

# **SLEEPING BEAUTY**

**by Nigel Holmes**

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## CAST LIST

**PRINCESS ROSE the SLEEPING BEAUTY:** Although she is the title character, the part is not huge. In the opening scene, Princess Rose is a baby played by a doll. Only when she becomes 18 does the part come into it's own for someone who can play a pretty teenage girl.

**WIGARNA:** A soothsayer and mystic. Wigarna knows the future and is quite confident. Friend to Knud. These two are the comics and can be played by either sexes.

**KNUD:** The general dogsbody around the palace. Not too intelligent. Likes a laugh. Speaks with a broad accent. Knud drops "H's" from words, and gets the grammar wrong. Part of the comic team. Can be played by either sexes.

**NURSE NANNY KNOO the DAME:** A rather incompetent nursemaid for the Princess. The Pantomime Dame. Should be played by a "grotesque" man. Never played as a real woman. We must always know that he is a man dressed as a woman.

**THE SEVEN GOOD FAIRIES.** Each one named after a flower. They are pantomime "immortals" who always talk in rhyme. These fairies can be a vast range of ages and body shapes. For variety, cast a child as Fairy Viola. And for comedy, a man as Fairy Zinnia. (Although all could be females.)

**FAIRY ASTOR:** She is the main good fairy and the leader. She should be older than the rest and be able to show experience and confidence.

**FAIRY GODETIA:** A good fairy.

**FAIRY MARIGOLD:** A good fairy.

**FAIRY PETUNIA:** A good fairy.

**FAIRY SWEET PEA:** A good fairy.

**FAIRY VIOLA:** A good fairy. Perhaps cast a child here?

**FAIRY ZINNIA:** A good fairy. Perhaps cast a large or tall man here?

**FAIRY NIGHTSHADE:** The BAD girl. She is strong and wicked. A modern fairy who raps rather than says rhyme. She needs to be someone who can cope with audience participants and intimidate the kids.

**PRINCE PERCEVAL:** Played by a female. A self assured Prince in a swashbuckling style.

**KING CAD:** Ruler of the Kingdom. Owner of the Palace and Father of Princess Rose. A typical "Up market" King and very aristocratic.

**QUEEN KITTY CAD:** Queen, wife and mother of Princess Rose. She might not be the brightest in the bunch.

**SRVANT "PAT":** Just a small one line part. Can be either sex.

**DANCERS AND CHORUS:** These can be played by male and female. A mixture of ages and types. They also form the dancers who build the hedge.

**ACT I - PROLOGUE**

*Overture*

AT THE END OF THE OVERTURE WIGARNA  
SUDDENLY BUSTLES THROUGH THE CLOSED  
TABS ONTO THE APRON, CARRYING A FOLDING  
CHAIR.

WIGARNA: (DIRECTLY TO AUDIENCE.) Hello to the great and good people of (LOCAL TOWN). (WAITING FOR REPLY.) If you're either great or good, please give me a cheer. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Not too good, was it? That's your chance to make a first impression already ruined. Come on everyone. Louder. A big cheer. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Hmmm - A little better.

Welcome to the Royal Palace. My name's Wigarna. Yes, I'm Wigarna, the Royal soothsayer. No, not a soup strainer. A soothsayer. My job is to see into the future and advise the Royal household about mystical things to come.

KNUD ALMOST FALLS THROUGH THE CENTRE OF  
THE CLOSED TABS LOOKING SURPRISED AS IF  
HAVING BEEN PUSHED.

KNUD: Whoops!

WIGARNA: Now that's what I call a stupid entrance. (TO AUDIENCE.) Sorry! This is Knud. (STAGE WHISPER) Knud's not quite all there.

KNUD: Not all where?

WIGARNA: There.

KNUD: 'ello everyone. (WAITING FOR REPLY.) I said 'ello everyone. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) That's better. You do know this is a pantomime don't yer? And you're allowed to 'ave fun.

Anyways, I'm Knud. The general dogs body about this 'ear palace. I do... stuff! Actually, I do all the stuff nobody else wants to do.

What's that there chair for?

WIGARNA: It's to sit on when we go into the future.

KNUD: The future? Didn't know you was one of them time travellers? Like Dr Who then?

WIGARNA: No I'm not like Dr Who. I'm a prognosticator.

KNUD: Oi! Don't be dirty.

WIGARNA: A prognosticator. It means I can see into the future.

KNUD: I can do that as well. 'Ang on. (KNUD POKES HIS/HER HEAD BACK THROUGH THE TABS FOR A SECOND AND RETURNS QUICKLY.) That's it. Like you. I now know the future.

WIGARNA: How can you know the future if you're not, like myself, gifted with (OVER DRAMATICALLY.) THE EYE OF ZAMLON? He who passes on mystic thoughts.

KNUD: Don't need to be gifted with (MOCKING  
DRAMATICALLY.) THE EYE OF SAVLON.

WIGARNA: Without (OVER DRAMATICALLY) THE EYE OF ZAMLON,  
that's not possible.

KNUD: It is. See... We're in a panto right? An' there's  
lots of people back there ready to sing and dance.  
In the immediate future we're about to get, the  
opening number.

WIGARNA: I actually meant the real future.

KNUD: So did I. (ANNOUNCING.) Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Boys and Girls, put yer 'ands together to welcome  
the (DRAMA COMPANY'S NAME) production of...  
SLEEPING BEAUTY.

AS THE TABS OPEN, KNUD EXITS. WIGARNA  
CARRIES THE FOLDING CHAIR DOWN INTO THE  
AUDIENCE, FINDS A SPACE IN THE AISLE,  
OPENS THE CHAIR AND SITS DOWN FACING  
THE STAGE (TO HELP AND JOIN IN WITH  
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION LATER.)

**END PROLOGUE.**

**ACT I - SCENE 1: THE ROYAL PALACE.**

THE SCENERY SHOWS AN EXTRAVAGANT CASTLE OR PALACE WITH FLAGS, STREAMERS AND BUNTING EVERYWHERE.

THERE ARE TWO THRONES SET ON A DAIS UPSTAGE, AND A BABY'S CRIB SET TO ONE SIDE. THE CRIB HAS DRAPES AND A CROWN MOTIVE ON TOP.

AS THE TABS OPEN WE SEE A FULL STAGE OF COLOURFUL WELL DRESSED PEOPLE (CHORUS) SINGING AND DANCING IN PARTY MOOD TO WELCOME THE NEW BABY.

*Musical Number: Chorus.*

*Suggestion: Don't stop me now - Queen*

AT THE END OF THE SONG THE BABY IS HEARD CRYING VERY LOUDLY. NURSE NANNY KNOO ENTERS AT SPEED.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (SCOLDING CHORUS.) Now look what you've done. All that noise has woken the Princess. (LOOKING INTO CRIB.) Did the naughty naughty nibby nobby numbskulls wake my 'ikkly w'ikkly likkle Pwincess.

MORE CRYING. NURSE NANNY KNOO ROCKS THE CRIB, THE CRYING CONTINUES. SHE TURNS HER BACK ON THE CRIB (TOWARDS THE AUDIENCE) AND GIVES THE CRIB A VIOLENT BACK KICK WHILE SMILING SWEETLY AT THE AUDIENCE. THE CRYING INSTANTLY STOPS.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: There! Works every time. It's the shock you see.

(TO CHORUS.) Now you lot. Scram! Go and tart yourselves up ready for the naming ceremony.

CHORUS EXIT IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO AUDIENCE.) Hello everyone. I said hello everyone. (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE REACTION.) You'll have to do better than that. Hello everyone. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) That's more like it.

I'm Nurse Nanny Knoo. Yes, Knoo. K, N, Oooo, Oooo. An offshoot of the Scottish Knoo's. You've probably heard of us. As we walk along, some people shout "Och aye the Knoo's"? Well that's us. The Knoo family. We used to live at the tenth house in our street. Yes the tenth house. But we had to move. Yes. Because everyone started shouting "Och aye the Knoo's at ten."

I'm the Nanny for this 'ikkle wickle baby way-bee that the King and Queen have just had. She's lovely isn't she? I don't want to gossip, but... You won't tell anyone will you? They'd been trying for years to have a Royal baby but sadly it wouldn't happen. Then one day they changed the milkman.

Anyway, today is the day they officially name the baby. They're going to name her Rose. How lovely is that?

KNUD ENTERS.

KNUD: (LOUDLY AND BRIGHT.) 'Allo Nurse Nanny Knoo.

THE BABY STARTS CRYING AGAIN.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Now look what you've done.

KNUD: Weren't me.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: It was.

KNUD: Oh no it weren't.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) Oh yes it was.

KNUD: (TO AUDIENCE) Oh no it weren't.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Oh yes it was.

KNUD: Ain't you gonna pick 'er up and comfort 'er?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: She has to learn that crying doesn't always bring attention.

KNUD: I'll do it.

KNUD PICKS THE BABY OUT OF THE CRIB AND HOLDS IT AT ARMS LENGTH. IT IS STILL CRYING.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: You don't hold a baby like that.

KNUD: You does if it's flipping dripping.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (SNATCHING THE BABY WITH FORCE.) Give it here. If you want it done right, then do it yourself.

NURSE NANNY KNOO REALISES THAT THE BABY IS INDEED DRIPPING AND HOLDS IT AT ARMS LENGTH AS WELL.

KNUD: Just a mo'.

KNUD EXITS AND INSTANTLY RETURNS WITH A YELLOW STAND-UP SIGN WHICH READS "CAUTION - WET FLOOR", AND A BUCKET. THE SIGN AND BUCKET ARE PLACED NEXT TO EACH OTHER.

KNUD EXITS AGAIN.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: What a good idea.

NURSE NANNY KNOO STANDS THE BABY UP IN THE BUCKET. THE CRYING STOPS.

KNUD ENTERS WITH A MOP.

KNUD: That bucket was for me to mop the floor.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Oh! I thought it was for...

KNUD: Perhaps she 'as wind.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: You're right. Wind! I've read how to deal with that.

SHE PICKS UP THE BABY AND PLACES IT OVER HER SHOULDER THEN STARTS TO RUB IT'S BACK.

THE BABY MAKES A VERY LOUD AND EXAGGERATED "BURP".

KNUD: Was that the wind?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: No, it was the baby.

SHE CONTINUES TO RUB THE BABY'S BACK OVER HER SHOULDER AND IT GIVES OFF A VERY LOUD AND EXAGGERATED "FART".

BOTH ACTORS WAVE THE SMELL AWAY AND NURSE NANNY KNOO HOLDS THE BABY AT ARMS LENGTH AGAIN.

KNUD: Didn't you ought to change 'er.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Oh I don't think the Queen would like me swapping her.

KNUD: Not change the baby. Change the nappy.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Do you think she needs a new one already? I only changed it last week.

KNUD: Then it's probably time for a new 'en.

NURSE NANNY KNOO PUTS THE BABY BACK IN THE CRIB TO CHANGE IT. WITH HER BACK TO THE AUDIENCE TO HIDE WHAT SHE'S DOING. SHE PRODUCES A LARGE TOWELLING STYLE NAPPY AND HOLDS IT WITH EACH CORNER SO IT HANGS DOWN WITH AN OBVIOUS WEIGHT INSIDE. SHE WAVES IT BEHIND HER AT KNUD.

KNUD TAKES THE NAPPY WHICH IS HELD AT ARMS LENGTH AND THROWS IT OFF STAGE.

KNUD: (TO OFF STAGE) Mind you don't slip on....

THERE IS A LOUD CRASH (BEST DONE LIVE BY SOMEONE DROPPING A FEW PANS OR TINS OFF STAGE)

KNUD: ... I said, mind you don't slip on that.

NURSE NANNY KNOO (STILL CHANGING THE BABY) THROWS A SERIES OF SCREWED UP TISSUES OVER HER SHOULDER. KNUD EITHER CATCHES THEM OR PICKS THEM UP, LOOKS AT THEM IN DISGUST, THEN THROWS THEM INTO THE AUDIENCE.

AS NURSE NANNY KNOO STANDS BACK LOOKING SATISFIED, THERE IS ANOTHER LARGE FART SOUND.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: At this rate she'll need another one changed next week.

KNUD: She'll probably get more polite as she gets older.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I know I certainly did. Although I still enjoy blowing bubbles in the bath.

KNUD: Do you think she'll get married and 'ave children of 'er own?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: If she does, I want to be her baby's nurse.

KNUD: But you're already old enough to be 'er...

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Careful.

KNUD: I mean by that time you'll be...

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Stop there if you value your fundamentals.

KNUD: Why don't we ask Wigarna the Royal soothsayer about 'er future?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I haven't seen Wigarna for ages.

WIGARNA: (FROM AUDIENCE.) I'm here.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (LOOKING AROUND THE STAGE.) That was clever. Wigarna's gone invisible.

KNUD: No. Look'ie. (POINTING.)

WIGARNA IS COMING ONTO THE STAGE FROM  
THE AUDIENCE, CARRYING THE CHAIR.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: What's the chair for?

KNUD: Best not ask. 'Pparently it's a time traveling chair.

WIGARNA: I've already informed you. The chair's quite normal.

KNUD: You said it time travelled.

WIGARNA: Some things in the universe are difficult to explain.

KNUD: Like, Nurse Nanny Knoo's polka-dot bloomers.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: How dare you.

WIGARNA: (IN DRAMATIC VOICE.) Soon. These people (POINTING TO THE AUDIENCE.) will travel forward one hundred and eighteen year.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Don't be ridiculous. Some of them had difficulty getting to the (NAME OF THEATRE.) on time.

WIGARNA: And I, Wigarna the soothsayer, will travel with them as their guide.

KNUD: You know, my friend really wanted to be a guide, A girl guide. But then had to be a boy scout.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Why?

KNUD: Yer can't join the girl guides if you've got a little woggle.

WIGARNA: No you fool. I will guide all these people into the future.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Is that where you've been?

KNUD: No, I told you. (POINTING INTO AUDIENCE.) Down there.

WIGARNA: But for this moment I must leave you.

KNUD: You going somewhere in time then?



WIGARNA: No. I'm going for a shower and change of underwear, ready for the naming ceremony. (EXITS.)

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I should probably do that as well. (EXITS.)

KNUD: I would change something too, but me other sock is in the wash.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (RETURNING TO THE EDGE OF THE WINGS.) Whoops! I forgot the baby.

KNUD PICKS THE BABY OUT OF THE CRIB AND THROWS IT ACROSS THE STAGE AT NURSE NANNY KNOO, WHO CATCHES IT AND EXITS.

KING CAD AND QUEEN KITTY ENTER FROM THE OPPOSITE SIDE.

KING CAD: Hell-ooow. I say Krud...

KNUD: "Knud" Sire, if you pleases Sire. (BOBBING UP AND DOWN AS IF BOWING.)

KING CAD: ...Whatever! Isn't your job to blow a fanfare.

KNUD: Yes Sire. (BOBBING.)

KNUD REACHES INTO THE BABY'S CRIB AND PULLS OUT A SMALL (PLASTIC) TOY TRUMPET AND BLOWS A VERY BAD FEW NOTES.

*Note: This should be a "Tad-aaah" type of thing.*

QUEEN KITTY: Is everything ready for the naming ceremony?

KNUD: Yes Madam. (BOBBING.)

KING CAD: What's with this bobbing up and down business?

KNUD: Don't know Sire. (BOBBING.)

QUEEN KITTY: It really is very distracting, don't you know.

KNUD: Yes Madam. (BOBBING.)

QUEEN KITTY: There. You're doing it again.

KING CAD: You're doing it again.

KNUD: Everyone does it when you two come into the room Sire. (BOBBING.)

KING CAD: (POINTING TO AUDIENCE.) They didn't.

KNUD: Would you like me to ask 'em to Sire? (BOBBING.)

KING CAD: Do you think they would?

KNUD: (DIRECTLY TO AUDIENCE.) Oh yes they would.

KING CAD: Oh no they wouldn't.

REPEAT THE "OH NO" THING FOR A COUPLE OF TIMES.

KNUD: (TO AUDIENCE.) Perhaps we can try something else. When King'y 'ear speaks to you, you then say a simple "Welcome Sire" and bob yer 'ead. Can you do that? (AUDIENCE REACTION.) You're 'umble servants are ready Sire. Per'aps you would like to address them?

KING CAD: (TO AUDIENCE.) Hell-ooow humble peasants of (NAME OF TOWN.)

KNUD: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) Welcome Sire.

QUEEN KITTY: They were very quiet, don't you know.

KNUD: Give it 'another go Sire. They might be louder this time.

KING CAD: (TO AUDIENCE.) Hell-ooow humble peasants of (NAME OF TOWN.)

KNUD: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) Welcome Sire.

KING CAD: I say. What fun.

QUEEN KITTY: Now then Knud. The godmothers. Did you send out the invitations?

KNUD: Yes your Majesty. All seven fairies have replied and they be 'ear in a sec'.

QUEEN KITTY: So our daughter will have seven fairy godmothers to wish her well in life.

KNUD: Yes your Majesty. Each fairy has agreed to cast a blessing spell on your new Princess to 'elp 'er through life.

KING CAD: Only seven? I thought we had eight resident fairies in our kingdom?

KNUD: Yes. There were eight Sire, but Fairy Nightshade...

QUEEN KITTY: Fairy Nightshade has moved over to the dark side. We don't want her turning up to something like this.

KNUD: Fairy Nightshade ain't been invited Madam.

QUEEN KITTY: Well done Knud.

KNUD: Thank you Madam. (BOBBING.)

KING CAD: You're doing it again Knud. The bobbing.

KNUD: Sorry Sire. (BOBBING.)

KING CAD: I say. Can I try the "thing" again?

KNUD: Don't see why not Sire.

KING CAD: (TO AUDIENCE.) Hell-ooow humble peasants of (TOWN NAME.)

KNUD: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) Welcome Sire.

QUEEN KITTY: Don't you just love being Royal Darling?

THE KING AND QUEEN GO AND SIT ON THE THRONES.

KNUD: (ANNOUNCING.) Your Majesties. Them seven fairies of your Kingdom is 'ear.

KNUD EXITS, TAKING THE SIGN AND BUCKET.

THE SEVEN "GOOD" FAIRIES ENTER AND PERFORM A DANCE.

*Musical number: Dance by - The Seven Fairies.*

*Suggestion: Ponchielli's "Dance of the Hours". Or - Tchaikovsky, Nutcracker, "Sugar Plum Fairy".*

*Note: This dance can be either pretty or funny, depending on your director and choreographer. Plus depending on the size and shapes of your main fairies.*

*It could also include extra fairies from the children's chorus or babes, dancing around the main seven to fill the stage. These extra fairies can stay or exit after the dance, depending on the size of your stage and if you can leave them in the background for the naming ceremony.*

AT THE END OF THE DANCE THE FAIRIES  
FORM A TABLEAU TO ENCOURAGE APPLAUSE.

KING CAD: Hell-ooow Fairy Godmothers. Thank you all for coming.

FAIRY ASTOR: It is a pleasure to be here,  
to help you as the time draws near,  
to name your child, the lovely Rose  
and keep her safe from life's sad woes.  
We're here to offer seven spells.  
Give her the life that time foretells.  
My fairy sisters each will bless,  
your lovely babe. The sweet Princess.

KNUD ENTERS AND PLAYS THE SAME BAD  
FANFARE ON THE TOY TRUMPET.

QUEEN KITTY: I say, can't we do better than that?

KNUD: (ANNOUNCING.) Please do welcome 'er Royal Majesty,  
the new Princess.

A PROCESSION ENTERS WITH COURTIERS,  
INCLUDING WIGARNA AND NURSE NANNY KNOO  
WHO IS HOLDING THE BABY. EVERYONE  
LOOKS VERY IMPORTANT WITH NOSES IN THE  
AIR.

THE BABY IS PLACED IN THE CRIB WHICH IS  
THEN PULLED FORWARD TO THE CENTRE.

WIGARNA STANDS BEHIND THE CRIB, HANDS  
HIGH AND OUTSTRETCHED (LIKE A "Y") AND  
TRIES TO LOOK IMPORTANT.

WIGARNA: (INTONING.) We are here today to name and bless  
this child who has come to us from the inner  
workings of Queen Kitty Cad...

QUEEN KITTY: I say, do we need so much detail?

WIGARNA: ... May she have a long and enchanted life.

KING CAD: Get on with it.

WIGARNA: God bless all who sail in her. I name this...

KNUD: (STAGE WHISPER.) That's ships.

WIGARNA: Ahh! Hmmm! (INTONING AND MAKING MAGIC PASSES.) I  
name this child - The Princess Rose.

KNUD: (TO NURSE) It's very moving isn't it?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: It is. In fact I'm so moved that I've got tears running down my leg.

FAIRY ASTOR: I'm Fairy Astor, chief of all,  
the Fairies. Be they large or small.  
My fairy sisters now will bless,  
this child with gifts that will impress.  
Each magic spell will hold a wish.  
Something to guide, and to cherish.  
So fairies wave your wands once more,  
and show Rose what she has in store.

THE FAIRIES STEP FORWARD ONE BY ONE.  
TWINKLY "FAIRY" MUSIC PLAYS GENTLY IN  
THE BACKGROUND.

FAIRY GODETIA: I am Godetia, and I bring,  
a blessing that I hope will ring,  
a bell with all who see her face.  
To Rose I give the gift of grace.

FAIRY MARIGOLD: I'm Marigold the Fairy who,  
can give this baby something new.  
Each instrument she wants to play.  
She'll be an expert right away.

FAIRY PETUNIA: Fairy Petunia here at last.  
Give Rose a brain that's very fast.  
Intelligence is mine to give.  
A brain so deep with which to live.

FAIRY SWEET PEA: Sweet of nature like my name.  
I'm Sweet Pea. Fairy with no shame.  
Give love of fun. A party girl.  
Make Rose's life a social whirl.

FAIRY VIOLA: Fairy Viola will bring Rose,  
a spell to keep her on her toes.  
A dancer she will always be.  
Remember, she got dance from me.

FAIRY ZINNIA: Zinnia here to wave my wand.  
Grant Rose the power to respond,  
to those who look down on our sex,  
and take away our life prospects.

CHIEF FAIRY ASTOR STEPS FORWARD.

FAIRY ASTOR: Each Fairy's made a helpful spell  
The Princess Rose will do so well.  
The final wish is down to me  
I wish her...

SUDDENLY THERE IS THUNDER AND  
LIGHTENING. THE LIGHT LEVELS DROP.

ENTER FAIRY NIGHTSHADE.

NIGHTSHADE: Ahh ha ha ha haaa! So this is where you've all gathered. How dare you leave me, Fairy Nightshade, out of your celebrations. (TO AUDIENCE.) Who was that booing me. Boo me all you like, but I know exactly who you are and what some of you have been doing. Boo deadly Nightshade and I will turn you all into gargoyles, with your teeth bright white and your face almost orange. Ahh ha ha ha haaa!

KNUD: Orange faces and white teeth. This ain't T.O.W.I.E you know.

WIGARNA: Fairy Nightshade! You are NOT welcome here.

NIGHTSHADE: I can see that from the look on everyone's faces.  
Ahh ha ha ha haaa! I may not have been invited,  
but I still intend to give the new baby a gift.

QUEEN KITTY: Perhaps we were wrong. She want's to give Rose a wish.

FAIRY ASTOR: Do not be fooled by her smart speech.  
Nightshade is like a fairy leach.  
She'll suck you dry and not let go.  
A clever, nasty, wicked foe.

NIGHTSHADE: (OVER SWEETLY.) Do you old fashioned hopeless  
little fairies still do that rhyiming speech stuff?  
All so old school. We're all rapping now.  
(SPEAKING TO SOUND MAN.) Hit it man.

A RAP BEAT MUSIC STARTS PLAYING.

*Musical Rap beat can be just a rhythm track that Nightshade Raps over. (Speaking in time with beat of the music.)*

NIGHTSHADE: (RAPPING.) These poor old fairies still do rhyme.  
They should keep up, it's pantomime.  
We're rapping now so don't you know.  
That how us bad girls steal the show.  
Us girls are bad and getting down.  
That's why we're gonna wreck this town.  
You're sweet but past it. With no pride.  
Come over to the darker side.

*Rap music ends.*

NIGHTSHADE: (SPEAKING NORMALLY BUT WITH NASTY HARD VOICE.)  
Join the revolution girls. We have the power to  
take over the world. Ahh ha ha ha haaa!

WIGARNA: We will never let you near the Princess Rose.

NIGHTSHADE: Ahh ha ha ha haaa! Is it YOU who will stop me? No  
one can stop me. Not even the puny people of (NAME  
OF TOWN) who seem to be against me. Boo me all you  
like, but I WILL give my gift to the new born  
child.  
You will all pay the price of not inviting me,  
deadly Nightshade, to this occasion.

NIGHTSHADE APPROACHES THE CRIB AND  
LOOKS AT THE BABY.

WIGARNA: Be kind Nightshade. She is but a young soul and  
not yet tainted by the sins of this world.

NIGHTSHADE: A world that soon will belong to dark fairies like  
me.  
She is too young to know about your mistake so I  
will not wish anything on her immediately.

QUEEN KITTY: Thank you for being so thoughtful.

NIGHTSHADE: I will give her eighteen years to learn her place.  
Then...

THE GENERAL LIGHTING DIMS EVEN MORE AND NIGHTSHADE IS PICKED OUT IN A DRAMATIC WAY. (POSSIBLE AN OVERHEAD SPOTLIGHT THAT SHE LOOKS UP AT.)

THUNDER RUMBLES GENTLY IN THE BACKGROUND.

NIGHTSHADE: (TO SOUND MAN.) Play the beat big boy.

*Musical Rap beat starts. Nightshade's rap music is more sinister.*

*Note: The director may decide not to do this next rhyme as a rap if he/she feels that the words would be better and stronger if spoken. THIS IS A MAIN PART OF THE STORY SO IT NEEDS TO BE HEARD AND UNDERSTOOD BY THE AUDIENCE.*

NIGHTSHADE: (RAPPING.)  
Before her eighteenth birthday's here,  
she'll prick her finger. Sad I fear.  
The spindle on a spinning wheel,  
will scratch poor Rose, her life to steal.  
This scratch will be the fatal blow.  
Darkness will come, Her blood will flow.  
Death's finger points at Rose that day.  
A scratch to TAKE HER LIFE AWAY.

Ahh ha ha ha haaa!

*Rap music ends.*

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE EXITS WITH A FLOURISH.

LIGHTING RETURNS TO NORMAL.

EVERYONE LOOKS SHOCKED.

QUEEN KITTY: Oh my baby. Only eighteen years to live.

KING CAD: Can't we do something. Wigarna, tell us what the future holds.

WIGARNA: Sadly Sire the future at that time is shrouded in a heavy mist. I am unable to see through it.

FAIRY ASTOR STEPS FORWARD.

FAIRY ASTOR: Perhaps there is another way.  
As I've not cast my spell today.  
When Nightshade came into the room,  
pushed us aside and cast her gloom.  
My spell had not taken it's place,  
beside their love, life, and good grace.  
Which means I can have one last try,  
to bid this deathly spell goodbye.

I cannot halt the spell I fear.  
But when we reach that fateful year.  
Rose will NOT die, and we'll not weep.  
The scratch will send her off to sleep.

But Nightshade's spell has one last trick.  
A twist that I can't fix or kick.  
One hundred years the sleep will last,  
until her true love, riding past,  
finds Rose, the love of his rich life.  
His kiss will make her his sweet wife.

QUEEN KITTY: One hundred years! Rose will sleep for one hundred years? But the rest of us will never last long enough to see that happen. We'll never see our daughter married.

FAIRY ASTOR: I'll add a small attachment spell.  
I'll send you all to sleep as well.  
When Rose goes into her deep sleep,  
you'll join her and her vigil keep.

ALL THE FAIRIES EXIT WHILE THE REST OF  
THE COURT LOOKS STUNNED.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Just a moment. If I sleep for one hundred years I'll be one hundred and ... er... twenty five. By then I'll look like an old hag.

KNUD: (ASIDE TO WIGARNA.) Will you say it or will I?

WIGARNA: Best just keep your mouth shut.

KING CAD: (STANDING AND LOOKING PROUD.) I have it!

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Well don't give it to me.

KING CAD: The Fairy Nightshade said that Princess Rose would prick herself on the spindle of a spinning wheel. So all we have to do is ban all spinning wheels from the Kingdom and it can never happen.

QUEEN KITTY: I say, well done darling. A brilliant idea. If we never let Rose see a spinning wheel the spell can never come to pass.

KING CAD: From this day, all spinning wheels will be banned from my Kingdom. Any that are already in use will be rounded up and burnt.

QUEEN KITTY: I knew you would deal with it Darling.

KING CAD: Let's go and get one of those proclamation things done. Our Heralds can shout it out all over the land.

THE KING, QUEEN, WIGARNA AND COURTIERS  
EXIT.

KNUD: So all spinning wheels is banned from the Kingdom?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: That means that when the Princess reaches eighteen she will never have seen one, let alone been able to prick her finger on a spinning wheel spindle.

KNUD: But there must be other ways of making sure she's safe.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I'm all ears.

KNUD: I know, but we can't see 'em under that wig.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: What other ideas do you have to keep her safe.

KNUD: Well... What if we 'ad a stunt double?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Like a stunt baby?

KNUD: Right! Like a look-alike that does everything in 'er place.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: One of the kitchen staff has just had a baby. I think I could persuade her to let us borrow it.

KNUD: Worth a try. We substitute the other one for Rose and nobody knows.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: That is such a good idea.

KNUD: I'll goes and get it. (EXITS.)

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO AUDIENCE.) I could have been this stunt baby. I know it's hard to believe looking at me now that I'm in my prime, but when I was a born, I was almost the same age as Rose.

I was a premature baby. Yes. Father wasn't expecting me.

We were so poor (ENCOURAGING "Ahh" FROM AUDIENCE.) Much poorer than that. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Yes, we were so poor that we couldn't afford candles. It was so dark in our house that mother used to feed us baked beans, just so she could smell where we were.

KNUD ENTERS CARRYING A BABY IN A CRIB.  
KNUD LIFTS THE BABY OUT AND SHOWS IT TO  
NURSE NANNY KNOO.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I know you said it came from the kitchen but you didn't tell me that it looked like a potato.

KNUD: All new babies look like Mr Potato 'ead.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Yes but this one's still wearing that large plastic nose and moustache.

THEY PUT THE BABY BACK IN THE CRIB.

WIGARNA ENTERS WITH A THIRD BABY AND  
CRIB.

WIGARNA: Someone said you were looking for a baby to pretend to be the Princess Rose.

ALL CRIBS ARE TURNED WITH THEIR BACKS  
TO THE AUDIENCE AND THE ACTORS STAND  
BEHIND THEM LOOKING AT THE BABIES.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Yours looks like a walnut.

WIGARNA: Yours looks like Boris Johnson.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: How dare you! Mine's so cute, she already has 200 friends on Facebook.

KNUD: That's nothing. Mine's so talented, she trumps the National Anthem.

WIGARNA: Shouldn't we be picking which one of the little darlings to substitute for Princess Rose?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Mine.

WIGARNA: Mine.

KNUD: Let's mix 'em up, and see which one looks most like 'er.

THE THREE ACTORS NOW START TO SWAP THE  
BABIES AROUND BY TAKING THEM OUT OF ONE  
CRIB AND PLACING THEN IN ANOTHER.



SOMETIMES THE BABIES ARE PASSED TO ANOTHER ACTOR BEFORE HE/SHE PLACES THEM IN A DIFFERENT CRIB. THE IDEA IS TO SHUFFLE THE BABIES AROUND SO THAT NO ONE KNOWS WHICH BABY IS IN EACH CRIB. THE MORE THIS BECOMES A FAST ACTION SEQUENCE THE BETTER. THE BABIES CAN BE THROWN BETWEEN ACTORS, THROWN IN THE CRIB BEFORE SOMEONE IMMEDIATELY TAKES IT OUT AGAIN. THE ACTORS CAN RUN AROUND THE CRIBS DURING THE SWAPPING.

THIS IS A SLIGHT "SLAPSTICK" SEQUENCE, SO THROWING AND SWINGING THE BABIES ABOUT OR HANDLING THEM ROUGHLY WORKS BEST. LINES SHOULD BE AD-LIBBED THROUGHOUT.

THERE COULD BE A SHORT COMEDY PIECE OF MUSIC PLAYING TO HELP THE ACTION.

*Suggested ad-lib lines would be: "This is the best baby." or "You've put Princess Rose back in the wrong crib." or "Take your hands off my Baby." or "Hey, there's two babies in here." etc etc.*

AT THE END OF THIS SHORT "BABY SHUFFLING" SEQUENCE EACH BABY IS RETURNED TO A RANDOM CRIB. THE THREE ACTORS EACH STAND BEHIND A CRIB AND LOOK DOWN INTO IT.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Excuse me for pointing this out, but I can see a incy wincy little problem has arisen. Do we still know which one is the *actual* Princess Rose?

WIGARNA: Obviously this one.

KNUD: No this one.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I think you find it's this... or perhaps that one. Hold on a monumenious momento. I know how we can tell. Princess Rose has a small birth mark just at the top of her leg.

KNUD: (QUICKLY REACHING FOR ONE OF THE BABIES.) So's all we 'as to do is look for this birth...

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (SNATCHING KNUD'S HAND AWAY.) One moment if you please. A little decorum thank you. I'm not letting you look at a Princess's high up fancy bits.

KNUD: But we 'ave to if we're gonna...

NURSE NANNY KNOO: No so fast. I am the official officiant officer. The Princesses very own Nurse Nanny Knoo will look. And you will watch from a discreet distance.

NURSE NANNY KNOO LEANS DOWN INTO THE FIRST CRIB.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Is you the likkle wikkle P'wincess Wose'ie? Let me look at your inky winky dinky mark... Oh no!

KNUD: What?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: This one really does have a likkle inky winky dinky.

WIGARNA: An inky winky dinky?

KNUD: You mean...?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Yes. SHE is a HE!

KNUD: We can certainly rule that one out then.

KNUD PICKS UP THAT BABY IN IT'S CRIB  
AND EXITS WITH IT.

NURSE NANNY KNOO AND WIGARNA LOOK INTO  
THE NEXT CRIB.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Let's have a likkle lookie at your ikkle...  
Pwwwoooooorrrr! (STAGGERING BACK HOLDING NOSE.)

WIGARNA: What is it?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I don't even want to think what it is.

WIGARNA: It's quite natural. She's just filled her nappy.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: But it looks like there's been a cream cheese  
explosion in a cider factory.

KNUD ENTERS WEARING VERY OBVIOUS RUBBER  
GLOVES, A FACE MASK AND A PLASTIC  
SHOWER CAP.

KNUD: Don't panic. Cover me. I'm going in.

KNUD FIDDLES INSIDE THE CRIB WHILE THE  
OTHER TWO HOLD THEIR NOSES.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: While you're down at the business end, I commission  
you to have a look for the Royal birth mark.

SUDDENLY A SQUIRT OF WATER SHOOTS UP  
INTO THE AIR. (FROM A HIDDEN WATER  
PISTOL INSIDE THE CRIB.) AT FIRST IT  
SHOOTS INTO THE AIR SO THAT IT CAN BE  
SEEN BY THE AUDIENCE. THEN IT SNAKES  
FROM SIDE TO SIDE OR INTO ONE OF THE  
ACTORS FACES.

NOTE: IF YOU'RE BRAVE ENOUGH, THEN  
SQUIRT SOME IN A HIGH ARC INTO THE  
FRONT ROW OF THE AUDIENCE.

WIGARNA: It's another boy!

KNUD: I noticed.

WIGARNA: We can certainly rule that one out.

KNUD REMOVES THAT CRIB AND THE BABY AND  
EXITS.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (LOOKING INTO CRIB.) Hello likkle P'wincess Rose.  
I knew it was you all along, yes I did. Yes I  
diddy widdy did.

WIGARNA: Oh no you diddy widdy didn't.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO AUDIENCE.) Oh yes I diddy widdy did.

WIGARNA: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) Oh no you diddy widdy  
didn't.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO AUDIENCE.) I diddy widdy did.

WIGARNA: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) You diddy widdy didn't.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO AUDIENCE - FAST.) I diddy widdy widdy widdy widdy widdy widdy widdy widdy widdy widdy did. (WAITING FOR AUDIENCE TO REPLY.)

WIGARNA: Just as the stars foretold. Your replacement scheme won't work. We'll just have to rely on the burning of those spinning wheels. It should keep Princess Rose safe until after her eighteenth birthday.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO BABY IN CRIB.) Don't worry my lovely likkle wickle Princess w'osey. Big Nursy, well... not so big Nursy, will keep woo safey wafey from the nasty warsty pointy spinny wheel'ies. Come with me and we'll find a nice'ie wice'ie doughnut with lots of icky wicky pink icing and sprinkles on top.

WIGARNA: You can't give a small baby a huge sticky doughnut.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: It's for me, stupid. (EXITS TAKING CRIB AND BABY.)

KNUD ENTERS CARRYING WIGARNA'S FOLDING CHAIR.

KNUD: That bloke on the side asked me to bring you this.

WIGARNA: That's very kind. I'm going to need that while you're gone.

KNUD: I'm not going nowhere.

WIGARNA: Well actually you are. But you just don't know it yet.

KNUD: Couldn't we go to the seaside?

WIGARNA: No, we're not going to the seaside.

KNUD: I love it when them brass bands play tiddly-om-pom-pom.

*Musical Number: Knud (with Wigarna joining in here and there.)*

*Suggestion: I Do Like to Be Beside the Seaside. - Written by John A. Glover-Kind. First performed by Mark Sheridan.*

KNUD: So if I'm not going to the seaside, where am I going then?

WIGARNA: Actually I guess technically it's you who's staying and me who's going.

KNUD: Where are YOU going then?

WIGARNA: Me! I'm going down there. (POINTING INTO AUDIENCE.)

WIGARNA TAKES THE CHAIR INTO THE AUDIENCE AND SITS DOWN DURING THESE NEXT FEW LINES.

KNUD: Is this the time travelling bit.

WIGARNA: You might see it that way.

KNUD: Well I ain't coming. That time travel chair don't look safe to me.

KNUD:

You ain't gonna get me up in one of those. This modern technology might be all the rage in (NEARBY TOWN OR CITY), but I was born in (LOCAL TOWN) and I is staying in (LOCAL TOWN).

Next you be telling me that you can foresee people traveling all over the place without an 'orse an' cart.

WIGARNA:

They will. It's written in the stars.

KNUD:

Ha! Next you'll be telling me that one day they'll be sending folk to the moon.

WIGARNA:

They will. That is also written in the stars.

KNUD:

Ha! Next you'll be telling me that (NAME OF LOCAL FOOTBALL TEAM) will win the F.A. cup.

WIGARNA:

Now you're going too far.

KNUD:

There you goes then. That proves it. I ain't trusting your silly chair.

KNUD EXITS AT A RUN. THE STAGE LIGHTS GO DULL.

WIGARNA:

(STANDING AND ADDRESSING AUDIENCE.) People of (NAME OF TOWN). We are all indeed about to time travel. With the magic of pantomime we will now be travelling forward eighteen years.

Please grip the sides of your seats and secure all false teeth. The (THEATRE NAME) is about to hyper drive. Warp factor ten please Mr Scott.

THERE IS A MIXTURE OF FAST SOUND EFFECTS INCLUDING BITS LIKE DR WHO'S TARDIS ETC. THE HOUSE LIGHTS FLASH AND THERE ARE COLOUR CHANGING/FLASHING/SWIRLING LIGHTS ON STAGE. WITH POSSIBLY A LARGE PYROTECHNIC BANG AT THE END.

**END SCENE.**

**SCENE 2: THE ROYAL PALACE.**

THIS IS THE SAME SCENERY AS THE LAST SCENE. NOTHING HAS CHANGED. LIGHTING RETURNS TO NORMAL

WIGARNA IS STILL SITTING WITH THE AUDIENCE.

KNUD ENTERS RUNNING. LOOKS AROUND, THEN HIDES BEHIND ONE OF THE THRONES.

THE EIGHTEEN YEAR OLD PRINCESS ROSE ENTERS AND SEEMS TO BE LOOKING FOR KNUD. SHE SPOTS THE AUDIENCE.

PRINCESS ROSE: (DIRECTLY TO AUDIENCE.) Oh hello. Where have you all come from? I didn't know anyone would be here so soon. It's nice of you all to come for my birthday party, but you're a little early at the moment I'm afraid.

Sorry, I'm forgetting my manners. I'm Princess Rose. I'm the one who's birthday party you've come to. I'm eighteen tomorrow. Doesn't time fly? It only seems a few moments since I was ten, and tomorrow I'm old enough to buy cigarettes and alcohol. Not that I've ever been allowed to try those things. Apparently I'll even be old enough to get a tattoo.

(EXCITED.) Daddy, he's the King, says that I shouldn't, but he can't stop me now can he?. Tomorrow I'm over eighteen and I can do what I like. Although I don't like the idea of being pricked by that needle. Daddy has always warned me about going near needles.

But wouldn't it be adult to get a tattoo? I know exactly what it would say. In big letter all down my arm, it would say "Knud, I can see you hiding behind the throne".

GIGGLING, PRINCESS ROSE TURNS TO WHERE KNUD IS HIDING. KNUD COMES OUT AND JOINS HER.

KNUD: Awwwwwh! 'ow did you know I was 'ear?

PRINCESS ROSE: I always know where you are. We've played hide and seek so many times that I know your style and where you're likely to hide.

KNUD: I'll beat you. Eventually.

PRINCESS ROSE: I don't think so. Hide and seek is such a great game. You get to see all sorts of interesting places all over the palace. I must have hidden in every room and every cupboard in the place. There can't be anywhere left for you to hide that I don't already know about.

KNUD: You do know that after tomorrow we won't be able to play 'ide and seek no more.

PRINCESS ROSE: Why ever not?

KNUD: You'll be eighteen. A grown-up lady. You'll no longer be a child.

PRINCESS ROSE: Why will that stop us?

KNUD: It ain't right for you, all grown-up, to be playing games with us staff.

PRINCESS ROSE: But you're not staff.

KNUD: Oh I am. It may not seem it, as you've known me since you was born. Me and Nurse Nanny Knoo remember you when you was in nappies with yer little pink bum. Sorry, bottom.

PRINCESS ROSE: (EMBARRASSED.) I'm not sure I like to think about that too much.

KNUD: There was two of us, well three actually, if you count someone who disappeared soon after you was born.

PRINCESS ROSE: That's what you always tell me. Someone called Wig?

KNUD: Wigarna! We never found out what 'appened to poor old Wigarna.

WIGARNA STANDS UP IN THE AUDIENCE.

WIGARNA: Don't you remember Knud? I did try to tell you what was going to happen.

KNUD AND PRINCESS ROSE LOOK INTO THE AUDIENCE, AND SEEM SLIGHTLY SHOCKED.

DURING THE NEXT FEW LINES WIGARNA FOLDS UP THE CHAIR AND BRINGS IT ON STAGE.

KNUD: Wigarna! Is that you? It is. It's you. Where 'ave you been.

PRINCESS ROSE: Is this your Wigarna person? The person that I didn't really think existed.

KNUD: (SHAKING HANDS OR EMBRACING WIGARNA.) It is. It is. It's you. Where has you been?

WIGARNA: Knud! I told you what was happening but you didn't believe me.

KNUD: And, 'ear you are. It must be eighteen years since we saw you. Cor, you ain't looking a day older.

WIGARNA: (TAKING THE PRINCESSES HAND AND BOWING.) Hello Princess. You've grown into a lovely looking woman. Knud and Nurse Nanny Knoo have done their job well.

PRINCESS ROSE: So you're the famous Wigarna? The person who they say, just vanished. I'm so pleased to meet you. I'd begun to think you were only a figment of everyone's imagination.

WIGARNA: No I'm certainly real.

KNUD: And that's the chair I've been telling you about. The time travelling chair.

WIGARNA: It's just a normal chair. The magic only happens if you know where to place it.

PRINCESS ROSE: (EXCITED.) Can I have a go? Can I sit in the magic chair? Will I disappear?

PRINCESS ROSE SITS IN THE CHAIR AND  
STARTS TO EXAMINE HERSELF TO FIND OUT  
IF SHE CAN STILL SEE HER ARMS AND LEGS.

WIGARNA: Rose, it really IS just a normal chair.

KNUD: Then 'ow do you explain 'aving been missing for eighteen years.

WIGARNA: It's complicated.

PRINCESS ROSE: This would be a great chair for playing hide and seek. Just imagine sitting in it and disappearing for eighteen years. You'd never find me.

KNUD: That's cheating.

WIGARNA: So how have you been Princess Rose? Are you well? Do you have many suitors? Are there lots of rich Prince's banging on the palace door to ask for your hand in marriage?

PRINCESS ROSE: Wouldn't that be lovely? But no, there is no handsome Prince. No love of my life.

KNUD: It'll come. All in good time.

PRINCESS ROSE: Mummy and Daddy, that's the King and Queen, have invited a good selection of Prince's to my birthday party. They hope that one will ask to marry me. But most of them are not to my liking at all. No, let's be honest. Most of them are truly awful.

KNUD: There might be one in there that you like.

PRINCESS ROSE: No. I've met them all over the years and they're terrible. If that is my only choice then I never want to get married.

WIGARNA: There IS someone Princess.

PRINCESS ROSE: I don't think so.

WIGARNA: He may not appear tomorrow, but he's out there.

KNUD: What did I tell you? Wigarna can see into the future.

PRINCESS ROSE: Have you seen him?

WIGARNA: At the moment he's just a misty figure in the background. He's not fully formed. He may not even be born yet.

KNUD: Don't be daft. 'ow can 'e not be born yet?

PRINCESS ROSE: I'm not marrying a baby.

WIGARNA: Oh he won't be a baby when you see him. He is your true love and you are destined to meet and fall in love.

PRINCESS ROSE: (EXCITED.) Tomorrow? Will I meet him tomorrow? Is he coming to my party? What does he look like? Is he good looking?

WIGARNA: Not tomorrow. You must wait. At the moment he's just mist.

KNUD: When's this 'ear mist gonna clear?

WIGARNA: I really can't say. It may be years.

PRINCESS ROSE: Years! I can't wait years.

KNUD: (TO WIGARNA.) While we're waiting for the mist...

PRINCESS ROSE: I can't wait years to fall in love.

KNUD: ... why don't we go and find Nurse Nanny Knoo. She'll be really surprised to see you again.

KNUD AND WIGARNA EXIT (WITH THE CHAIR.)

PRINCESS ROSE: I can't wait years to fall in love. I'm eighteen. I need to meet someone. Fall in love and do silly things. Feed each other popcorn in the back row of one of those plays by that boring Shakespeare person.

*Musical number: Princess Rose.*

*Suggestion: I Want to Know What Love Is - Foreigner.*

NURSE NANNY KNOO ENTERS.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Rose. Wigarna is back.

PRINCESS ROSE: I know. We met a few moments ago. I should go and find out if Wigarna can tell me more about my future.

PRINCESS ROSE EXITS.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Personally I think Wigarna has been on holiday. Mind you, not for eighteen years. It certainly didn't show on the holiday chart.

A few years ago I went on holiday you know. To one of those Club Eighteen Thirty things. It was awful. They threw me out. They said that eighteen thirty wasn't supposed to be the year you were born.

Scarborough. (OR LOCAL HOLIDAY PLACE.) I went to Scarborough once. A nice place for a holiday. Although I had to buy a special fur hat to go there. Yes a fur hat. It was made of real artificial fox fur. It was my late husband who told me I should wear it. I said to him "I'm going to Scarborough for my holiday". And he said... "Scarborough? Wear the fox hat."

KING CAD AND QUEEN KITTY ENTER.

KING CAD: (TO AUDIENCE.) Hell-ooow humble peasants of (TOWN NAME.)

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (ENCOURAGING AUDIENCE.) Welcome Sire.

KING CAD: Well done. I didn't think you'd remember.

QUEEN KITTY: Tell them about tomorrow being Princess Rose's birthday darling.

KING CAD: Yes, tomorrow is Princess Rose's birthday.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: They already know.

QUEEN KITTY: Tell them about the end of the curse darling.



KING CAD: Yes, tomorrow is the end of the curse.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: They already know.

QUEEN KITTY: Tell them about burning all the spinning wheels darling.

KING CAD: Yes, we've burnt all the spinning wheels.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Is there an echo in here?

QUEEN KITTY: Tell them about...

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Excuse me your majesties.

QUEEN KITTY: What is it Nanny? The King was just explaining about the birthday, the curse and the burnt spinning wheels.

KING CAD: Yes, I was just explaining about the birthday, the curse...

NURSE NANNY KNOO: There really is an echo in here.

KING CAD: What I was saying was...

QUEEN KITTY: What he was saying.

KING CAD: ... that we must all be on our guard...

QUEEN KITTY: All be on our guard.

KING CAD: ... against Princess Rose pricking her finger on a spinning wheel...

QUEEN KITTY: On a spinning wheel.

KING CAD: ... before tomorrow.

QUEEN KITTY: Before tomorrow.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (ASIDE TO AUDIENCE.) I think we may have just invented stereo.

WIGARNA AND KNUD ENTER.

KING CAD: I know you don't I? You're that soothsayer who disappeared a long time ago?

WIGARNA: Sort of. It's actually rather hard to explain.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Like... Why everyone in Eastenders is so angry.

WIGARNA: What?

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Hard to explain. Why everyone in Eastenders... Never mind.

KING CAD: It's nice to meet you...

QUEEN KITTY: Again.

KING CAD: ... but we really should be getting on with the arrangement for the birthday party tomorrow.

KING CAD AND QUEEN KITTY EXIT.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I think I should go and help them. I'll leave it to you two to come up with something sensible to help Rose.

WIGARNA: My mystic guide is saying that we should be concentrating on keeping the Princess safe until tomorrow. At Rose's delicate age, we wouldn't want her getting a big prick.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (TO AUDIENCE.) Oi! I'm getting fed up with you lot making up your own dirty jokes. I'm going now, but don't think I haven't noticed who the ringleader is. (MAKING A TWO FINGER "WATCHING YOU" GESTURE AT HER OWN EYES THEN TURNING IT TOWARDS AN AUDIENCE MEMBER.)

NURSE NANNY KNOO EXITS.

KNUD: What about that lump of armour in the palace 'allway?

WIGARNA: The suit of armour? What about it?

KNUD: Well we could dress the Princess in the armour for twenty four 'ours. We could get a really 'ot blow torch an' weld 'er up inside, she wouldn't be able to prick her finger.

WIGARNA: I think you might find she'd resist that.

KNUD: Whoa, whoa, I've got it. This is it. Why don't we get in a stunt double. Like, exchange 'er for someone else, then...

WIGARNA: I think we may have tried that before.

KNUD: Yes, but this time there might be someone out there (POINTING TO AUDIENCE) who looks like 'er.

BOTH SCAN THE AUDIENCE.

WIGARNA: We need someone young, good looking, acts like a Princess and is pure and innocent.

KNUD: We was doing okay 'til you mentioned the pure and innocent bit.

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE ENTERS AND THE LIGHTING DIMS AS THUNDER IS HEARD.

NIGHTSHADE: Ahh ha ha ha haa!

KNUD: Oh no, it's Sharon Osborne.

WIGARNA: No you fool. It's the deadly Fairy Nightshade. The one who set the curse.

NIGHTSHADE: Eighteen years have passed and now it's time for my spell to take hold.

WIGARNA: My spirits say that you won't get away with this.

NIGHTSHADE: Who's going to stop me? Certainly not you. Ahh ha ha ha haa!

THE SEVEN GOOD FAIRIES ENTER WITH FAIRY ASTOR AS THEIR LEADER.

FAIRY ASTOR: We all will stop you where you stand.  
No space for you in this fair land.  
You cannot do this awful deed.  
So go from here with lightning speed.

NIGHTSHADE: You do this rhyming thing so well.  
But even you can't break my spell.

NIGHTSHADE:

The curse still stands, you have no choice.  
I'll win, and then I will rejoice.  
The Princess dies sometime today.  
So get yourself out of my way.

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE WAVES HER WAND IN A  
LARGE HORIZONTAL ARC DIRECTLY AT ALL  
THE OTHER FAIRIES. THEY EACH DUCK AS  
THE WAND PASSES THEM.

FAIRY ASTOR:

Your spell I changed from "death", to "sleep".  
And even though the court will weep.  
Rose will NOT die. You've not done well.  
I flipped your curse, twisted your spell.  
There are no spindles in this land,  
for Rose to prick her dainty hand.  
A spinning wheel you will not find,  
inside these walls, so please be kind,  
to go back to the place you came.  
As none of us will play your game.

WIGARNA AND KNUD START APPLAUDING.

NIGHTSHADE:

You stupid fools, there is a way,  
for me to have my wish today.  
I know that I can find a room,  
where Princess Rose will meet her doom.  
Ahh ha ha ha haa!

(DIRECT TO AUDIENCE.) Who boo'ed me? Was it you  
Madam? (POINTING.) Don't think I haven't noticed  
the rest of you. Once I've finished with the  
Princess, I'll be back for you lot. I have a spell  
that will turn you all into "Z-list" celebrities,  
then send you into the Australian jungle where  
you'll be taunted by two Geordie dwarfs. You'll be  
sorry when they make you eat deep fried Kangaroo's  
Peanuts.

Ahh ha ha ha haa!

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE EXITS.

KNUD:

Deep fried Kangaroo's Peanuts?

WIGARNA:

I think the script may have had a spelling error.

KNUD:

I can't see 'ow Rose can prick 'er finger when  
there's no spinning wheel to prick it on. Unless  
I'm missing something.

WIGARNA:

You've been missing something for years.

FAIRY ASTOR:

The girls and I have tried so well,  
to keep Rose from this awful spell.  
But time gets short with every day,  
and Nightshade might just get her way.  
We'll keep a vigil from now on.  
Let's hope the birthday won't be long.  
Once over, we can let it rest,  
but Nightshade always does her best,  
to outwit all and do the deed.  
We'll try to not let her succeed.

ALL OF THE FAIRIES EXIT. KNUD AND  
WIGARNA GRADUALLY WALK FORWARD ONTO THE  
APRON AS THEY SAY THE NEXT FEW LINES.

KNUD:

That's easy for them to say, but we're the ones  
who's gonna get it in the neck if it goes wrong.

WIGARNA: It won't go wrong. Don't be so worried. My spirit guide says, "Be positive and always look on the bright side".

KNUD AND WIGARNA SING THE SONG AS THE  
TABS CLOSE BEHIND THEN LEAVING THEM ON  
THE APRON.

*Musical number: Knud and Mystic Wigarna.*

*Suggestion: A shortened version of - Always Look on the Bright Side of Life. - Eric Idle (From Monty Python's Life of Brian.) Remove the long "chatty" intro and shorten the main part.*

KNUD AND WIGARNA EXIT.

**END SCENE.**

**SCENE 3: A SMALL ROOM IN A TOWER.**

THE TABS OPEN TO SHOW A SMALL ROOM.  
THE ROOM CONTAINS A COUCH TO ONE SIDE  
(WITH CASTORS) AND THERE IS A SPINNING  
WHEEL IN THE CENTRE.

THE MOOD IS DARK AND DANGEROUS. (COLD  
OR GREEN COLOURED LIGHTING.)

*Note: This can just be a small easy set in front of the main palace,  
even just with only the spinning wheel and a couch. It needs to be  
able to be struck quite fast at the end of the scene, as they go  
back to the palace.*

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE IS FOUND SITTING  
BEHIND THE SPINNING WHEEL TURNING IT.  
SHE IS "DISGUISED" IN A LARGE CLOAK AND  
HOOD.

SHE STANDS AND APPROACHES THE AUDIENCE.

NIGHTSHADE: Say nothing you ugly people of (NAME OF TOWN) for  
my prediction is about to come true.

Ahh ha ha ha haa!

No one can stop me now. Not even Nigel Farage.

Who boo'ed me? Was it you again Madam? Do it one  
more time and I will create a spell that will make  
you pass wind loudly every time you stand in the  
checkout queue in Tesco's. (OR LOCAL SUPERMARKET.)

Yes. There is someone more evil then anyone on  
Eastenders. More frightening than Frosty Knickers  
from The Chase. More scary than Mr Bean on a blind  
date.

ME! Ahh ha ha ha haa!

Say one word and I will make you sit in those hard  
seats even longer.

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE RETURNS TO SIT BEHIND  
THE SPINNING WHEEL AND MAKES IT TURN.  
SHE BENDS LOW OVER/BEHIND IT AND HIDES  
HERSELF WITHIN HER CLOAK

PRINCESS ROSE ENTERS OBVIOUSLY LOOKING  
FOR SOMEWHERE TO HIDE.

PRINCESS ROSE: This seems a good place to hide. I certainly don't  
recognise this room. I don't think I've ever been  
in here before. Knud stands no chance of finding  
me.

(NOTICING SPINNING WHEEL.) But what is this? A  
wheel. Spinning round and round.

NIGHTSHADE: (SPEAKING BUT NOT REVEALING HERSELF.) Come closer  
child. Look into the wheel. Watch it turn and  
spin.

PRINCESS ROSE: Look at the way the light plays on it. (TO  
AUDIENCE.) Should I touch it? What do you think?  
(AUDIENCE REACTION.)

NIGHTSHADE: Look into the wheel my child. Watch it turn and  
spin.

NIGHTSHADE LIFTS HER HEAD AND SLOWLY STANDS, STILL SLIGHTLY BENT OVER.

PRINCESS ROSE: Oh I'm sorry. I didn't see you there. Is this your wheel? And what is this? (POINTING TO SPINDLE.)

NIGHTSHADE: That is the most important part of all. The spindle. The centre of everything. You may touch it. Touch it my child.

PRINCESS ROSE: No! I dare not put my finger near it.

NIGHTSHADE: Touch it. Touch it my child.

PRINCESS ROSE: (TURNING TO AUDIENCE.) What do you think? (AUDIENCE REACTION.)

NIGHTSHADE: (TO AUDIENCE.) Oh yes she should. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Oh yes she should. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Touch it. Touch it my child.

THE PRINCESS ROSE LEANS FORWARD AND REACHES OUT TOWARDS THE SPINNING WHEEL (BUT DOESN'T TOUCH IT.)

PRINCESS ROSE: (TO AUDIENCE.) Should I touch it?

NIGHTSHADE: Touch it my child.

PRINCESS ROSE LEANS IN AND TOUCHES THE SPINDLE.

THERE IS A FLASH. THE LIGHTING DROPS TO A MORE SINISTER LEVEL (WITH PERHAPS A SINGLE SPOTLIGHT.)

PRINCESS ROSE: Ahhhhhh! My finger. Blood. My blood flows onto the thread.

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE STANDS FULLY ERECT AND THROWS OFF HER CLOAK.

NIGHTSHADE: Ahh ha ha ha haa! My spell is cast. Death! You should die my child but this time it is not so. You will sleep. Sleep for one hundred years while you and your family are forgotten. Lost in time. My revenge will be complete.

PRINCESS ROSE: (STAGGERING SLIGHTLY.) I feel so sleepy.

NIGHTSHADE: Rest my child. Rest and be forgotten.

THE PRINCESS STAGGERS OVER TO THE COUCH AND FALLS ASLEEP ON IT.

NIGHTSHADE: Revenge! The revenge of the dark side. In one hundred years this palace will be lost. No one will ever find the beautiful Princess Rose.

Rose! That's it! Roses. Climbing roses. The beauty of the flower but with the hidden enemy of the sharp thorns.

I will wrap this place in a cloak of thorns. Thick rose bushes that climb and intertwine until it is lost forever. No man will ever get through my thorny bush.

Ahh ha ha ha haa!

FAIRY NIGHTSHADE EXITS. THE LIGHTING RETURNS TO NORMAL.

KNUD ENTERS AND SEES ROSE ON THE COUCH.

KNUD: Ha! Found you. You didn't think I'd know about this hiding place did you? Well actually I didn't. But I just saw someone coming out of 'ere and....

Rose what's wrong?

KNUD GOES TO ROSE AND KNEELS BESIDE THE COUCH.

KNUD: Rose! Wake up. Don't go to sleep. It's Knud. I've found you. I win.

This isn't right. I can't wake 'er.

KNUD SEES THE SPINNING WHEEL AND GOES TOWARDS IT.

KNUD: A spinning wheel. And look! Blood on the thread. Oh no! The spell.

(SHOUTING FOR ASSISTANCE.) Help! Help me someone. It's Rose. The spell.

WIGARNA ENTERS AT SPEED.

WIGARNA: What is it?

KNUD: Look!

THEY BOTH GO TO ROSE ON THE COUCH AND TAP HER HAND TO TRY TO WAKE HER.

WIGARNA: My prediction. I told you this was her future.

KNUD: We must get 'er away from this evil place.

KNUD AND WIGARNA PUSH ROSE, STILL ON THE COUCH, ONTO THE APRON OF THE STAGE. THE DIALOGUE CONTINUES AS THE TABS CLOSE BEHIND THEM (LEAVING THEM ON THE APRON WHILE THE SCENE IS CHANGED BACK TO THE PALACE.

END SCENE.

**SCENE 4: A CORRIDOR IN THE ROYAL PALACE.**

PLAYED ON THE APRON

KNUD AND WIGARNA ARE PUSHING THE COUCH THAT CONTAINS THE SLEEPING PRINCESS ROSE. THEY PUSH IT THROUGH THE CLOSING TABS FROM THE LAST SCENE.

WIGARNA: Now look what you've done.  
KNUD: Who? Me?  
WIGARNA: Yes you.  
KNUD: We was only playing 'ide and seek.  
WIGARNA: And now she's playing hide and SLEEP!  
KNUD: But don't she look lovely. What do you think she's dreaming about?  
WIGARNA: I bet it's her Prince from the future.  
KNUD: What Prince from the future?  
WIGARNA: The one she's dreaming about.

*Musical Number: Knud and Wigarna.*

*Suggestion: Mr Sandman. (Mister Sandman) written by Pat Ballard, performed by The Chordettes. You need to change the words from "Me" to "Her". The line "Mr Sandman, bring me a dream," needs to be changed to "bring her a dream." And so on.*

KNUD: I've just realised. Didn't the curse have something about us all going to sleep as well?  
WIGARNA: You're right. But I've got a way round that for us two.  
KNUD: 'ave yer?  
WIGARNA: Well, sort of. But right now we need to get back to the King and Queen to explain what's happened to the Princess.

THE TABS OPEN AS THE SCENE ENDS AND KNUD AND WIGARNA PUSH THE COUCH (WITH PRINCESS ROSE) INTO THE NEXT SCENE.

**END SCENE.**



**SCENE 5: THE ROYAL PALACE.**

KNUD AND WIGARNA PUSH THE COUCH (WITH ROSE) FROM THE APRON THROUGH THE OPENING TABS INTO THE SCENE.

THE KING AND QUEEN ARE ON THEIR THRONES. THE KING IS NODDING OFF TO SLEEP.

NURSE NANNY KNOO IS CHATTING TO THE QUEEN.

A FEW SERVANTS STAND ABOUT LOOKING SLIGHTLY SLEEPY.

STANDING CLOSE TO THE KING IS A SERVANT WHO HAS A TIN TRAY BALANCED ON HIS/HER FINGERS. THE TIN TRAY CONTAINS A PYRAMID OF FERRERO ROCHER STYLED CHOCOLATES IN GOLD FOIL. NOTE: THE PYRAMID IS GLUED TOGETHER TO HOLD THE SHAPE. (BUT NOT GLUED TO THE TRAY.)

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Look! It's the Princess.

THE QUEEN AND NURSE NANNY KNOO HURRY FORWARD TO LOOK AND HELP.

QUEEN KITTY: It's happened.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Has it?

QUEEN KITTY: It really has happened.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: What's happened?

QUEEN KITTY: A prick.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Pardon?

QUEEN KITTY: She's been pricked.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Thank goodness. For a moment there I thought you meant...

QUEEN KITTY: The spell. Tell the King.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I'll tell the King.

NURSE NANNY KNOO RUNS TO THE KING WHO IS STILL ON HIS THRONE AND NODDING OFF TO SLEEP.

QUEEN KITTY: Wake him up.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I've not got anything to...

NURSE NANNY KNOO GRABS THE TRAY FROM THE SERVANT NEAR THE KING. THE FERRERO ROCHER PYRAMID FLIES INTO THE AIR AND LANDS IN ONE PIECE. (CAUGHT BY THE SERVANT IF POSSIBLE.) NURSE NANNY KNOO PICKS UP THE PYRAMID AND SHOWS IT TO THE AUDIENCE, AND THE SERVANT.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: (IN SURPRISE.) They're glued together. You glued them together. Look! They're glued together. You cheeky young thing.

QUEEN KITTY: The King. Wake the King.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Oh yes. Sorry. But did you know these were glued together? In rehearsals they went everywhere.

QUEEN KITTY: The King. Wake the King.

NURSE NANNY KNOO THROWS THE PYRAMID TO THE SERVANT THEN TAKING THE TIN TRAY, WHACKS THE KING AROUND THE HEAD.

THE KING OPENS HIS EYES FOR A SECOND AND IMMEDIATELY DROPS BACK TO SLEEP.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: It's not working.

QUEEN KITTY: Do it again.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Don't I need a Royal warrant or something, to hit a King?

QUEEN KITTY: Just wake him.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: I'll get sent to the tower if I hit... (TO AUDIENCE.) What do you think? Should I hit him again? (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Oh no I shouldn't. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Oh no I shouldn't. (AUDIENCE REACTION.) Oh alright then.

NURSE NANNY KNOO WHACKS THE KING AROUND THE HEAD WITH THE TIN TRAY.

THE KING OPENS HIS EYES FOR A SECOND AND IMMEDIATELY DROPS BACK TO SLEEP.

NURSE NANNY KNOO: Actually I'm feeling sleepy myself. (SHE WHACKS HERSELF ON THE HEAD WITH THE TIN TRAY, THEN STAGGERS A LITTLE AND ENDS UP FALLING ONTO THE OTHER THRONE WHERE SHE GOES TO SLEEP.)

ALL OF THE STAFF AND COURTIERS GO TO SLEEP AND FALL TO THE FLOOR.

QUEEN KITTY: I say. I feel slightly sleepy too. Will someone please record Eastenders for me.

THE QUEEN STAGGERS A LITTLE AND FALLS OVER, GOING IMMEDIATELY TO SLEEP. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT SHE FALLS ASLEEP ON ANY STEPS GOING UP TO THE THRONES, OR LEANING AGAINST THE THRONES, OR CERTAINLY SOMEWHERE THAT SHE CAN HOLD THE POSITION EASILY.

KNUD: It's getting to me as well. (YAWNING AND STRETCHING.)

WIGARNA: Don't go to sleep. (SHAKING KNUD.) If you go to sleep now, you'll be asleep for one hundred years.

KNUD: One hundred years? I don't wanna sleep for one hundred years. (YAWNING AND STRETCHING.)

WIGARNA: (SHAKING KNUD AWAKE.) Knud, Knud. Don't go to sleep. Wait there.

WIGARNA RUNS TO THE WINGS AND FETCHES TWO FOLDING CHAIRS. ONE IS GIVEN TO KNUD WHO IS ONLY JUST AWAKE.

KNUD OPENS OUT THE CHAIR AND ALMOST ASLEEP, GOES TO SIT IN IT.

KNUD: That's very kind of you. I'll sleep on this.

WIGARNA: It's not for sleeping. (WIGARNA GATHERS UP THE CHAIRS AND KNUD AND STARTS TO PULL EVERYTHING TOWARDS THE STEPS INTO THE AUDIENCE.)

KNUD: (SLEEPILY.) Where are we going?

WIGARNA: Back to the future.

KNUD: Will there be hover boards?

THEY REACH THE STEPS AND AS THEY GO DOWN TOWARDS THE AUDIENCE KNUD WAKES UP.

KNUD: What's 'appening? I don't get it.

WIGARNA: Look up there. (POINTING BACK TO THE STAGE.) Everyone's going to sleep.

KNUD: But...

WIGARNA: Look down here. (POINTING TO AUDIENCE.) The audience are not going to sleep.

KNUD: (ASIDE.) They will if you keep up this bad acting.

WIGARNA: Everyone in the pantomime is about to go to sleep for one hundred years.

KNUD: Aren't we in that pantomime?

WIGARNA: Not now. We're part of the audience. The spell doesn't affect us down here.

KNUD: Wow! 'ow clever is that? Is that where you disappeared to before?

WIGARNA: Exactly.

KNUD: So you and me is gonna zoom ahead one 'undred years?

WIGARNA: That's right.

KNUD: Whoa! 'old on!

KNUD RUSHES BACK ONTO THE STAGE AND DIRECTLY INTO THE WINGS.

WIGARNA: Where are you going? Knud! We have to do this NOW before the spell works on us.

KNUD RETURNS (QUICKLY) AND RUNS DOWN TO WIGARNA, A SQUARE OF KITCHEN TINFOIL AND A TEDDY BEAR.

KNUD: (HOLDING UP TEDDY BEAR.) I want you to meet Mr Poochie. If we is going on a trip, I can't sleep without Mr Poochie.

WIGARNA: We're not going on a trip. You won't be sleeping.

KNUD: No, if we's away for a 'undred years, we 'as to sleep.

WIGARNA: No we don't. (POINTING TO AUDIENCE.) They're not sleeping.

KNUD: I'm not so sure.

WIGARNA: And what's that? (POINTING TO TINFOIL.)

KNUD: Insurance against radiation.

WIGARNA: What?

KNUD: Radiation. For during this zooming Ahead one 'undred years. (DEMONSTRATING WITH TEDDY BEAR.) It'll cause so much friction and 'eat as we blast through the ionosphere...

WIGARNA: We're not going anywhere near the ionosphere.

KNUD: ... we should cover our brains in case we get blasted with radioactive zezzbeams.

WIGARNA: What?

KNUD: Zezzbeams!

WIGARNA: There won't be any zezzbeams.

KNUD: I'm not taking any chances. 'ere! 'old Mr Poochie. (KNUD GIVES WIGARNA THE BEAR THEN QUICKLY TWISTS THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE FOIL TO MAKE A HAT LIKE A KNOTTED HANDKERCHIEF. THEN PUTS IT ON.)

WIGARNA: You look a fool.

KNUD: Not as much of a fool as you'll look if them one 'undred years of zezzbeam particles zap yer brain.

THEY BOTH OPEN UP THEIR CHAIRS AND SIT DOWN IN THE ISLE.

WIGARNA: The spell is going to make a impenetrable hedge of thorny roses all around the palace. No one will be able to get through it.

KNUD: Impenetrable then?

WIGARNA: That's exactly what I said.

KNUD: 'ow do you know all this?

WIGARNA: I bought a programme.

KNUD: Did you get me any raffle tickets?

WIGARNA: Shut up and watch the hedge grow.

BACK ON STAGE THE CHORUS OF DANCERS ENTER. THEY ARE DRESSED IN GREEN OUTFITS TO SIGNIFY PLANTS STALKS. THEY HAVE ROSES ATTACHED, EITHER AS HATS OR PARTS OF THEIR CLOTHING.

THEY DANCE AND SLOWLY FORM A HEDGE THAT WINDS AROUND ITSELF.

*Musical Number: The Dancers of the Rose Hedge.*

*Suggestion: Russian Dance. (Nutcracker.) Tchaikovsky.*

AT THE END OF THE DANCE THEY FORM A  
STATIC HEDGE ACROSS THE STAGE AND HOLD  
THEIR POSITIONS UNTIL THE TABS CLOSE.

TABS CLOSE.

STILL IN THE AUDIENCE KNUD AND WIGARNA.  
STAND TO ADDRESS THE AUDIENCE.

WIGARNA: Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls. There will  
now be an interval of one hundred years. Please  
return to your seats at the end of ninety nine  
years so that you don't miss the start of the  
second half.

KNUD AND WIGARNA FOLD UP THEIR CHAIRS  
AND WANDER TOWARDS THE EXITS MUTTERING  
IN AN INFORMAL WAY.

KNUD: Can I have me ice cream?

WIGARNA: You'll have to lick it slowly if you want it to  
last one hundred years.

KNUD: You said ninety nine.

WIGARNA: That's an ice cream with a flake in?

KNUD: What is?

WIGARNA: A ninety nine.

KNUD: You got any money?

WIGARNA: Plenty. A whole groat. It should buy us all we  
need plus enough to have dinner in the (LOCAL  
HOTEL) after the show.

THEY BOTH EXIT THE AUDITORIUM.

**END SCENE.**

**END ACT.**

**INTERVAL.**

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