



SNOW WHITE

A Pantomime by Michael Gaunt.

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SNOW WHITE

A Pantomime by Michael Gaunt.

Cast

Snow White

Fairy Nuff

Dolly Doitall

Chester (*the Jester*)

Queen Malice

Squint (*Dumb*)

Wink (*Dumber*)

Ivan the Terrible

Magic Mirror

(Doubles with the Prince. He appears in a spotlight)

Prince

(Act 2 only, but doubles with the Magic Mirror.)

The Seven Dwarfs.

(These were all children with costumes like the Diddy Men.

They work in the Marmalade mines.)

Bossy (*Thinks he is in charge*)

Brainy (*Sensible*)

Sniffy (*Has a running nose*)

Softy (*He's the youngest and pretty cute*)

Growler (*Very grumpy*)

Panicky (*Panics*)

Clumsy (*Always falling over*)

(The Dwarfs double for Chorus in Act 1.)

Act 1 Sc. 1 Prologue. Forestage. (In front of Tabs)

(This scene is done in semi-light and spotlights for the characters.)

Fairy Welcome to you all to this our pantomime.

Once upon a time, long ago, there lived in a far-off kingdom a King and his Queen. They lived in a fine palace and all was bountiful and plenty in the land. The King and Queen were loved dearly by their subjects and everyone was very happy when the Queen gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter. Her skin was as white as snow, lips as red as blood and hair as black as ebony.

However, the King's joy in his new daughter's arrival soon turned to grief for shortly after the birth the Queen developed a fever and died.

A few years later, Snow White's father, the king, took a new wife. This is her. She was a very beautiful, but a wicked and vain woman. The queen (*Stage left spot on Queen*) was actually a wicked sorcerous famed for making spells, and poisons and she spent hours working on potions to make herself beautiful.

The queen also possessed a magic talking mirror. A mirror which when asked a question must always tell the truth. Every morning the queen asked the mirror the same question:-

Malice (*Enters*) Mirror, mirror, in my hand who is the fairest in the land. (*She holds this in her left hand next to the wings. A figure appears in spot light as if behind the mirror.*)

Mirror My Queen it is my task to answer truthfully what you ask. Of all the subjects you command, **you**, are the fairest in the land. (*Exit*)

Fairy The queen is always pleased with that, because the magic mirror never lies. But as Snow White grows older, she is becoming more beautiful each day and one day when the queen asks her mirror:-

Malice Magic mirror in my hand, who is the fairest in the land?

Mirror My Queen, you are the fairest here it's true. But one day soon Snow White, will be more beautiful than you. *(Exit)*

Malice What! What did you say? This cannot be! That is such a cruel thing to tell me. She is only a girl how can her beauty surpass mine? I will always be the fairest in the land!
It will not happen. Snow White that little scheming wretch. I will not allow it! I must make sure this never happens.
What can I do, what can I do. I must think of something. Ha, ha, ha. *(Exits)*

Fairy The news from the mirror gave the queen a great shock and from that moment she became envious, her heart turned against Snow White, and her hatred grew and grew. The queen schemed and plotted and decided on a plan of action.

A few months later the King who was a very fit and healthy man was suddenly and quite inexplicably taken ill and after a short illness died.

No one knew or suspected, but the Queen was behind his death. She now became the supreme ruler of the land. She immediately ordered Snow White to work and live in the Village with the rest of the staff and set about making her life unbearable.

Now I expect you all want to know what happens to Snow White so I think this is where we shall pick up the story and let you see for yourselves.

It is the day of Snow White's 16th birthday. *(Indicates stage and Tabs open. She is part of the dance)*

Act 1 Sc. 2 The Village by the Castle.

*(Opening number, chorus as villagers and Snow White singing and a short dance.
Song I used was 'Can't stop the Feeling'. Shortened and adapted.)*

(There is a Pub with rustic table and stools outside.)

Vill Hello everyone, welcome to our village

SW Hello it is so nice to see you all.

Vill This is Snow White and it is her birthday today. That is why we are so happy.

Vill Well everyone's happy apart from Queen Malice.

SW Oh she not so bad. She has a lot on her plate since my father died.

Vill Not so bad! Then why does she treat you so badly and make you work and stay with us here in the Village. We are only the servants to the Palace.

Vill It's not right. You are a royal Princess and should be treated as such.

SW But I am quite content to be here. I'm so happy when I am with you all. You are all so kind to me.

Vill But it should not be like that. It's as if she is jealous of you or something.

SW Oh I don't think it can be like that!

Vill Yes it can. She is so wicked.

Vill And have you noticed whenever she leaves she says (*Mimics*) 'I'm leaving now'

Vill Well let's ask the boys and girls to shout 'And don't come back' whenever she says it. Will you do that for us?

Aud Yes.

Vill Let's have a little practice. (*Villager pretends to be the Queen*) See I am a regal Queen. I'm leaving now.

Aud And don't come back.

Vill That will be great. Oh look at the time we had better get on with our work. See you later. Bye

Vill Come along Snow White let's go and celebrate your birthday. (*All wave as they exit.*)

(*Dame's music plays, 'There is nothing like a Dame'*)

Dolly (*Enters*) Hello everyone, is everybody happy?

Aud Yes.

Dolly I'm Dolly Doitall. I'm called that because I'm the one that does everything around here. Yes, that's me Dame Dolly Doitall, widow of this parish. Widow, yes dear that's right, widow. That means I'm available! Ohoooo, you men down there, you're lovely. I've already seen one guy who's got his eye on me. That's his good eye, the other one's glass, it came out in the course of the conversation.

Mind you, I've always been popular with men. When I was at school, the boys voted me "The girl with whom you are most likely to succeed". Oh, I was a little devil when I was younger. No I was! I had a heart like the British Army, open for all men over the age of 18 years.

I lost my husband a few years back, he was not much of a loss really but he had one great big asset. Now watch it there are family's in! No, his one great asset was he had a lovely singing voice. He was all the rage. Many was the time he sang in front of the Prince. Yes, its true, (*pause*) the Bonny Prince, the Rose and Crown, and all the other pubs in Chellaston. (*Use suitable local pubs, e.g. The Prince of Wales, Queen Victoria etc.*)

I remember when I first met him. He was standing on 'Thorpe Cloud', (*use local hill*) his hair blowing in the wind, and he was too lazy to run after it. Yes, he was so lazy he used to hold the paper out of the window so the wind could turn the page over.

He never did any work, claimed he had a bad back. Well we've all heard that one! He used to get me to rub grease into his back to make him feel better. He went downhill fast.

So anyway, we went our separate ways. He said he wanted more space so I kicked him out of the house. I eventually lost him when he fell into a huge vat of granulated coffee and was never seen again. Ah well at least it was instant!

Ches *(Arrives, running and we hear a nasty dog barking. He wears a jester's hat, A red white and blue England rugby hat.)* Phew I think it's gone, nasty brute. You'd think they'd warn you it could be nasty.

Dolly They did, didn't you see the big red sign on the gate? 'Beware Of The Dog'. *(Slowly as if he is dim)*

Ches Big red sign? No I didn't see it. I'm colour blind.

Dolly When did you find that out?

Ches Just the other day. Came like a bolt out of the yellow. Phew all that running, I'm knickered!

Dolly Don't you mean knackered?

Ches No, knickered! My breaths are coming in short pants! So, what you doing Dolly?

Dolly I have been introducing myself to the boys and girls.

Ches Where are they, oh they're down there. It was so quiet I thought they had all gone home. Come on you lot liven up a bit. Hello? Hello, is there any life out there? This is an audience participation show you know. Everybody has to join in. Let yourself go. Lose your inhibitions. Are you ready? I said are you ready? Hi, de hi.

Aud Ho de ho.

Ches Oggy, Oggy, Oggy.

Aud. Oy, oy, oy.

Both Oggy, Oggy, Oggy.

Aud. Oy, oy, oy.

Dolly Oompah oompa.

Aud Stick it up your jumper.

Ches Oh that's better, now that's how I want you to be throughout the show. Make as much noise as you like! I can see we'll get along fine.

Dolly This, boys and girls is Chester the Jester.

Ches I don't like being a jester anymore.

Dolly Why?

Ches Everyone laughs at me.

Dolly Isn't that what they are supposed to do?

Ches I suppose it is really, but really all I want to do is act 'darling'.

Dolly Not much point being in this show then!

Ches My first acting part was playing King Lear's brother. *(Pause)* Chandelier. It wasn't a very big part and I got fed up hanging around. Oh, I'm so down in the dumps.

Dolly I buy a new hat whenever I'm down in the dumps.

Ches I wondered where you got them.

Dolly Well we'll cheer you up won't we boys and girls.

Aud Yes.

Dolly If Chester says he is down in the dumps I want you all to shout, 'Cheer up Chester'.

Ches Oh that will be good.

Dolly Well off you go then, come back on, be sad and the kids will cheer you up.

Ches *(Off to wings, back on.)* Oh, I'm down in the dumps

Aud 'Cheer up Chester'

Dolly Oh, no, no, no. That will never work. You've got to wave both hands in the air to attract his attention, like this *(Waves hands)* 'Cheer up Chester'! Try again and much louder.

Ches *(Off to wings, back on.)* Oh, I'm down in the dumps

Aud 'Cheer up Chester'

Ches Yes that's better.

Dolly Why were you down in the dumps anyway?

Ches I've been to town to buy some things for my new Flat, but couldn't get anything.

Dolly Why not.

Ches Well I went to Selfridges but they don't.

Dolly Don't what?

Ches Sell fridges! Boots don't sell boots, Curry's don't sell curries and I was really disappointed at the Virgin Mega Store.

Dolly. Idiot! What do you think of this, Chester?
(Tiny flower in a large plant pot and a large cane support, at the side of stage.)

Ches What's this for?

Dolly It's a special flower I got from Swarkestone *(local)* Nursery. They tell me it should grow quite tall, and when it gets bigger I can give it to Snow White.

Ches It's not very big, now is it? It needs some 'muck' to make it grow.

Dolly Muck? Muck? That's a bit common, don't you mean manure. *(Tries to be posh 'Man Hure')*

Ches Just be thankful I said muck!

Dolly Trouble is I keep forgetting to water it.

Ches Well we can ask the kids to shout and remind you.

Dolly *(Coyly)* I don't like to.

Ches Why ever not.

Dolly Well they already shouting, 'Don't come back,' and 'Cheer up Chester'. They won't want to shout anything else, will you?

Aud Yes.

Ches See of course they will. That's why they come so they can join in. Isn't it?

Aud Yes

Ches Look what we'll do is put it over here and every time you come on stage the kids will remind you to water it. So, will you shout 'Water the plant, Dolly'!

Aud Yes

Dolly That might just work, let's have a little practice. You'll be getting good at this! *(Goes off and back on with a watering can. Chester gets them to shout.)* Now what have I forgotten?

Aud 'Water the plant, Dolly'

Dolly Well that works fine and I can give it a drop of fertiliser like this. *(Does so and it grows 2 inches. Swannie whistle. Fishing wire pulls it up).* Well I'm exhausted let's have a sit down. *(They sit at table. Landlord enters, this can be Stage crew, he has a tray with jug of beer and is collecting glasses.)* What a beautiful evening, the hills, the valleys, and look over there you can see the shores.

Ches What shores?

Dolly Thanks I'll have pint. *(To Landlord)* He's paying!

Ches Well now she's tricked me into buying her a beer I'll try it on someone else. *(Squint enters and sits with them.)* Hello Squint. What a beautiful evening, the hills, the valleys, and look over there you can see the shores.

Squint What shores.

Ches Thanks I'll have pint. *(To Landlord)* He's paying!

Squint Hmm I was caught, I'll get Wink, and here he comes now. *(Dolly has wandered across to water her plant.)* Hello Wink. What a beautiful evening, the hills, the valleys, and look over there you can see the shores.

Wink *(Enters.)* What shores?

Squint Thanks I'll have pint. *(To Landlord)* He's paying!

Wink Diddled again. Ah here's Dolly, I'll get her. Hello Dolly. What a beautiful evening, the hills, the valleys, and look over there you can see the shores.

Dolly Well I say so you can, so you can, I hope the weather keeps fine for the supping.

Wink What supping?

All. Thanks, we'll have pint. *(To Landlord)* He's paying! *(All Exit)*

Dolly *(As she exits)* Now I'm going to make Snow White a nice birthday cake and you lot can help.

Act 1 Scene 3. The Queens secret chamber.

Malice *(Enters, sneering.)* Did you hear that? Dolly is going to make Snow White a birthday cake?. Well I hope she enjoys it, ha, ha, with what I have got planned for her it may be the last thing she ever eats. Ha, ha, ha. Oh, I do so enjoy being nasty!

Aud Boo etc.

Malice Oh shut your cakehole's. Boo as much as you like. But you're not beautiful like me, don't you think I look beautiful?

Aud No

Malice I'll sort you lot out later. Especially you! *(Shouts.)* Ivan come here. NOW!

Ivan You called o great and beauteous Queen. *(He is lumbering slow and very dull with a gormless look on his face. Perhaps a little bit like Frankenstein's monster but not anywhere near as severe. He pushes a trolley with glasses and bottles containing potions. Books with titles spells, poisons, potions, highly dangerous etc.)*

Malice. This species is Ivan the Terrible. He is my assistant. Say hello Ivan

Ivan. *(Slow and lumbering.)* Hello Ivan.

Malice. When I say assistant he's just loosely that. I just keep him around so I can torment and torture him whenever I feel nasty.

Ivan. Which is quite often!

Malice Shut it! I have been experimenting on him with my spells and potions for I am going to turn him into my evil henchman. Swift and sure of foot. *(He lumbers around the stage)* Hmm! But as you can see he is still a work in progress.

Ivan A work in progress.

Malice Shut it! We shall get there eventually.

(Song, I used 'I put a spell on you', but whatever suits.)

I put a spell on you
Because you're mine
You better stop the things you do
I tell ya I ain't lyin'
I ain't lying'
You know I can't stand it
You're running' around
You know better Ivan
I can't stand it 'cause you put me down
Oh no
I put a spell on you
And now you're mine

Ha, ha, ha. A few more experiments and magic potions and you will soon be complete and terribly evil.
Won't you Ivan?

Ivan Terribly evil. Yes, your queenship-ness. Thank you very much.

Malice. Now I have been working with my magic spells. This is my latest concoction. It is a magic potion to keep me as the most beautiful woman in the land. So here goes. *(Drinks)* Oh that tastes awful! But if it works it's worth it. Ohhhh! I can feel it coursing through my veins. Ohhhh! Wonderful, I think it's worked already. Ivan, are you still here!?

Ivan. Yes, you're imperialist-ness. You have not dismissed me yet.

Malice Clear off.

Ivan Thank you your regal excellence-ness.

Malice. Just a minute. Bring me my magic mirror. *(He hands it to her, then exits and takes trolley with him.)*
Now that the potion has had time to work its magic let's see what my magic mirror has to say.
Magic mirror in my hand, who is the fairest in the land?

Mirror *(Enters. Play a sound like a computer starting up.)* Despite the potions from your extensive range, *(indicate trolley)* as predicted there is now a change.

Malice Look cut out the cackle, and answer the blooming question!

Mirror It is my duty to speak the truth so I will tell you right.
The most beautiful lady in the land is:- *(Long pause here with something like Strictly Come Dancing, music holding us all in suspense, and a lighting chase.)* **Snow White!**

Malice No! This is not true. It cannot be. Mirror, mirror say it is not true.

Mirror With heart so pure and full of delight,
The fairest here is, Princess Snow White.

Malice I will not have that wretch of a girl being more beautiful than me. Mirror, mirror, in my hand, if I get rid of her for good, will I then be the fairest in the land.

Mirror If Snow White's beauty fades it's true,
The fairest in the land will again be you.

Malice Then that is what shall happen. Mirror go back to sleep. *(Loud yawn and snore here and the obvious sound of a computer shutting down. Flash the spotlight too. Exits.)*

Malice What can I do? *(Thinks)* I shall get Ivan my Terrible to destroy her. *(Thinks)* But no that will not do, as you have seen he is not yet the finished article. I have more experimenting to do before I can set him

loose to do my evil bidding Ha, ha, ha. I must think of another plan. *(Thinks)* I know I will find some gormless fools to do my bidding. Ha, Ha, Ha. But who. *(Thinks)* Ah got it! Squint and Wink will do my work, I can control them with a click of my fingers. They will get rid of her for me. Ha, Ha, Ha.

And don't think I have forgotten about you lot down there, I hope none of you think you can be more beautiful than me, I've loads of nasty spells to practice on you. Ha, ha, ha. I'm leaving now.

Aud And don't come back.

Malice Watch it. I've got my eye on you lot! *(Exits)*

Act 1 Scene 4 Kitchen Scene

I opened the scene with music from 'The Great Bake Off'

(There needs to be a ground cloth, make sure it is not a slippy one, on the floor which can be lifted quickly and the rubbish taken off stage in one go at the end of the scene. This scene is upstage with the kitchen cloth hanging on roller 1. Squint, Wink and Chester could wear clear plastic tops or overalls to save the costumes getting messy. The pastry should be prepared and fresh for each show so it works easy. Dolly should not / must not get messy at all!)

Dolly Hello everybody. Now what have I forgotten? *(Dame's music plays, 'There is nothing like a Dame')*

Aud Water the plant Dolly.

Dolly Oh yes. *(Waters it and it grows. Swannie whistle.)* Thanks. It's time to cook something for dinner.

Wink *(Wink and Squint enter)* Do you want us to help?

Dolly Yes would you roll out the pastry while I go and get my apron on? The rolling pins are under the table. This will be cordon blue cooking.

Wink I think she means cordoned off!

Squint Right. Where's the rolling pin. *(He gets a large one)*

Wink Oh that's not fair *(The smallest we can find)*. You've got a bigger one than me. *(Music plays in background throughout this scene. Squint starts rolling out the dough at great speed whilst Wink is very slow and using tiny bits of dough. Squint starts hitting the dough with the rolling pin in an attempt to flatten it. Wink pulls a large mallet from under the table and hits the dough with that. Squint gets a wood saw and saws the edges of the dough off. Could play a sawing sound here. When the dough is all flattened Dolly enters.)*

Dolly Oh what a good job you have done. Oh yes, mind you, this table looks none to clean does it? I can't stand a dirty kitchen. *(She wipes the table using the dough as a duster.)* When you are working in a kitchen you must make sure your utensils are clean. I do like nice clean utensils and kitchen.

Squint I must say this pastry's a bit grubby.

Wink I'll soon clean it up. *(Uses a dustpan and brush and perhaps a mop to wipe all over it.)* There that's better.

Dolly Now you need to season it. (*'Seas on it'*)

Squint and Wink. Attishoo!

Dolly What are you doing?

Squint You said sneeze on it!

Dolly Not sneeze on it. I said SEASON IT! (*Throws the pepper and salt pots into bowl*)

Both Oh sorry we thought you said sneeze on it. (*Leg gag in unison.*)

(A large rat appears and runs across the stage. Chasing type music here. All react and chase it with rolling pin etc. I used a fishing reel and line and ran it through hoops. It can run wherever you like and ideally over the table and the chase should be as funny as possible.)

Dolly Flipping rat, I've been trying to catch it for weeks.

Squint Why don't you sprinkle some rat poison around it's hole.

Dolly If I could get that close to it I'd just hit it with my rolling pin!
Right now we place the pastry over the top of the pie dish. Here's the dish, it's full of the filling I made earlier. (*Proceeds to lay the pasty over the dish. Shouts to wings.*) '**Chester**'! And then trim the edges. (*Uses large saw again. Sawing sounds again.*)

Ches (*Enters.*) What do you want Dolly? Oh I'm so down in the dumps.

Aud Cheer up Chester.

Dolly Can you bring me some eggs? (*He goes back into the wings. There is a loud squawking from the wings and feathers are thrown on stage, a chicken flies across the stage using a wire.? You can buy false plastic eggs but you do need two or 3 reals eggs to break each show. You also want two stone or pot eggs to break the plates. He brings them onto stage in a bowl.*)

Ches Here you are Dolly, they were a bit reluctant to let me have them. I had to catch them first.

Dolly Well, I'm not surprised, they are free range!

Squint So are they wild?

Ches Well they weren't very pleased about it.

Dolly Have you noticed how eggs are going up again?

Wink That'll be a big surprise for the chickens.

Dolly Well you lot can start mixing the flour and eggs for Snow White's birthday cake whilst I go and put this pie in the oven. But make sure you don't make a mess, you know I like a clean and tidy kitchen. (*Exits with pie*)

Ches Hey Wink, go and get some flour.

Wink Where from?

Ches There is a speaking tube over there with direct access to the Pantry. Just pick it up and say into it 'Can you send up some flour' and you'll get it.

Wink *(Wink picks up tube, which is a funnel on a wooden stand, attached to a plastic tube which goes off into the wings. It is 'loaded with flour.')* I say down there, 'Can you send up some flour'? *(Stage hand blows through the tube and he gets a face full. Swannie whistle here.)* Very funny.

Squint Ha. Ha. You know why that happened don't you? They took offence because you didn't say please. Look I'll try. 'I say down there, **please**, can you send up some flour.' *(Stage hand blows through the tube and he gets a face full. Swannie whistle here)*

Ches Look you are both doing it wrong. Say can you send up some flour and get your head out of the way.

Wink *(Into tube.)* Can you send up some flour and get your head out of the way. *(Stage hand blows through the tube and he gets a face full. Swannie whistle here)* That's not fair!

Squint No you don't say get your head out of the way, into funnel. He means get your head out of the way afterwards.

Ches I'll show you. Can you send up some flour up please? *(Moves his head away and the flour misses him. Swannie whistle here)* See easy.

Squint Right I'll try again. Can you send up some flour up please? *(Moves his head away and the flour misses him. Swannie whistle here)* Ya you missed me. *(Stage hand blows through the tube and he again gets a face full. Swannie whistle here)*

Dolly *(Enters with a bag of flour.)* They've sent you up some flour. Well it's a bit messy in here, and I do like a clean kitchen. Haven't you started mixing yet? Put the flour into the bowl.

Ches Is it self-raising?

Dolly No you'll have to pick it up yourself! Now get me two eggs.

Squint Here you are.

Dolly Now beat it. *(All start to leave)* Just a minute, where are you going?

Wink You said beat it.

Dolly No, no, no! Separate them and then put them in the bowl. *(They move them apart)* No I mean separate the yolk from the white. Oh what does it matter! *(Throws them into the bowl.)* Oh I nearly forgot, I must put some booze in the cake to give it a bit of body.

Ches Here you are Dolly. What sort of wine is this?

Dolly It's a very sophisticated blending of Muscatel and Hock.

Ches What's it called?

Dolly Muck! Now you can beat the mixture?

Wink *(Starts to hit it with rolling pin.)* Like this?

Dolly No, no, no! With a hand mixer. *(A false hand on a short pole)* And don't make a mess. I do like a nice clean kitchen. Now I must go and check the pie. *(She exits. Wink beats the mixture. Make it silly actions. Very fast, slow, take a breath etc.)*

Ches Hey shall I show you a trick? How to catch an egg on a plate.

Squint Oh yes show me how to do it. *(He tosses egg in the air bringing the plate to the egg which lessens the impact and hopefully the egg does not break. You'll need to practice or maybe a plastic egg which we did.)*

Squint Let me have a go. *(Throws egg in the air, turns round to pick a plate from the table and of course it smashes on the floor.) (May need a smash sound to enhance the actual sound.)*

Ches You must get them both in your hand at the same time.

Squint You mean like this? *(Throws both the egg and plate into air at same time and they both smash.) (May need a smash sound to enhance the actual sound.)*

Ches Not both together, you only throw one.

Wink I'll try. *(This time Wink throws the plate in the air and tries to catch it on the egg.) (May need a smash sound to enhance the actual sound.)*

Ches You're not safe to let out. Listen. You take the egg in one hand and the plate in the other and throw the egg in the air. Do you get it?

Both Got it. *(They both try again but this time the eggs are stone or solid pot eggs and hopefully they will smash the plate.) (May need a smash sound to enhance the actual sound.)*

Ches *(To audience.)* Here you can have a plate. *(Throws paper plate into audience but it is fastened by elastic to the table so it comes back. Swannie whistle here.)*

Dolly *(Enters)* Oh just look at my kitchen. Whatever have you been doing? And I do so like a nice clean kitchen!

All Well it was his fault. *(Point to each other)*

Dolly Never mind, never mind. As it happens I have got some very nice cakes already made. *(Stands at the rear of the table with a gooey cake in each hand. Squint and Wink stand each side of her.)* Now would you each like one of these?

S & W Yes please. *(They stoop forward and she brings her hands up and splat them both. Splat sound. They exit complaining. A quick clean up necessary here for them as they start the next scene.)*

Dolly. Now look, we were supposed to be cooking Snow White a cake. And as I expected you lot would make a mess of my kitchen I prepared one earlier. *(Takes it from under the table.)*

Ches That's lovely Dolly.

Dolly Yes, Pretty clever aren't I. Now don't you think this cake which is what I have cooked is an 'indestructible' cake?

Ches No, no, no! You mean an incredible cake.

Dolly I know what kind of cake I have cooked! Now just be careful with it and take it into the dining room.

Che OK. *(He starts to carry it off carefully, she trips him as he goes passed her and he falls with the cake in his face. Splat sound.)* I should had known she was up to no good! Oh I'm down in the dumps. *(Exits)*

Aud Cheer up Chester.

Dolly Well, that will teach them to lark about and make a mess in my kitchen. Oh I do like a nice clean tidy kitchen!

Blackout and Tabs.

Act 1 Scene 5 The Queens secret chamber

(Enter Squint and Wink.)

Wink Come along you. Oh, good, she's not here. Right, you know why we are here.

Squint Yep. *(Pause)* Why **are** we here?

Wink Queen Malice, *(Touches forehead.)* She who we must obey! *(They say this every time they mention the Queen)* She has sent for us to do her bidding.

Squint Yeah, but she's always ordering us about.

Wink Just be thankful you still have a job. You know how evil she can be.

Squint I must admit she is hard to ignore.

Wink *(To audience)* But well worth the effort!

Squint It would be nice not having to bow and scrape, and attend to her every whim and fancy.

Wink Shhh! She might be listening, you know she could turn ugly.

Squint Ugly! Have you seen her before she takes all those pills and potions and does all that magic stuff to make her beautiful. She's no oil painting!

Wink It's a funny thing but whenever she starts swinging that gold locket about I go all funny like.

Squint Well she doesn't frighten me. Just let her try bossing me about again. I'll show her.

Wink Watch out, she's here.

Squint *(Frightened)* Where, where?

Wink Where, where? *(Mimics)* "She doesn't frighten me" – not much!

Squint Well, she's such a nasty piece of work, and she's got no friends you know.

Wink Not like you, I'm your friend.

Squint Yearh, we've been friends all our life.

(Song. I used 'Friends for life by Rhett Aklins. Country and Western but whatever suits.)

You and me we're birds of a feather
As natural as honey to a bee
You won't see one without the other
And that's the way it's always goanna be

[Chorus:]

'Cause we're friends for life
Heading down the road together
Anywhere we are is paradise
Ain't it nice, dreaming dreams with each other
Come what may we're goanna be alright

'Cause we're friends for life
Well you sure can pull a catfish from the river
You know how to read and write from school
And when we put our heads together
Buddy there ain't nothing we can't do

[Repeat Chorus:]

Well Squint (*or Wink*) I wouldn't be afraid to swim the river
Or sail a little boat across the sea
You know I'd even face a fire breathing dragon
As long as you were facing it with me

[Repeat Chorus:]

Yee Haw!
Oh, we're friends for life
Oh, just you and buddy, we're friends for life
Ah, We're friends for life
Ah, we're friends for life

(Enter Queen Malice. Always stage left.)

Squint Shhh! We've got company.

Malice So you've arrived at last, and about time too. (*Swinging locket.*) Now you two are going to be my...

Both. Frenchmen.

Malice Henchmen stupid fools.

Both Henchmen.

Malice And you're here to

Both Help.

Malice Now you know what's

Both Required.

Malice It must be

Both Discreet

Malice No-one must be

Both Suspicious.

Malice Keep your eyes

Both Open.

Malice And your mouths

Both Shut.

Malice And just keep me

Both Informed.

Malice Right?

Both O

Malice That's

Both Settled

Malice You'll want

Both Expenses.

Malice Not

Both Likely

Malice Just get the job

Both Done

Malice Good, I'm glad we understand each other. *(Pause here)*

Squint What have we got to do?

Wink Haven't the faintest idea!

Malice Bah, why am I surrounded by idiots? You know what's required. Listen, I want you to kidnap Snow White.

Both Kidnap Snow White! We won't do that! *(Stamps feet)*

Malice Oh yes you will.

Both Oh no we won't.

Malice You will.

Both We won't.

Malice You will.

Both We won't.

Malice *(Again swings the locket and hypnotises them.)* Repeat after me. You will do everything I say.

Both You will do everything I say. *(In a monotone voice)*

Malice. Not yet fools.

Both Not yet fools.

Malice When I click my fingers you will be in a deep trance. *(Clicks)*

Both A deep trance.

Malice That's better.

Both That's better.

Malice. I am the one you must obey.

Both *(Both look at each other and point to her.)* She is the one we must obey.

Malice Kidnap Snow White and take her deep into the woods and leave her there.

Both Take her deep into the woods.

Squint Pardon me Queen Malice. Would that be Calvery Woods?

Malice Is Calvery Woods a dark and mysterious place?

Wink Well yeah, sort of, it's on the way to Infinity Park down the new T12 link road.

Malice 'Infinity' eh. Sounds the ideal place, no one will ever get that far! I want her out of the way. Got it?

Both Got it.

Malice. Don't fail me. I'm leaving now!

Aud And don't come back!

Malice Bah! Clear off, and you pair get the job done. *(Exits)*

Squint Come on, you know what we're to do.

Wink What? I went all funny again just then.

Squint The Queen.

Both *(Monotone.)* Who we must obey.

Squint The Queen.

Wink *(Monotone.)* Who we ...

Squint Shut up, we've just done that bit, says we have to kidnap Snow White. How shall we set about doing it?

Wink We'll wait for her to walk past, throw a blanket over her head, pick her up and run off with her.

Squint Well! You may be stupid but you're not as daft as I look!

Wink But it seems such a shame to leave her alone in the wood.

Squint Come, come, now. You know it's for the best.

Wink How can it be for the best?

Squint Best for us Mate, because Malice will only turn nasty if she doesn't succeed.

Wink I've heard that's she an evil witch, and can turn you into anything she wants.

Squint Like what?

Wink Oh I don't know... like, like er ... a prawn cocktail. And that's just for starters!

Squint Well it's better than a vindaloo I suppose. Watch out Snow White is coming. This may be our chance.

SW Hello everyone. Hello Squint. Dame Dolly Doitall made me a lovely cake for my birthday. Look I've a piece here for you. *(It's wrapped in a serviette. Wink has fetched a blanket and he creeps up behind throws it over her head and then run off with her. It would be good to carry her off by holding her around her waist and she is kicking and screaming as they exit.)*

Wink Will you stop kicking Snow White, we will not harm you.

Squint We have orders that you be taken to the forest and left there. *(Muffled response from under the blanket.)* What did she say.

Wink Something about wait till she gets out and we will suffer, and something else which I'm quite surprise at really. It certainly wasn't very lady like. Look Snow White we promise not to hurt you but the Queen

Both *(Monotone.)* Who we must obey.

Wink I went funny again then.

Squint. Has ordered us that you are to be left in the forest. So that is what we have to do.

Wink Come on let's get it over with. *(Exits)*

Act 1 Scene 6 Back at the Village.

(Villagers are all looking for Snow White. Malice is in the scene too. Squint and Wink report to her and then realise they have been controlled by the Queen. They confess to the others that they have left her in the forest. All organise a search party)

Ches *(Enters with Dolly.)* Oh, I'm down in the dumps. *(Dame's music plays, 'There is nothing like a Dame')*

Aud Cheer up Chester.

Dolly There is something I must do, what it is?

Aud Water the plant Dolly.

Dolly Oh yes, thank you. *(Waters it and it shoots up again.)*

Vill Snow White, where are you?

Vill Hello Dolly, have you seen Snow White she's missing?

Dolly No not for some time

Vill Last time we saw her she was taking some birthday cake to Squint and Wink.

Vill *(To audience.)* Have you seen her?

Aud *(Business with audience, react to what they tell you.)* Squint and Wink have kidnapped her and taken her to the forest etc.

Ches Kidnapped by Squint and Wink? I don't think so.

Dolly No! Quite right.

Vill But where can she be?

Dolly Help!! The princess is missing! Start a search of the palace immediately!!
(*Everyone starts running around and through the audience, asking them, calling.*)

Ches Now look what you've gone and done. Everyone's running around like headless chickens.

Dolly Sorry!!

Villagers. Snow White. Princess, where are you, etc.

Dolly Look, let them do the running about, we'll just sit down here, nice and calm and think what to do.
(*They sit on a bench stage right - 3-legged gag - move legs in unison, cross and uncross legs during this sequence*)

Ches Well we could, No, perhaps not.

Dolly Then again it may be possible to.

Ches But if we were to ...

Dolly No, I don't suppose.

Ches I've got it!

Dolly Well you keep it mate.

Ches We'll organise a search.

Dolly They are already doing that.

Ches Oh yes. Well, we'll just sit here and wait.

Dolly Think we'll have a little nap. (*Sit on the bench with a gormless look on their faces and Dolly has her head on Chester's shoulder.*)

Malice (*Enters*) Oh Snow White, where are you? (*To audience*) As if I didn't know Ha, ha, ha. Look at the fools running around looking for her. Ah here come the idiots, what have they to report I wonder. Well clowns did you do as I instructed?

Squint Yes, your highness.

Wink We took her into the forest as far as we dare go.

Malice And did it all go fine?

Squirt Well we've got a few bruises because she didn't half put up a fight.

Malice Bruises, bah. Did you leave her there?

Wink Yes, we untied the rope around the blanket so she could get free and scaped before she had time to get out and beat us up.

Malice Bah, what wimps you are. But at least she is now out of my sight. Ha, ha, ha, I'm leaving now. (*Exits*)

Aud And don't come back!

Squint. I say Wink, have you any idea how we managed to do that?

Wink Yearh we threw a blanket over her head and ...

Squint No I mean **why** did we do it? I mean we both like Snow White and wouldn't want to harm her.

Wink Well I think it's was something to do with Queen Malice's locket. Do you think it was boys and girls?

Aud Yes, *(Interaction with them and they reach the conclusion that they have been hypnotised.)*

Vill *(Running back on searching for Snow White)* Snow White, where are you?

Squint I think we have caused a lot of trouble Wink, and we ought to tell someone what we have done.

Wink Yearh, you're right. Dolly and Chester are over there, we'd better tell them.

Squint Dolly!

Dolly WHAT! *(Wakes up suddenly which makes Chester jump and fall of the bench.)* Oh, I was having a lovely dream then. That Prince Harry was covered in Stars and Stripes and he was down on one knee!

Ches What do you want lads? *(Squint whispers into Dolly ear and Wink into Chester's)*

Both You've done what? *(Squint again whispers into Dolly ear and Wink into Chester's)*

Both Kidnapped Snow White. Why? *(Squint again whispers into Dolly ear and Wink into Chester's)*

Both Because Queen Malice hypnotised you? *(Squint again whispers into Dolly ear and Wink into Chester's)*

Both You've left her deep in the forest?

Squint and Wink. Sorry!

Dolly Well come along let's get all the villagers together and we'll go and rescue them. *(Squint, Wink and Dolly exit but Chester is still working it out in his head what has happen so stays on stage.)*

Ches *(Counting on his fingers etc.)* Locket swinging side to side. Threw a blanket over her head, carried her off *(Dolly enters, grabs hold of him and drags him off stage.)*

Dolly NOW! *(Both exit)*

Act 1 Scene 7. The Queen's secret chamber.

(The Queen consults the Mirror again only to be told that despite SW being far away she is still more beautiful. The angry queen orders Ivan the Terrible to take Snow White into the deepest woods to be killed. As proof that Snow White is dead, the queen demands that he returns with her heart.)

Malice Mirror Mirror in my hand, now who is the fairest in the land.

Mirror Oh dear this is so repetitious and monotonous. This is so boring your majesty. Aren't you forgetting who I am? *(Annoyed)*

Malice What?

Mirror Just because I did not love you and rejected your advances is no reason to treat me this way. When are you going to release me?

Malice Never! I am a powerful woman and you are in my control. You dared to reject me! Ha, ha. You will remain locked away in the mirror. You are under my command you do my bidding. Do as I instruct! Who is the fairest in the land?

Mirror *(He is very bored to be doing all this again.)*
It is my boundless duty to complete this task,
So, I will repeat **again** the thing you ask.
With heart so pure and full of delight,
The fairest one is Princess Snow White

Malice But this cannot be I have removed her from my presence!

Mirror *(Still very bored. Said to audience.)* What is it with this woman!
Remove her far away you might,
But the beauty still is, Princess Snow White.

Malice It cannot be. Mirror, mirror say it is not true. You must have got it wrong.

Mirror Repeat again I will, and say,
Princess Snow White is fairest to this day.

Malice Oh, just clear off will you. *(Loud yawn and snore here and the obvious sound of a computer shutting down. Mirror exits.)* Well that settles it. The brat will have to die! Ivan shall have to do it for me I think he is just about ready to do my evil bidding.
Ivan here now!

Ivan. *(Enters with his trolley.)* You called you majestical-ness.

Malice Now let's see, which of these potions will be best. *(Fiddles, swops and changes and mixes some liquids together. Use juices or squash of different colours to mix into a foaming liquid. Put a fizzy drink in last to make it appear to foam over. Pours it into a small medicine type glass.)* Yes, yes, a drop of this, a spot of that and this and finally the crème de crème. *(Bottle with label, 'PURE EVIL')* He, he, he. *(Cackles)*
Here drink this!

Ivan But I ...

Malice Drink!

Ivan Hmm. *(He smells it cautiously, and sips it.)*

Malice Drink it now! Down in one! *(She holds his nose while he does it. Ivan goes rigid. Could play a glugging sound as he drinks.)* Ah it seems to have worked. Arm out and back, Foot up and down. *(He does so)* Yes, I think that should do the trick. Now listen. You are to go to the forest find Snow White and kill her.

Ivan. *(Still rigid)* Kill her

Malice. And when you have done 'the deed', ha ha ha. Cut out her heart and bring it to me in this casket. Do you understand?

Ivan *(Still rigid)* Kill her, cut out her heart and bring it to you in this casket.

Malice I do believe you've got it. Now go and do as I have bid.

Ivan (*Exits, lumbering and slow.*) I immediately go to do your bidding.

Malice I'm leaving now.

Aud And don't come back