# ONCE UPON A TERM

A Play for School

By Sonja Staunton

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#### **ONCE UPON A TERM**

A Play for School By Sonja Staunton

#### **CHARACTERS**

DIERDRE DIDYAKNOW HILDIGRIM, EVIL FAIRY QUEEN

GABBY GOODY-TWO-SHOES BELINDA BOMBSHELL PENNY WHISTLE TERRIBLE TRISHA )

BIANCA BEAUTIFUL TYRANICAL TASHA ) The Thorny Threesome

SAMANTHA SPORTY TESTY TANYA

PULE KOOL CINDERELLA
MUSHROOMS – Grade One PETUNIA
MUSHROOM FAIRIES – Grade Two IRIS

FAIRIES IN COURT – *Grade Three*SELKIES – *Grade Four*RAPUNZEL
LIVING GEMSTONES – *Grade Six*LITTLE BO PEEP
KELPIES – *Grade Five*GOLDILOCKS

HEAD SELKIE ASSORTED FAIRY-TALE CHARACTERS

SCENE ONE - School Spirit for Ransom!

Scene: The school library

ENTER Deirdre Didyaknow, Penny Whistle (holding a small flute or Pennywhistle), Samantha Sporty, Gabby Goody-two-shoes and Bianca Beautiful carrying school bags, looking unenthused.

## SAM:

What a disastrous hockey [insert local sport] match!

#### **DEIRDRE:**

I can't believe we lost!

#### GABBY:

Yes, it's a blow alright. But at least we have heaps of homework to take our minds off it.

#### **BIANCA:**

(Sits at desk and examines fingers)

Oh no! I SO broke a nail on my school bag! This is just TOO much!

(Collapses on desk sobbing)

## **GABBY:**

Oh for goodness sake Bianca, we lost the hockey [insert local sport]!

Who CARES about your stupid nail!

## PENNY:

(Feeling the air around her with hands in an ethereal manner)

It's all the negative energy around at the moment.

(Everyone roles eyes at Penny's comment)

## SAM:

Well there's SOMETHING wrong! What's happened to our school spirit? No one shouted for our team, there was no excitement, and we players were all as limp as wet paper out there!

## **DEIRDRE:**

As papier mâché?

SAM:

Huh?

## **BIANCA:**

\_(Looks up from filing her nail)
Wet paper, silly. Its papier mâché.

## SAM:

Oh ho, well "her ladyship" actually KNOWS something.

(Penny Whistle feels the air more vigorously)

## **GABBY:**

Penny Whistle? Stop doing that, you're weirding us out again!

## PENNY:

But don't you FEEL it? There's definitely something blocking my vibrations!

#### SAM:

Oh you and your "vibrations"!! You'll 'vibrate' something loose one of these days!

## GABBY:

Now that you mention it though - I couldn't even get excited over the math test yesterday!

## **DEIRDRE**:

...and ...and <u>I</u>didn't even know the capital of Scotland in Geography class!

#### SAM:

and you know EVERYTHING so something MUST be wrong!!

## PENNY:

And the faculty even fell asleep during my music recital this morning!

## **BIANCA:**

So like, nothing's changed there then!

(All start arguing amongst one another about lack of school spirit. They are interrupted by entrance of Pule Kool)

**ENTER Pule Kool** 

## **PULE:**

(Scrambling in from back of hall yelling to the students about a note she carries)

Yo, yo peeps! Its whack, man! You won't believe this!

(PK runs up on to stage and kids reluctantly gather around)

#### GABBY:

Just calm down, Pule, take a deep breath, and tell us what the fuss is about.

## PENNY:

(Reaching for the paper)

Oh the vibes from this note are just so....eeeuw!

(She quickly withdraws her hands from the note looking disturbed. Everyone else rolls eyes again.)

## **DEIRDRE:**

(Grabs the note and scans it)

Where did you get this, Pule?

## **PULE:**

It was stuck to the door of my locker!

## **DEIRDRE:**

(Reads)

"From the Desk of Hildigrim, Queen Fairy of all Dark Deeds, of Bountiful Beauty and Bossiness, Squelcher of Squabs and Squibs, Most high Leader of all things Monstrous....."

## SAM:

(Chuckling)

Well SHE sounds like a fun girl!

(Adlib. Much entreating to skip the introductions and get on with the message)

## **DEIRDRE:**

All right, all right!

(Mutters on down the note, then gasps out loud)

## PENNY:

Oh I just FELT it was something very, very bad!

## **GABBY:**

Just read it to us, Deirdre!

## **DEIRDRE**:

(Clears her throat)

"To the pure-hearted students of [insert school name] school..."

## **BIANCA:**

Oh that's us alright!

## **DEIRDRE**:

"You have probably noticed that your School Spirit has been missing of late..."

SAM:

No kidding!

ALL:

Shhhh!

## **DEIRDRE:**

"I took it."

(All look at each other in amazement)

"I require your services for a small task, the payment of which will be the safe return of your School Spirit."

(Looking up from the page)

She's holding our School Spirit...for RANSOM?

## PULE:

Told you it was whack, man!

## PENNY:

She's a very, very.....very...NOT NICE PERSON!

## **PULE:**

I'm down with that, sis!

## **GABBY:**

Well goodness, does she say WHAT this task is?

## **DEIRDRE**:

There's more. She says "If you ever want to see the return of your School Spirit, go to the grove of trees behind the school laundry. There you will find a mushroom ring. I look forward to our meeting, and to our successful mutual association. Yours. Hildigrim. Queen Fairy of All Dark Deeds..." etc etc etc.

(There is silence amongst the students for a few moments)

## SAM:

...er... "mushroom ring"?

## **DEIRDRE:**

(Getting excited)

A ring of mushrooms...A "Fairy Ring", doorway to the "Other World". Did you know legend has it that if you step across a fairy ring, you end up....there? In Fairy Land, so to speak!

## **BIANCA:**

Oh come on!

## PENNY:

Oh its true, yes, it's happened to me before! Fairy ring, doorway...!

## PULE:

You trippin' girl? I think you been EATIN' those mushrooms!

## **GABBY:**

Ok, seriously now. Doorway or not, its PREP time, and we aren't ALLOWED behind the laundry!

# SAM:

(Stands up importantly)

I don't know about all this. But I DO know we have no School Spirit! Today's [hockey] match showed me that! I'm willing to try just about anything to get it back!

## **BIANCA:**

Are you suggesting we go, like, traipsing around in the dirt behind the laundry?

## **DEIRDRE**:

Well, I'm game!

## PENNY:

Ooo...oh, I can feel the cosmic forces! Definitely have to go to Fairy Land, yes!

## **PULE:**

Well pimp my ride...we be going on a road trip!!

## SAM:

What about you Bianca. Worried about getting the wee toesy-wosey's dirty?

#### **BIANCA:**

Well these are very expensive shoes!! Prada, actually!....But if you are ALL going...just let me check my hair!

(Digs for mirror in school bag)

(They all now look at Gabby – adlib asking her if she is in or not)

## **GABBY:**

Oooer! I just know I'm going to regret this!

(All adlib as they excitedly exit SL)

**EXIT THE SIX** 

SCENE TWO – The Mushroom Ring

#### MUSHROOM SONG AND DANCE NUMBER.

ENTER Mushrooms and Mushroom fairies dancing in from back and side of hall.

(Spotlight on mushroom's entrance while stage scenery is changed. Mushrooms dance up to stage and complete their number)

**ENTER THE SIX** 

## **GABBY:**

Well here we are. Now what?

(Mushrooms and Mushroom fairies seem to lure the Six to the ring)

## PENNY:

You just, step inside.

(Steps inside circle - nothing happens)

## **BIANCA:**

(Suddenly jumps up with a squeal and lands in the circle)

Eeeeuw! I SO stepped in Doggy doo!

## SAM:

(Steps into circle.)

Big Baby! It'll help you GROW! (chuckles)

(Pule Kool, Deirdre Didyaknow, step into circle dragging Gabby Goody-two-shoes. As soon as Gabby is in the circle the Mushrooms start to dance. Lighting effect to show the Six are being spirited away. They yell as they seem to be falling downwards.)

SCENE THREE – The Evil Fairy Queen

Scene: Court of Hildigrim, the Evil fairy Queen. Set up on SR in front of proscenium a large throne. Several fairy lackeys busily sweeping, polishing and cleaning. They are clearly overworked. Belinda Bombshell sits on throne twirling hair with a vacant stare chewing gum. The Thorny Threesome carry a large glass globe, and corked bottle containing the School Spirit

THEME MUSIC AND SONG NUMBER for Grade three fairies.

## TTRISH:

Belinda! Get up! She's coming!

**ENTER Hildigrim** 

THEME MUSIC HILDIGRIM

(arrives with a flourish and in a bad mood)

# ALL:

(All bow low)

Hail, oh magnanimous one! Queen Fairy of all Dark Deeds, of Bountiful Beauty and Bossiness,

Squelcher......

**HILDI:** 

## Oh shut up!

(Sits on throne and beckons Thorny Threesome)

You told me it would work! Capture their School Spirit, stick it in a bottle, and they would come running, you said!

## TTASH:

Oh but it did work, Great One! It did!

#### TTAN:

(Looking into glass globe)

They are on their way, Magnificence! The mushroom fairies are bringing them!

(A crash is heard and the Six along with assorted mushroom fairies appear to fall in an untidy heap on the floor. The Mushroom fairies scamper away in fear.)

## HILDI:

Ah! Here they are! Belinda, bring them to me!

#### BBOMB:

(Sighs, looks bored. Takes up position center stage and recites as if a bored flight attendant in an airplane.)

Welcome to the court of Hildigrim, Queen Fairy of all Dark Deeds, of Bountiful Beauty and Bossiness, Squelcher of Squabs and Squibs, and blah blah. For your own safety we recommend you read the rule book carefully

(gestures to a fairy who brings a large oversized book to the girls)
and confine yourselves to the areas marked "Visitors" only. We hope you have a pleasant stay, and please
sign the guestbook before you leave. Thank you.

(All fairies clap as if Belinda Bombshell has done a sterling job. Hildigrim looks irritated. Belinda leads the Six to the throne area and instructs them to curtsey)

EXIT Belinda

## HILDI:

(Inspects the Six and does not look pleased. Turns to the Thorny Threesome)

Are you SURE these are pure-hearted ones? Some of them look a little 'skinny'!

## **BIANCA:**

Why, thank you!!

(Sam elbows Bianca in the ribs)

## TTASH:

We assure you these children were carefully chosen, Magical one!

## **PULE:**

(Steps boldly forward)

Hey, what you mean dissin' our character, sister! We be pure-hearted ones!

(The others hold him back, and push Gabby forward as their spokesperson)

## **GABBY:**

Um, er... (bows) We are here about your letter. We DEMAND our school spirit back...um....if it's not too much trouble.

ENTER Belinda Bombshell followed by fairies carrying trays of food

## **BBOMB**:

(Still chewing gum. Takes piece of paper out of bodice and reads, flat with no expression)

My goodness what a terrible hostess I am not to have offered you some refreshment after your long journey. Kindly help yourselves to some Gooseberry juice, and do try a slice of my Fairy Cake, the best in the land...

(The hungry girls are about to partake when Deirdre yells at them.)

## **DEIRDRE:**

STOP!

(The girls freeze)

#### PENNY:

Deirdre, you gave me a fright!

## SAM:

What's your problem, Deirdre! I'm hungry!

## **BIANCA:**

Well, I'm on diet so thanks Deirdre.

## **DEIRDRE:**

(Pulls the group aside and stage whispers)

Don't you know, you can't eat?

## **PULE:**

(Whispers loudly back)
Why not?

## **BIANCA:**

(Whispers)

Duh! Do you KNOW how many calories in Fairy cake?

## **GABBY:**

(Whispers)

Duh! Why are we whispering?

(While this is going on all in court lean forward trying to hear)

## **DEIRDRE:**

(Stage whisper)

That food is enchanted. If you eat it, you will have to stay here! You can't leave!

# SAM:

(Whispers)

That's ridiculous!

## **GABBY:**

(Whispers)

Duh! Why do you think they WANT us to eat?

## PENNY:

(Whispers)

Duh! Because they are NICE!

(All stop and consider that their hosts are NOT particularly nice, so realize Deirdre is probably correct – adlib agreeing not to eat anything after all. Belinda shoo's the fairies with food away and group push Gabby forward again)

## **GABBY:**

(Clears throat)

Thank you for your hospitality, but we...um...really just want to get our School Spirit back, if you please.

## HILDI:

Ah, down to business then. Observe this bottle

(Thorny Threesome bring the bottle forward in a flourish arc under the girls noses and glide back into positions)

This bottle contains your School Spirit, and you will have it back, as soon as you can complete a task for me.

## **PULE:**

Well bring it on, sister!

(Others shush him)

## HILDI:

(Speaks with high dramatics)

At the bottom of the bottomless loch...

## **BIANCA:**

(An aside to the others)

If it's, like, 'bottomless', how come there's a 'bottom'?

SAM:

Just do us all a favour Bianca, and stop 'thinking'!

#### HILDI:

...is a pearl. A pearl of such perfection it outshines even the moon! I need it. Bring it to me and you will have your School Spirit back!

## **DEIRDRE:**

Did you know that 'loch' is just the Scottish word for lake?

(Everyone ignores her)

## **PULE:**

A pearl from a bottomless loch? This is whack, man, I hate swimming!

#### GABBY:

Um..so...how do we find this..er...'loch'.

## HILDI:

(Yells)

## BelindAAAH!!

(Belinda enters and throws her arms around. The Six are caught up in something like an invisible wind, and swept off stage)

**EXIT THE SIX** 

(After a short pause Hildigrim looks around at everyone)

Well, what are you all just standing around for?! When I rule every inch of Fairy-tale Land this castle will be the 'Center of All'! It must SPARKLE! Get on with it!

(She kicks a few fairies in the rear as they frantically start polishing again.)

EXIT HILDIGRIM with a flourish and some of her theme music

EXIT ALL

SCENE FOUR - The Selkies

ENTER Selkies (fishing children)

## **SLEKIE THEME MUSIC**

Fishing children enter loudly from back and side of hall while scenery changed on stage. Pulling fishing nets behind them, working their way up to the stage.

## **BIANCA:**

Peeeuw! I can SO smell raw fish...eeeuw!

(Fishing Children stop and watch the girls suspiciously)

## PENNY:

Oh look, little fishing children! Yoohoo! Hello little fishing children!

(The six move up to stage and Children now ignore them and get on with their work sorting fishing nets)

## **GABBY:**

Hmm, not very polite, are they?

## **PULE:**

Hey!

(Pulls the others aside a bit and tries to point out webbed toes without being rude)

Look you guys, they all have....webbed toes!

#### **BIANCA:**

Webbed toes, eeeuw....

(Adlib, sneaking peaks at webbed toes)

## **DEIRDRE**:

Did you know....

## SAM:

Deirdre, there's no time for your well of knowledge right now, we have to...

## **DEIRDRE**:

But Sam, this could be import....

## **GABBY:**

We have to think of a way to get to the bottom of the lake.

#### **DEIRDRE**:

Yes, you see Gabby, that's just it...

# PULE:

Not me, sista, not getting this weave wet!

#### **DEIRDRE:**

Pule, we won't HAVE to get wet, any of us, if you would just LISTEN...

(Adlib all trying to come up with ideas, protest getting wet, Deirdre trying to say something.)

## PENNY:

QUIET!

(All look at Penny in shock as she usually never shouts).

Let's just listen to what Deirdre has to say!

(All now stare at Deirdre)

#### **DEIRDRE:**

Thank you Penny! Well, as I was saying...Did you know that webbed feet are a trait of Selkies, when in human form?

(On the word "Selkie" all the fishing children stop and look at Deirdre.)

## SAM:

And OBVIOUSLY you are about to tell us what a Selkie is, right?

## **DEIRDRE**:

Well yes, they are seal-people.

#### GABBY:

Seal-people?

# SAM:

(Sarcastically) Oh well that explains it all, seal-people with webbed toes.

## **DEIRDRE**:

Let me finish! Did you know legend has it that Selkies like to come up on to the beach and play? They shed their seal-skin....

## **BIANCA:**

Ugh...gross!

## PULE:

Ey...cool!

## **DEIRDRE:**

(Gives both a look)

...shed their seal-skin and frolic on the beach. Did you know that if one STEALS a Selkie's seal-skin...

## **GABBY:**

So, what do they look like without their seal-skin?

#### PENNY:

(A little exasperated at how slow everyone is at understanding this)

Like you and me, only with webbed toes.

# **DEIRDRE**:

Exactly, thank you Penny! AS I was saying. If one steals a Selkie's seal-skin the poor creatures are doomed to stay human till they can find their skin and return to the sea.

(The fishing children have been listening carefully and had gathered closer to the Six)

## **BIANCA:**

Er, Gabby, they are, like, getting closer.

#### SAM:

You think these kids are....

## **GABBY:**

With everything that has happened today I wouldn't be surprised!

#### SAM:

So then, where are their seal-skins?

Fishing children surround girls, sit them down nearby and explain, in SONG AND DANCE number, that an evil fisherman took their skins so that they would fish for him.

SELKIE THEME AND SONG AND DANCE

#### PENNY:

Oh poor, poor babies! We have to find their skins!!

(All children point off-stage SL)

What? Over there? Well, come on everybody! Need to save the Selkie children!

EXIT The Six

(children do quick reprise of SONG AND DANCE)

ENTER The Six with big box of grey t-shirts.

(Children dive for the box, put on their 'seal-skins' and clump together USR)

#### **SELKIES:**

Oh thank you! You have saved us! In return we give you the beautiful pearl from the bottom of the bottomless Loch!

(A Selkie comes forward bearing the pearl which they give to Penny.)

EXIT Selkies SL with 'diving' motions

## SAM:

So...that was easy!

## **DEIRDRE:**

Hmmm...not TOO easy I hope!

#### **GABBY:**

Well let's get back to the Fairy Queen!

**BIANCA:** 

## Ok, so HOW, exactly?

(All look at each other for a moment, then in unison take a deep breath and yell)

## ALL:

## BELINDA-A-AH!

Invisible wind comes and whisks them away

EXIT all

SCENE FIVE – The Next Quest

Scene: Back in Hildigrim's court. All court are singing some kind of "eating" song, intent upon getting the six to eat when they next appear. Fairies and Belinda carrying the platters of food. Hildigrim is off-stage

MUSIC FOOD SONG

ENTER The Six after song via a 'fall' into a heap center stage.)

## ALL:

(Adlib of much 'ow'ing and complaining)

## PULE:

(Rubbing her butt)

This aint cool anymore, man!

## **BIANCA:**

Isn't there, like, any OTHER way to do this?!

(Belinda ushers the food fairies towards the girls again, and the fairies taunt the six with the food. The girls are now VERY hungry but Gabby holds them off)

## **GABBY:**

Come on girls. Let's not forget why we are here. We'll give the pearl to Hildigrim and...

# **COURT:**

(At the mention of the name 'Hildigrim' all court start to chant)

...QUEEN FAIRY OF ALL DARK DEEDS, OF BOUNTIFUL....

**ENTER Hildigram** 

## **THE SIX & HILDI TIOGETHER:**

#### OH SHUT UP!

(All court grovels, bows and backs out of Hildigrim's way as she strides towards her throne. The Six timidly shuffle forward pushing at each other so as not to be in front)

## **GABBY:**

(bows) Er..your Royalness. We have been successful in our quest and hereby bring you the pearl from the bottom of the bottomless loch. Um...can we have our school spirit back now, please?

(Court waits for pearl to be presented. Nothing happens. Girls look at each other, then at Penny Whistle who suddenly remembers that SHE holds the pearl.)

#### PENNY:

Oh! Oh yes! Um, here it is!

(Holds out pearl, then tentatively starts walking towards Hildigrim to hand it over)

## HILDI:

(Snaps fingers and yells)

TRI-I-SHAAAAAH!

## TTRISH:

Oh yes, Most Dark One!

(Rushes forward, takes the pearl, scurries back to the two other T's. They huddle around doing something hidden from all. Court leans forward expectantly. Suddenly they break huddle and turn to Hildigrim)

## TTHREE:

It IS the pearl, Magnificent One!

(They take the pearl to Hildigrim who grabs it possessively)

#### SAM:

I guess we held up our end of the bargain. So, if you'd just give us what we came for, we'll be on our way!

## HILDI:

(Steps off throne, hands pearl to a fairy, and strides menacingly around the six.)

You have done well! And so quickly! However, I could not let you go so soon! At least refresh yourselves first, you must all be very.....hungry!

(The food fairies rush forward tempting the six to eat again)

## **DEIRDRE:**

No thank you! Just give us our School Spirit back!

#### PULE:

Yeah! So we can go home!

## HILDI:

Ha-ha-ha! You cannot leave! Not until I allow you! Tell them Belinda!

## BBOMB:

(Steps forward and takes another folded piece of paper out of her bodice, clears throat and reads)

No one may leave Fairy-tale Land unless Hildigrim, Queen Fairy of all Darkness, of Bountiful Beauty and....

#### HILDI:

Yes, yes, skip all that!

## **BBOMB**:

...Allows it.

## HILDI:

Ha! See! You are at my mercy! And I require ANOTHER task from you! THEN you may return home with

your

(Spits out the words in disgust)

SCHOOL SPIRIT!

**BIANCA:** 

WHAT?

**GABBY:** 

Hey, that's not fair!

SAM:

We DID what you asked!

PENNY:

Oooer...you're just....so...

(Ends up flaying arms around as if dispelling flies and muttering about bad vibes in the universe)

**DEIRDRE:** 

Hold it everyone!

(Turns to Hildigrim)

So, what do you want us to do?

SAM:

Excuse me Deirdre! Are you crazy? This isn't right!

**DEIRDRE**:

Well we don't have much choice right now, do we?

**PULE:** 

Hey, we can 'take' her, my peeps! I'll go for the ....umph

(punches air with her left in an upper-cut)

and you go for her...hmmmgh...

(fakes with her right)..

PENNY:

No, no Pule...violence isn't the answer...

(Deirdre pulls them all aside)

## **DEIRDRE:**

Look guys. There IS another way out of here, but we'd still be without our School Spirit! I say we hold off playing that card till the opportune moment!

## **BIANCA:**

Another way out? So tell us!

#### PENNY:

(Jumping up and down with excitement)

Ooo, ooo! I know! I have a...

(Holds up flute but Deirdre grabs her and holds her mouth closed. PW continues to try to speak a few more words)

## **DEIRDRE**:

Not yet, Penny!

## SAM:

Oh for goodness sake! Nothing is making sense here! I'm with Pule! Let's kick some b.....

## **GABBY:**

Wait! Deirdre is right!

## SAM:

You WOULD take her part, Gabby!

## **GABBY:**

The important thing is getting the School Spirit back. If Deirdre says we have an ace up our sleeves, I say we wait for the right moment before we play it! (grins) My Dad plays Poker...a lot!

(Gabby turns towards Hildigrim while Bianca mutters about what Poker has to do with anything)

Oh...Magical one, what is this...other task?

#### HILDI:

I knew you would see reason, my little pure-hearts! I require a gemstone! The Singing Stone! A jewel of the finest quality. A fiery ruby of the deepest red, held hidden in the Cave of Living Gemstones. Bring it to me, and what you desire will be yours!

## **GABBY:**

(sighs deeply)

Ok then. I suppose it's the 'usual' mode of transport?

## HILDI:

#### BELI-I-INDAAAAH!!

EXIT The Six via the invisible wind

(Hildigrim stands grandly at her throne)

Soon...soon I shall rule all of Fairy-tale Land! Who can stop me now?!

(Evil laugh as lightening flashes and thunder is heard. All in court cower.)

**EXIT ALL** 

SCENE SIX – The cave

Scene is a cave with a pillar USR upon which sits a large ruby stone.

ENTER A GEM STONE

## **GEM**:

Yo, yo, yo! Check it out!

#### MUSIC HIP HOP DANCE

ENTER REST OF THE GEM STONES during the dance numnber

(enter all over the hall to lively hip hop number. Bright coloured loose T-shirts, bandanas and caps – gangsta-rap apparel.)

**ENTER The Six** 

(Pule gets 'down' with the song, the others try to dance along with comic results. When music stops the Gemstones eye the newcomers suspiciously. Gemstones are divided into groups.)

## **BIANCA:**

(Like a kid in a toy store)

Look at all these absolutely go-o-rgeous sparkly gemstones!

(Rushes around among them while they look at her bemused)

I'm like, just totally in love! Ooo, an amethyst, I SO want that one....ah and look at that diamond ...well diamonds are a girl's best friend, you know!

(Feels up various living gems.)

## **GROUP 2:**

Hey, hands off the bling!

## GROUP 1:

You aren't from the 'hood'!

## **GROUP 2:**

You can't be chillin' here, dogs!

## **PULE:**

Be cool, bro's. We been sent here by the scary lady in charge!

(He looks around)

We like your crib, dog!

## **ALL GEMS:**

(Adlib thanks at Pule's compliment)

## **GROUP 3:**

The Hildi woman sent you?

## **GROUP 2:**

She's BAD! Know what I'm saying?

## SAM:

Well yeah, we know! But she sort of has us over a barrel so to speak.

## **DEIRDRE**:

We have to get a singing fiery red ruby from this cave! Or life as we know it would END!

## **GABBY:**

(Aside to Deirdre)

A little 'over dramatic', don't you think?

## **ALL GEMS:**

(All crowd in front of pillar trying to hide ruby)

The RUBY?!!

## **BIANCA:**

(Pointing innocently to ruby on pillar)

THAT ruby.

## **DEIRDRE**:

Yes! It's just so important that we get it! Did you know, the largest ruby ever found was.....

## **GROUP 1:**

**HOW important?** 

PENNY:

Oh very!

# **PULE:**

Truth is, dogs...

(Beckons to gemstones who surround her as she explains)

This Hildi woman, she stole our mojo...

(Gemstones all react in horror. Sympathetic muttering about mojo being taken etc)

And the only way we can get it back is to bring her the ruby! Know what I'm saying?

## **GROUP 2:**

We feel you brotherr! But it's our 'singin' ruby' ...we can't just GIVE it to you! What would we do for music to 'GET DOWN' to?