still looking for Aladdin and Whishee. Have you seen them?

AUD.: No. *(Wong enters stage left pulling on a thick rope. Loud dog barking.)*

WONG: Come on, there's a good puppy. *(Loud dog barking.)*

WHYTE: *(Reacts with fear)* Good grief! Where did you get him? *(Loud dog barking.)*

WONG: The vets. He was going to be put down.

WHYTE: Why was the vet going to put him down?

WONG: He weighs a ton. He's the new police dog.

WHYTE: Police dog, eh? What do you call him?

WONG: Sandwich.

WHYTE: What a funny name. Why sandwich?

WONG: 'cause he's half bread. *(Dog barking.)*

WHYTE: You mean he's a mongrel.

WONG: Yes, His father was a *(low hand)* Yorkshire Terrier and Mother a *(high hand)* Great Dane. *(Pause)* Sometimes you have to think about these jokes!

WHYTE: Is he intelligent?

WONG: Not half. Not only has he inherited his father's determination, listen to this. *(Meow)*. See, he's bilingual.

WHYTE: Is he very fierce?

WONG: Fierce? The smell of fear draws him like Lynx shower gel draws women. Another thing, he's a Blacksmith by trade.

WHYTE: Don't be silly!

WHYTE: Just shout **cats** and watch him make a bolt for the door!

WHYTE: Look I think this has gone on far enough. We still have to catch Aladdin and Whishee. We'll try Twankey's laundry. *(Exits stage right. Wong follows pulling on the rope.)*

WONG: Here boy. Good dog. *(Loud dog barking. A pull on the rope and it goes tight. Sudden yank as if the dog has run off the opposite way and he is DRAGGED back into the wings stage left. Loud crash!)* Arrrgh!

WHIS: *(Enters through the audience.)* Hiya boys and girls. Oh, I'm so pooped!

AUD.: Wake up Whishee.

WHIS: Oh, yes I must keep on my toes, I nearly ran into Whyte and Wong then. I've just been listening to Aladdin going 'on and on' and how he's determined to make his fortune and win the Princess's hand.

ALAD: *(Enters from stage right)*. Run Whishee. Run. C.S.I. Melbourne *(local place)* are coming and they're carrying two chalk outlines. *(Off into audience. Whyte & Wong begin to follow blowing whistles then stop dead)*

WHYTE: Wait, Wong!

WONG: What's wrong, Whyte?

WHYTE: Remember last summer's riots? The criminals all hid their faces with hoodies ... and neckerchiefs ... and masks. Look at this lot.

WONG: I predict a riot. I predict a riot. What do we do?

WHYTE: Do? We get out our water cannons. (*water pistols out*) If it wears a woggle, you wet it. Meanwhile I'll take out the masked ring leaders – TAKE OFF THAT SILLY MASK. (*squirts*). Ooops sorry, missus, my mistake. Run, Wong, Run. (*squirting as they do so*)

(*Princess, without veil and So-shy enter*)

PRIN: Look So-shy those policemen are in a hurry. I wonder who they are chasing. This is so exciting walking through the streets of Peking like all the other citizens.

SO: But you aren't like the other citizens, you are a Royal Princess. You should not be here, **and** should be wearing your veil. No-one must know you are the Princess Badhir.

PRIN: And no-one will know for they have never seen my face. To wear my veil will only draw attention to us.

SO: I really must insist we return to the royal party.

PRIN: Soon So-shy, Father will not miss us he is too busy enjoying a Cappuccino. I just want to see more of this wonderful city. Father is much too strict.

SO: You know he is only thinking of your safety.

PRIN: He's so protective. How I wish I could meet a handsome stranger to sweep me off my feet. I wonder what happened to that handsome boy who climbed the Palace wall.

SO: He's probably locked up by now, and you won't meet anyone of your class and status around here. That's for sure.

ALAD: (*Enters and stares at them.*) Can it be that I am dreaming? I'm sure that is the Princess Badhir. It is. Isn't she beautiful? I must speak to her. Your Royal Highness. (*Bows low.*)

SO: So much for no-one knowing who you are! Go away. Go away. Quickly before you are seen and the Emperor has you put to death.

ALAD: Who cares? Princess I have been captivated by your beauty since I saw you the other day.

PRIN: Was it you, who climbed into the Palace. You created a lot of fuss; my guards were in a right tis-was, it was so amusing, however it was a very foolish thing you did sir, but I'm glad you managed to get away.

ALAD: Word had spread far and wide throughout the City how beautiful you are, so I had to see for myself. I must say the rumours are indeed true.

SO: Look you must not speak like that to the Princess; you must not speak to her at all!

PRIN: It's a bit late for that So-shy. Thank you for the compliment sir.

ALAD: Aladdin. My name is Aladdin. Princess since the day I climbed that wall all I have thought and dreamed about is you, meeting you, and .... Well now

it's happened!

SO: Oh, just look at them, all starry eyed. I'd better keep a look out for the Emperor's party returning. *(Stands looking into the wings)*

PRIN: Aladdin, but you must go before my father returns. Now that we have met I would hate anything to happen to you because of me.

ALAD: Princess Badhir, I am only from a poor family but I intend to make my fortune, and when I do I shall seek out your father and ask for your hand.

*(Duet Aladdin and Princess.)*

SO: Well I suggest you'd better get your skates on because two policemen are heading this way! Quickly walk this way.

*(All Exit stage left 'walking that way'.)*

#### **Act 1 Scene 4. Twankey's Laundry**

*(There is a large Washing machine up stage centre large enough to accommodate a person. Conveyor belt feed in with hinged flaps to load and unload washing and completed washing is already ironed when it reappears. It is all 'automated', being operated from chorus and stage crew inside. There is a glass fronted door double skinned so soap bubbles can be blown around inside whilst Whishee appears to be spinning around.)*

W.H.L: Come along, we must keep busy. We need to get all this dirty laundry washed and ironed quickly. The Emperor's staff will soon call to collect it.

TONG: Only 1 red sock. Only 1 white sock. Only 1 blue sock. This machine seems to eat footwear.

W.H.L: We'll just have take the dry clothes to our customer and apologize for the loss of his other socks, what's the customer's name?

DING: Long John Silver.

DONG: Speaking of Long Johns that bucket of clothes needs drying.

FOO: Speaking of socks that pile needs sorting.  
*(While talking, the chorus can play sock puppets, pad sleeves to make muscles, make dog ears with cap etc)*

TONG: Ooh, let me. You can tell a lot about a man from his footwear?

YING: Explain, Master.

TONG: Very well, Grasshopper, Whishee is odd, and so are his socks.

YUNG: They're not that odd. He has another pair at home just the same.

TONG: These are all Nottingham Forest (*pick a team*) socks. They won't stop up!

YANG: Snooker player's socks. For those of you watching in black and white the green is behind the red.

YING: (*sound effect*) A wind sock?

YUNG: Right, listen carefully. Constable Wong wears wrong socks; he wears Whyte's socks, but only the left sock which is a white sock. The sock that's left is a right sock. Simple.

DONG: Is that a twong tister?

YING: And these are the monk's socks. A little bit holey.

YANG: And these are the head monk's socks.

DING: Darned holey!

FOO: And these are the script writer's socks. Thin material. Very thin material.

W.H.L: And finally who owns these black socks?

ALL: We don't know.

TWAN: (*Enters*) Come along, busy, busy, busy. We have all this washing to do for the royal household. Oh dear, my life is a constant routine of washing, cleaning, cooking and baking. It's nothing but suds and dregs and wok and rolls. (*Holds up Spiderman costume*) I've got all the best customers you know, look here, this is filthy. Still we'll soon sort it out. "With great powder comes great responsibility". I spend so much time with my arms in water I suffer from webbed elbows. What a trying day I've had. The Postman tried then the Baker tried. (*Bend to pick up some washing. Whishee enters and smacks her bottom*) And that must be the Milkman! Oh! It's you Whishee where have you been.

WHIS: Trying to shake off those policemen, but I've given them the slip. Oh, I'm so pooped.

AUD.: Wake up Whishee.

DONG: Come on Whishee we have all this washing to do.

DING: Yes, or Twankey will be getting cross.

WHIS: No, she fine with me 'cause I'm so good to her? Last week I brought her something to shave her legs. It was er like er, like er, well actually it was a lawnmower. And she's so good to me she has brought me some special underpants with five leg holes. They hardly need washing 'cause I can just rotate them round one leg every day.

W.H.L: Five leg holes? Are they comfy?

WHIS: Oh yes, they fit me like a glove. (*Stand by Twankey*)

TWAN: Righto.

WHIS: Pardon?

TWAN: Righto.

WHIS: But I never said anything.

TWAN: Righto.

WHIS: Why are you saying righto?

TWAN: You're standing on my right toe! Get off it! Dear me, look at this, that last customer has paid me with a dud coin!

FOO: Counterfeit?

TWAN: Yes, she had two!

W.H.L: Aye up, here comes more washing.

TWAN: Aye up, here comes more washing! You'd never know he had evolution lessons! *(Lots of action with the washing machine)*

ABAN: *(Enters and coughs)* Hmm!

TWAN: Yes? And what are you selling? I must warn you we do not buy anything from tradesmen selling door to door!

ABAN: Selling? I'm not selling anything. I am a weary traveller who has just returned from lands afar. Dear me the dreadful places I have seen. Allenton, Allestree, Spondon, Nottingham. *(Local places)*

TWAN: Especially Nottingham!

ABAN: I called next door but was told a Chinese lady lived there.

W.H.L: But there isn't a Chinese lady next door.

ABAN: Well I heard someone shout Sh'in'tin!

TWAN: And you thought my jokes were bad! *(To audience)*

ABAN: Actually, I am looking for the Window Twankey.

W.H.L: You've not got bad news?

ABAN: On the contrary, it is good news I bring.

TWAN: Oh, they want me, **Twankey**, at the Assembly Room instead of *(Local Theatre and whoever is appearing.)*

ABAN: *(Aside to audience.)* Blimey, have you seen the mush on that? I sure can pick them! Ah well in for a penny in for a pound. ... My name is Abanazer. Well, well, well, it is true what my dear brother said; you are indeed a very striking woman!

TWAN: Flatterer!

ABAN: Give us twirl.

TWAN: *(Spins around and gets dizzy)* Oh that's done me vertigo no good! *(To audience)* I think he fancies me. Are you an organ doner 'cause I've just lost my heart? If he plays his cards right I could be his little bit of Turkish Delight. I'm full of Eastern promise. This is my son Whishee.

WHIS: Hi 'ave-a-banana'. What's the matter with your head? *(Indicates Turban)*

ABAN: It's Abanazer!

WHIS: Well you should try putting some ointment on it!

ABAN: Stupid Boy! I did not travel the world to be insulted by half witted dumbo.

FOO: Oh. Who did you want to be insulted by?

ALAD: Hello Mother. *(Enters)*

TWAN: Aladdin, come and meet ....

ABAN: Abanazer. *(Cuts her off and shakes Aladdin's hand)* My dear boy. I have long wish to meet you. Your father talked endlessly about you.

ALAD: You knew father?

CHORUS & WHIS: That's more than she did! *(Twankey clips Whishee's ear.)*

ABAN: Knew him? I was his only brother.

ALAD: That means you're *(pause. Dramatic music .....)* Our Uncle!

ABAN: Quick isn't he?

TWAN: I'm been thinking about this. He never spoke of a brother to me.

ABAN: That's right that would be me, the brother he never spoke of! But tell me is it true he is dead?

TWAN: I'm not sure, but he did suffer from fallen arches.

ABAN: Yes, but you don't die from fallen arches.

TWAN: You do if a bridge falls on you.

WHIS: Hmm. I don't trust him. Hey you!

ABAN: Whom me?

WHIS: Yes you. Can you identify yourself?

ABAN: Certainly. Have you a mirror? *(He is handed one.)* Yes, that's me.

WHIS: Well I'm still not sure, are you boys and girls?

AUD.: No!

ABAN: Oh, take no notice of this smelly lot; I've had trouble with them before. I assure you my intentions are honourable.



TWAN: Oh! What a pity!

ABAN: To prove my good intentions, please accept this little gift. *(If possible magic a silk scarf.)*

TWAN: Oh, I could not possibly accept anything from a complete stranger. *(Sneers)* Especially that! but *(she grabs his arm)* oh what a lovely ring! Now that would certainly make up for the fact your intentions were 'perfectly honourable'.

ABAN: *(To audience.)* Curses! Of all the luck, she would see that! I can't give her my magic ring. ... Hmm! Still she does not know its magic or how to summon the Genie, and I can always steal it back. Twankey, the ring is yours.

TWAN: Mine? All mine? You lovely fellow.

ABAN: Aladdin my boy, you are so like your father.

WHIS: Do you think so? Had he got legs like that?

ABAN: *(Condescendingly)* I expect you are quite happy and contented here living in poverty, slaving for a living in the laundry, but have you ever thought what it would be like to be rich?

ALAD: All the time Uncle, if I was rich I ...

CHORUS: ... could marry the Princess!

WHIS: When Aladdin sees the princess, thoughts of love tumble in his head, making and breaking alliances like thin nylon underpants in a statically charged tumble dryer.

ALAD: You can scoff, but one day I shall be rich and own a beautiful palace, marry the princess and I will be the happiest man in the world.

ABAN: That day is nearer than you think and I'm the man who can help.

ALAD: You're the man to help?

ABAN: I'm the man who can help.

ALAD: You're the man to help?

ABAN: I Abanazer know of a cave full of treasure.

ALAD: A cave full of treasure?

ABAN: A cave full of treasure?

ALAD: A cave full of treasure?

ABAN: *(Grabs him and pulls him close to his face)* Look sunshine if you are going to repeat everything I say we shall be here a long time! *(Coughs and dusts him down as he realises he has made a mistake)* The cave is deep in the mountains, but the route is dangerous and the entrance difficult. I need a strong young man to help. *(Aladdin slaps thigh. Twankey and Whishee slap*

*thighs in unison with Aladdin)*

ALAD: A strong young man to help?

ABAN: *(Aside to audience.)* He's still doing it! Why does this fool repeat everything I say?

ALAD: It sounds too good to be true. You want me to help you for a share of the treasure?

ABAN: Yes. I am much too old to undertake the task by myself. *(Coughs and wheezes)*

ALAD: And you want me to be your companion? *(Abanazer nods)* When do we leave?

ABAN: Patience! It is written that when the moon is in its zenith and the planets of Jupiter and Mars align only then will the entrance be revealed. That time is nearly here so we must leave tonight.

TWAN: I shall have to hurry up and get your smalls ironed ready to pack. Come on ave-a-banana you can help us with the washing.

ABAN: Abanazer! I shall return tonight Aladdin. And I don't wash Madam! *(Exits)*

WHIS: I wondered what the smell was! Oh, I'm so pooped!

AUD.: Wake up Whishee!

W.H.L: Hey you lot. I now know who these black socks belong to.

TONG: Who?

W.H.L: These are Abanazer's socks.

ALL: We give up. Why?

W.H.L: They smell fishy.

TWAN: Yes, you be careful Aladdin. I'm not so sure about him, he so sugary you could catch diabetes. Look here's the ring he gave me, take it and if you are in trouble and need money, sell it. *(She gives him the magic ring. Whistles off stage)*

WHIS: Watch out Whyte and Wong are back. Quick hide. *(Under table as they Enter)*

WHYTE: Which way did they go? *(Twankey points off stage)*

WONG: Follow me. *(Whyte taps him on the shoulder and points to his stripes)*

WHYTE: Follow me! *(Exits and blowing whistles.)*

WHIS: That fooled them. *(Whistles as they return)*

ALAD: Watch out! I'm out of here *(Exits)*

WHIS: Oh no. Help. *(Exits) (Whyte and Wong Enter. Chorus points to wings)*

*opposite to where Whishee and Aladdin went off and they race off. Chase. Keystone Cops style, (Benny Hill Theme music) in and out of the wing with chorus involved. Eventually Whishee and Aladdin rush back on stage. There is nowhere to hide. Whishee jumps in washing machine. Twankey throws a sheet over Aladdin and sits on him. Whyte and Wong continue to search. Wong leans on the washing machine start button. Soap suds in double skin door. Whishee's face against to glass etc. Ad-libs. Whyte and Wong exit)*

TWAN: *(To Aladdin.)* That was a close shave. *(Lots of action and noise from the washing machine, which is worked from inside by stage crew. Whishee is seen behind bubbles. Audience reaction. Ad-libs from Twankey and Aladdin.)* What's that you say? A washing machine? Yes, I know there's a washing machine. AHHH!

ALAD: Whishee! Get him out! Get him out!

WHIS: Oh dear look what's happened. *(Flattened cut out Whishee, lots of ad libs. End of scene.)*

### **Act 1 Scene 5 Street in Peking (Front Cloth)**

*(Emperor enters on Whyte's back and then jumps off.)*

WHYTE: Hello everyone. *(He carries a bottle.)*

EMP: *(Enters)* Hello, hello. What's this? You are not supposed to drink on duty.

WHYTE: No. No. I just brought this from a peddler down the road. He's says it the 'Elixir of Youth'.

EMP: Here let me see. *(Reads bottle label)*

WHYTE: I'm going to try it. If I drink this I shall feel younger. *(Drinks and spits it out)* Ugh that tastes horrible!

EMP: I'm not surprised; you are supposed to rub it in! Anyway, do you feel younger?

WHYTE: *(Crosses legs)* No but I've just done something very childish!

EMP: Here suck a Fisherman's Friend.

WHYTE: No thanks, I don't think he would like me to! Besides, they are too hot.

EMP: Look to cheer you up I'll give you this 100 yen coin if you can balance it on your head whilst you count to 30, then drop it into this funnel. *(Fetches funnel from wings and put it into Whyte's trousers)*

WHYTE: Like this? 1, 2, 3 etc. *(The Emperor fetches a jug of water and proceeds to pours it down the funnel. He exits laughing.)* 'm all wet. *(Wong approaches blowing his whistle.)* Ah! Wong, come here I've something for you.

WONG: For me?

WHYTE: The Emperor has just given me this 100 yen piece and all I had to do was

balance it on my forehead for 30 seconds and drop it into this funnel which I put here. Would like to try?

WONG: Sounds simple enough. And I get to keep the coin?

WHYTE: Yep all yours. Now count to 30. *(He takes a jug of water from the wings and pours it down the funnel, then exits laughing)*

WONG: I should have known there was a catch. That went right down my leg. *(Sees Twankey approaching)* Ah Twankey, could you do with 100 yen?

TWAN: I beg your pardon; I'm not that sort of woman!

WONG: No! No! All you have to do is balance the coin on your forehead, count to 30 then drop it into the funnel and it's yours.

TWAN: Well I'll have a go. Hold on! What are you going to do with that funnel?

WONG: I'm going to tuck it in your apron here.

TWAN: Just on minute! If there any tucking into aprons I shall do it. *(She does. Wong takes a jug of water from the wings and pours it down the funnel. No reaction. He fetches another. Still no reaction)*

WONG: But I don't understand it. Where did all the water go?

TWAN: *(Drops coin into funnel. Removes apron to reveal a hot water bottle strapped around waist)* Here into my body warmer! *(Exits)*

***(Note if you want the cast to stay dry they should all have concealed hot water bottles.)***

WONG: Hey come back here with my money. *(Exits. Stage Blackout)*

### **Act 1 Scene 6 In the Mountains (Front Cloth)**

*(A rock and flat has been set on one side of stage. The rock should be able to move to reveal a cave entrance.)*

ABAN: Where is he? He is trying my patience, he is so slow. Come along Aladdin, we don't have all day. I have told you there is no time, hurry and soon I shall be able to reveal the entrance to the secret cave.

ALAD: *(Enters)* Its very dark and frightening Uncle, and I am very tired. I think we should stop here for the night.

ABAN: Tired, nonsense my boy, we are almost there. I have explained to you time and again, tonight is the only time the moon and stars are aligned, it is the only night in the year the cave entrance can be opened. *(Flash of light, thunder)* Ah! I think we are here.

ALAD: But where is the cave of which you spoke? All I can see is a rock.

ABAN: *(To audience.)* Why is my life filled with cretins and idiots? Dear boy have I not told you, I the great Abanazer shall reveal the entrance with Voodoo.

ALAD: Who do?

ABAN: Stupid boy. I said Voodoo! *(To audience)* Now I shall recant the magic spell.

Spirits, demons of the night.  
 Show to me the ancient site.  
 Show the cave, give me control er er ...  
 Remove the boulder thingy that is sort of blocking up the hole.  
 Helambra!

*(Stage blackout. Thunder. lighting and a pyrotechnic flash. Rock is rolled aside.)*

ABAN: See Aladdin the cave entrance is revealed. Quickly boy, descend into it.

ALAD: But aren't you coming Uncle

ABAN: No Aladdin. You are young and supple. I am too old and the route is far too dangerous for an old man. *(To audience)* Besides they told me at 'Slave of the Ring Direct Hotline' that I would die if I entered!

ALAD: Very well Uncle. Look there is a rope here tied to a rock, how convenient I can use it to descend into the cave. Wish me luck. *(Enters backing in)* It's very dark and spooky in here.

ABAN: You are doing fine.

ALAD: Argh!

ABAN: What's wrong, are you alright?

ALAD: I'm think so, but I nearly lost my footing. Argh! *(Loud crash and a lot of bumping)*

ABAN: Aladdin! Aladdin! A thousand curses he must have fallen! Aladdin!!!!  
*(Long drawn out shout which tails off as the stage darkens)*

**Act 1 Scene 7 The Treasure Cave**

*(The interior of the cave. A rope hangs from the roof. A spotlight from the entrance above shines on the prone figure of Aladdin.)*

ABAN: Aladdin! Aladdin can you hear me? Aladdin!

ALAD: *(Slowly comes to)* Oh my head! Where am I? Oh yes I remember I was climbing into a treasure cave. I must have fallen from that rope. How long I have been here?

ABAN: Aladdin!!!! Aladdin can you hear me?

ALAD: Uncle Abanazer is that you?

ABAN: Aladdin?

ALAD: I can hear you Uncle. I must have fallen, how long have I been here?

ABAN: Never mind, never mind, tell me what can you see?

ALAD: Never mind? *(Sarcastic)* No I haven't hurt myself Uncle, I am perfectly alright. Huh fat lot he cares!

ABAN: Aladdin you will do as I say immediately. What can you see?

ALAD: Nothing. Absolutely nothing and its pitch black down here.

ABAN: Look again boy! What can you see?

ALAD: I'm getting used to the dark now. Look at all these fabulous jewels and gold coins. We are rich Uncle you were right, it's full of treasure.

ABAN: Of course I was right! Now tell me do you see a very old lamp? It will look very old and rusty.

ALAD: An old lamp? No only treasure and loads and loads of it!

ABAN: Never mind the treasure, find me the old lamp and bring it to me immediately.

ALAD: I've told you I can't see any... Oh yes it's over here but it is very dirty.

ABAN: Bring it to me now!

ALAD: But it's only a battered old thing. *(Discards it)* I'm so rich I shall now be able to marry the Princess. Uncle, I shall tie a box of treasure on the rope so you can haul it up.

ABAN: I said forget the treasure! I want the lamp and I want it now!

ALAD: Don't shout Uncle. The treasure box is ready.

ABAN: Aladdin you will do as I say immediately!

ALAD: Don't get so impatient I'll send up the coins and jewels first.

ABAN: I said pass me the Lamp.

ALAD: Forget the lamp, I shall send up some treasure first.

ABAN: Curses on you boy, you will rue the day you crossed Abanazer. See how you like this.  
Spirits, now at my demand,  
Quickly come to my command,  
Seal tight up the cavern door. er er ....  
Exactly comparable to what it was like before!  
Helambra! *(The rock is heard rolling back to cover entrance, the rope is dropped into the cave and the spotlight is cut)*

ALAD: Uncle! Stop messing about. Open the cave please. *(Long pause)* I will bring you the lamp. Uncle? Stop fooling. *(Long pause)* I think he's gone.

Whatever shall I do? I'm stuck in this cave; no one knows I am here. All this treasure, I'm the richest person in the world but stuck in this cave.

*(Song) Whatever shall I do? Whatever shall I do?*

*(Aladdin is rubbing his hands together as if worried. The audience may respond with 'Rub the Ring' or 'Rub the Lamp'. He can ask audience to help if they do not respond. If they do he should ensure it is the rub the ring that he picks up. Ad-lib if this happens. Flash the Slave of the Ring appears.)*

SLAVE: Thank you for calling 'Slave of the Ring Direct Hotline'. Your call may be recorded for training purposes. This is Sharon speaking. I am the Slave of the Ring, how may I assist you today? Your slightest wish I must obey.