

Beauty and the Beast

For
Evaluation
Only



A musical play for young actors

Features easy songs set to well known tunes

Master Galtibran tries to fulfil his daughter Beauty's simple request. Join him on his journey as he crosses paths with pirates, has a misunderstanding with two squires, and journeys to a forgotten castle in the North of which a legend has been told.

This is a play with 13 main characters and a recommended minimum of 12 chorus members (this can be reduced to 4 if their parts are tripled.) There are 2 duets, 2 solo numbers and 5 ensemble numbers with one optional addition. There are two dances with the option for an additional one during the wolves song, and a whole cast dance/curtain call. Duration approx 60 mins.

Script and Music © MAGIC PARROT PRODUCTIONS UK

**The dual format CD supplied with this script contains audio files and text files.
Play the audio files on a CD Player. Print the script, OHP sheets and sheet music on a PC.**

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CAST LIST

Master Geltibran (<i>Dad of B, A & M</i>)	Joe (<i>the Cabin Boy</i>)	Dig (<i>Beast's Apprentice Gardener</i>)
Beauty (<i>Master G's daughter</i>)	Captain Jolly Roger (<i>Female Pirate</i>)	Doug (<i>Beast's Apprentice Gardener</i>)
Adeliza (<i>Master G's daughter</i>)	Bosun (<i>Female Pirate</i>)	Beast (<i>aka Kevin</i>)
Mariella (<i>Master G's daughter</i>)	Curly (<i>a Squire</i>)	
Mrs Cooper (<i>the Housekeeper</i>)	Butterfingers (<i>a Squire</i>)	
CHORUS: Pirates (<i>min 4</i>)	Flower Dancers (<i>min 4</i>)	Wolves (<i>min 4</i>)

PROPS

Scene One

General – Pile of bags/suitcases
For Mrs Cooper – Clipboard/checklist, Pen
For Joe – Brown Paper Package.
For Master Geltibran – Pocket Watch

Scene Two

General – Silver glitter/confetti for water splash
Pirates – Mops/dusters/Buckets
Captain Roger – Telescope
Master Geltibran – Bags
Bosun – Plank, Cutlass

Scene Three

Adeliza and Mariella – Fashion magazines
Beauty – Basket of mending
Mrs Cooper – Basket of shopping

Scene Four

Curly– Rapier, Travelling Pack (rucksack + bedroll)

Butterfingers – Rapier, Travelling Pack (rucksack + bedroll + blanket), Hanky

Scene Five

Curly– Rapier, Travelling Pack (rucksack + bedroll)
Butterfingers – Rapier, Travelling Pack (rucksack + bedroll + blanket), Hanky

Scene Six

Curly– Rapier, Travelling Pack (rucksack + bedroll)
Butterfingers – Rapier, Travelling Pack (rucksack + bedroll + blanket), Hanky

Scene Seven

General – Rosebush with detachable red roses.
Flower dancers – Flowers/Flowers in pots

Scene Eight

General – Rosebush with a single detachable red rose.

Scene Nine

General – Rosebush with a single detachable red rose.
Curly – Prophecy manuscript

SCENERY

Scene One Pile of bags is centre stage. Small table with a vase of flowers. Backdrop of hallway with family portraits.

Scene Two Backdrop of ships main mast and cabin deck. A couple of crates piled to side up and downstage.

Scene Three Backdrop same as in Scene One. Small coffee table with magazines and a vase of flowers. 2 chairs.

Scene Four Backdrop of trees.

Scene Five Backdrop of trees. Additional stand-alone trees are added to signify denser forestland.

Scene Six Backdrop of trees. Additional trees are removed.

Scene Seven Backdrop of a garden with castle in the background. Rose Bush with detachable roses.

Flowers/Flower pots are placed onstage around the edge during their dance in this scene.

Scene Eight Backdrop as in Scene Seven. Rose bush situated as in Scene Seven.

Flowers/Flower pots are still onstage where the Flower Dancers placed them during their dance in Scene Seven.

Scene Nine Backdrop as in Scene Seven. Rose bush is situated as in Scene Seven but there is only one rose left on the bush.

Flowers/Flower pots are still onstage where the Flower Dancers placed them during their dance in Scene Seven

COSTUMES

Master Geltibran

Pocket Watch required as part of the costume for Scene One.

Scenes 1-2 require Master Geltibran to be dressed smartly as befits a gentleman.

Scenes 4-7 require Master Geltibran to be dressed in rags so that he looks like he has swum a mile and trekked for days wearing the same clothes. Scenes 8-9 require Master Geltibran to be dressed smartly once again.

** For quick changes Master Geltibran can wear rags underneath a jacket which can be removed for scenes 4-7 and replaced for scenes 8-9.

Beauty Wears a plain simple dress.

Adeliza and Mariella They look very hip and are dressed in the latest fashions.

Mrs Cooper Blouse and skirt. Hair in a bun preferably. Glasses would make a nice additional touch.

Pirates, including Bosun Hair in 2 plaits if it's long enough. Cutlasses required as part of costume. Would suggest you stick to naval colours of blue and white striped tops and black/navy/white shorts.

Joe: As pirates with the addition of a bandana over hair, and no cutlass.

Captain: Basic costume is the same as for pirates. The captain also has a jacket and a tri-corn hat (or a baseball cap with captain emblazoned on it.)

Butterfingers A large hanky is needed as part of his costume for scene four.

Tunic and leggings – Tunic has a shield and a silhouette emblem printed on it e.g. a tree, a sun etc Sword belt.

Curly Tunic and leggings – Tunic has a shield and the silhouetted emblem of a rearing black horse printed on it. Sword belt.

Dig and Doug Green tunics and leggings.

Beast/Kevin Furry body suit is ideal. Otherwise could be dressed in brown/black and wear a mask that leaves the mouth area clear. Smart shirt and trousers for when Beast changes to Kevin in Scene Nine.

Flower Dancers Pastel Colours. Combination of tights/leggings, leotards/t-shirts. Light ballet skirts/tutus that are ideally the same colour as their basic costume. Hair should be left down. Crowns of flowers for the hair would be a great added touch.

Wolves Dressed in grey. Either proper wolf costumes or dressed in grey tops and trousers with a mask, tail, and furry waistcoat.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Script by Jennifer Cross

TRACKS : 1-12 (with vocals.)	TRACKS 13-24: (without vocals)
1 & 13 Alley-Alley-0	8 & 20 The Yawning man
2 & 14 Sailor Jig	9 & 21 Nothing
3 & 15 Yo ho!	10 & 22 Flower dance
4 & 16 Water splash	11 & 23 Roses
5 & 17 Yo Ho (Reprise)	12 & 24 Lets all have a party
6 & 18 Home for Good	
7 & 19 Wolves	

Scene One – Master Geltibran’s Hall.

*(Mrs Cooper is standing next to a pile of bags and checking things off on a long list.)
(ENTER Joe from stage right. He’s holding a wrapped paper package. He waits to be noticed.)*

MRS COOPER: *(noticing Joe.)* You boy, don’t just stand around doing nothing, make yourself useful and fetch the basket from the kitchen. *(She continues checking her list.)*

JOE: But miss...*(she ignores him)* miss...miss?

MRS COOPER: *(turns and notices he hasn’t moved.)* Are you still here? Stop dithering boy and get the basket. The master will be leaving soon. The delivery boy hasn’t arrived with his breakfast yet, so he’ll need something to eat on the way to port.

JOE: Here I’m why that’s. *(Mrs Cooper looks puzzled)* ...I mean that’s why I’m here. I passed the delivery boy on my way in and he gave me the master’s kippers. My name’s Joe and I am a cabin boy, not your dogsbody.

MRS COOPER: Well Joe, if you’re not here to help, buzz off. I can’t stand around chatting all day. *(She turns back to her list.)*

JOE: *(trying again)* Look, I’m the cabin boy on Captain Roger’s ship. He sent me with a message for Master Geltibran, and don’t you want these? *(He holds up the packet of kippers)*

MRS COOPER: Give them here. *(Takes the kippers.)* Now, what’s the message then?

JOE: The Captain told me to show Master Geltibran to his berth onboard the good ship ‘Scavenger’. The cargo is loaded, and everything is ready to set sail. We’re just waiting for him. *(He holds out his hand for a tip and she shakes it)* Aren’t you gonna give me a tip?

MRS COOPER: All right, I’ll give you one of my best... Never wash dishes in dirty water!

JOE: What kind of tip do you call that?

MRS COOPER: The type that will give you clean dishes. Now take these bags while I tell the master you’re here. *(Joe EXITS stage right, picking up a bag . Mrs Cooper EXITS stage left.) (ENTER stage left, Master Geltibran and Beauty.)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Captain Roger wants to sail with the tide and so; the time has come for me to bid my farewells.

BEAUTY: I wish you didn’t have to go, papa. I’ll miss you so much.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I’ll miss you too Beauty, but if I don’t make this trip and sell my cargo, then we’ll have nothing to live on and I’ll have no money to buy you nice things.

BEAUTY: I’d do without nice things if it meant that you didn’t have to travel away from home so much.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: My dear Beauty, I know you are happy with the simple pleasures in life, I only wish your sisters were so easily pleased. *(Looks at his pocket watch)* They are coming to see me off aren’t they? I can’t wait much longer.

BEAUTY: They’re on their way. They were just fixing their hair. *(ENTER stage left, Adeliza)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(greeting)* Adeliza.

ADELIZA: Hello Papa. Hello Child.

BEAUTY: I’m not a child.

ADELIZA: Papa, I hope you have a safe trip. *(ENTER stage left, Mariella.)*

MARIELLA: Papa? Is it time? Are you leaving?

BEAUTY: Hello Mariella.

MARIELLA: *(dismissively)* Oh hello Child.

BEAUTY: *(getting cross)* I’m not a child!

ADELIZA: Ooh the child’s getting grumpy! Maybe she needs a nap.

MARIELLA: Maybe she needs her blankie.

BEAUTY: I don’t need a nap or a blankie...and I’m not a child!

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Girls, girls, stop arguing. I have to leave now.

BEAUTY, ADELIZA & MARIELLA: We’re sorry papa.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: That’s better. Now is there anything you would like me to bring home for you when I return?

ADELIZA: Papa, I want three satin gowns, four silver rings and five ruby necklaces.

MARIELLA: Papa, bring me six silk gowns, eight gold rings and ten diamond necklaces...and a peacock.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: And what would you like Beauty?

BEAUTY: I just want you to come home safely, father.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: But there must be something I can bring for you? Don't you want any fancy gowns or jewellery?

BEAUTY: No, I don't think so. But if it would make you happy, I would like a single red rose.

ADELIZA: A rose! What are you going to do with that?

MARIELLA: I told you she was simple. I mean, of all the things she could've asked for, she goes and asks for a rose when there's a whole garden full of them outside.

BEAUTY: The garden may be full of roses, but none of them are red.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Yes...Quite so... Now girls, the time has come for me to leave *(The girls hug him)* Adieu, my daughters. Until we meet again take care of one another.

ADELIZA & MARIELLA: Goodbye papa, farewell.

MARIELLA: ...And don't forget my presents.

ADELIZA: ...Or mine. *(EXIT stage left, Adeliza and Mariella.) (ENTER stage right, Joe)*

JOE: Sir, if you're ready then we must go as the tide will be turning soon.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Come Beauty; give your papa a final hug.

BEAUTY: I'll miss you papa. Don't stay away too long.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I'll miss you too. Don't let your sisters get you down while I am gone. Be strong and the time will soon pass. *(He gives her a final hug)* Goodbye my dear. *(to Joe)* Lead the way son.

JOE: This way then, sir.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Goodbye Beauty. *(EXIT stage right, Master Geltibran and Joe.)*

BEAUTY: *(waving into wings)* Goodbye papa. *(Said to herself)* I do hope he'll have a safe voyage. *(EXIT stage left, Beauty.)*

Scene Two – On board the Scavenger.

(We open on the deck of the Scavenger. Some pirates are swabbing the decks with mops and dusters.)

***** CD TRACK 1: SONG – The Big Ship Sailed on the Alley-alley-o *****

*The Big Ship sails on the alley-alley-o, The alley-alley-o, the alley-alley-o.
The Big Ship sailed on the alley-alley-o, On its way to distant places.*

*With wind in its sails, it will float across the sea, Float across the sea, float across the sea.
With wind in its sails, it will float across the sea, Taking goods to foreign markets.*

*But Captain Roger has a nasty little plan, A nasty little plan, a nasty little plan.
Captain Roger has a nasty little plan, Which he'll soon put in to action. (Repeat Verse 1)*

***** CD TRACK 2 Sailor Jig Instrumental (Pirates dance a jig/hornpipe here with their mops/dusters) *****

(ENTER Captain Roger, stage right, carrying a telescope. The Bosun accompanies him.)

CAPTAIN: Avast, ye scurvy swabs. Stop your piratical jiggling and return to your duties, before you give us away. *(EXIT pirates.)*

CAPTAIN: *(to Bosun)* Bosun, where be Master Jellyban?

BOSUN: He was last seen downing his breakfast in the galley.

CAPTAIN: Glad to see the voyage hasn't lost him his appetite.

BOSUN: Especially with his next adventure, eh Cap'n. He'll make something a good meal.

CAPTAIN: Aye. That he will. *(Both laugh raucously.) (ENTER Master Geltibran stage left.)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Ah, Captain, there you are.

CAPTAIN: Here I am indeed, Master Jellyban.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I do wish you would get my name right. It's Geltibran.

CAPTAIN: That's what I said...Jellyban.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Geltibran...Geltibran. It's not hard to remember.

CAPTAIN: Whatever. What can I do for you sir?

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I was wondering how much longer you think we will be at sea?

CAPTAIN: Bash me with a bowsprit! Don't tell me you grown weary of this luxury cruise so quickly?

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Quickly? We've been at sea for nigh on three months!

CAPTAIN: To a pirate...I mean...sailor, that's nothing.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Yes, but I'm not a sailor, and I really want to get home to my daughters.

CAPTAIN: Don't worry you'll be leaving my ship sooner than you think.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Oh have you sighted land then?

CAPTAIN: Not exactly.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: What do you mean not exactly? Do you have any idea how far we are from the nearest land?

CAPTAIN: Let me see. *(Puts telescope to eye and then scans the horizon)* Half a mile...*(points telescope downwards)* ...straight down!

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Seriously, Captain, have you any idea where we are?

CAPTAIN: Of course I do. We may have been blown a bit off course but trust me, you'll be off this ship before nightfall.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Oh that is good news. I'd better go and start packing my bags then.

CAPTAIN: Aye, you do that, and we'll have you off this ship before you know it.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Right, I will. *(EXIT Master Geltibran stage left.)*

CAPTAIN: All hands on deck, Bosun; and send the boy to keep an eye on Jellyban.

BOSUN: Aye, aye, Cap'n. *(EXIT Bosun, stage left.) (ENTER pirates.)*

CAPTAIN: *(announces)* Right swabs, the time has come to return to our roots, and resume our pirating ways. *(Pirates cheer.)*

***** **CD TRACK 3 Yo ho– (Tune of “What Shall We Do With A Drunken Sailor?”)** *****

ALL: (sing) Yo ho! Yo ho! Yo ho! Yo ho!

CAPTAIN: What shall we do to a wealthy merchant? What shall we do to a wealthy merchant?
What shall we do to a wealthy merchant? Travelling on the Scavenger.

ALL: Yo-ho, we are pirates. Yo-ho, dreaded pirates. Yo-ho, fearsome pirates. Terrors of the ocean!

PIRATES: Take his money and steal his cargo. Tie him to the mast in his undies.
Make him walk off the plank. Feed him to the sharks.

ALL: (sing) Yo-ho, we are pirates. Yo-ho, dreaded pirates. Yo-ho, fearsome pirates. Terrors of the ocean!
(STOP SONG HERE IF TIME IS SHORT)

REPRISE Yo ho! Yo ho! Yo ho! Yo ho!

There's nothing better than a pirate's life. There's nothing better than a pirate's life.

There's nothing better than a pirate's life. A pirate's life for me.

Yo-ho, we are pirates. Yo-ho, dreaded pirates. Yo-ho, fearsome pirates. Terrors of the ocean.

There's nothing better than a pirate's life. There's nothing better than a pirate's life.

There's nothing better than a pirate's life. A pirate's life for me.

Ooo-arghh, dreaded pirates. Ooo-arghh, fearsome pirates. Ooo-arghh, menacing pirates. Terrors of the ocean.

ALL: (spoken) Ooo-arghhhhhhh!

JOE: *(rushing on.)* He's coming up, Cap'n.

CAPTAIN: *Take up your positions. (Pirates all take up positions ready to jump out and grab Master Geltibran)*

CAPTAIN: Right swabs, not a sound until I give the signal. *(ENTER Master Geltibran, stage left, struggling with bags.)*

CAPTAIN: Joe! Jelp Jellyban with his bags. *(Joe takes Master Geltibran's bags from him, and throws them overboard.)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Hey! What are you doing? My bags! Captain, I hope this boy will be severely punished!

CAPTAIN: On the contrary, well done my boy!

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Captain, I must protest!

CAPTAIN: Protest all you like. Now cease your twittering, you old trout. Grab him, swabs. *(Several pirates jump out and restrain Master Geltibran.)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Oh! What treachery is this?

CAPTAIN: Allow me to introduce myself properly, Master Jellyban. I am the dreaded pirate captain, Jolly Roger, tyrant of the seven seas. You, my dear Jellyban, are my next victim. I'm robbing you of your goods and money, and then you'll be taking a short walk for me.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I'm not walking anywhere for you, you filthy, mutinous, black-hearted blaggard!

CAPTAIN: I'm afraid you don't have any choice in the matter. *(To Bosun)* Bosun, bring out the plank. *(EXIT Bosun, stage left)*
It's time for Jellyban to take the long drop. (Pirates start to softly chant 'Plank, Plank, Plank'.)

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I'd rather not. Look, take the money but give me passage to port first.

CAPTAIN: Can't do that...against the pirate code...you have to walk the plank. *(ENTER Bosun, stage left. Bosun extends the plank off the edge of the stage – stage left.)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: But I can't swim.

BOSUN: Great! We won't have to lash weights to your ankles then, will we?

CAPTAIN: Blindfold, Joe.

JOE: Why? What have I done?

CAPTAIN: I meant get the blindfold and blindfold him, Joe.

JOE: Oh, right!

MASTER GELTIBRAN: No need for that. I will look death in the face and not be afraid.

CAPTAIN: On to the plank with him then, me hearties! *(The pirates push Master Geltibran onto the edge of the plank.)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: All right! All right! No need to push! *(He shuffles to the edge of the plank then stops and turns around trembling.)* I am afraid really. Are you sure you won't reconsider?

CAPTAIN: No! But I will say this- land was sighted a mile that way. *(He indicates offstage)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: And to think I thought I'd be safe with a crew of girls. I never thought you might be pirates.

CAPTAIN: Never underestimate girls. Now, I grow wearisome of this sport, somebody poke him.

*(Bosun steps forward and pokes him with his cutlass. Master Geltibran jumps off the plank, plummeting with a cry, and disappears from view. A loud splash is heard ***** CD TRACK 4- WATER SPLASH ***** followed by an up-splash of water onto the stage, achieved by throwing silver glitter/confetti on stage – Pirates cheer.)*

***** **CD TRACK 5 Yo ho reprise (Tune of Drunken Sailor)** *****

ALL: REPRISE Yo ho! Yo ho! Yo ho! Yo ho!
CAPTAIN, BOSUN & JOE sing a line each, and are joined by the **PIRATES** to sing the last line:

There's nothing better than a pirate's life. There's nothing better than a pirate's life.
There's nothing better than a pirate's life. A pirate's life for me.

ALL: Yo-ho, we are pirates. Yo-ho, dreaded pirates. Yo-ho, fearsome pirates. Terrors of the ocean.

CAPTAIN, BOSUN & JOE sing a line each, and are joined by the **PIRATES** to sing the last line:

There's nothing better than a pirate's life. There's nothing better than a pirate's life.
There's nothing better than a pirate's life. A pirate's life for me.

ALL: Ooo-arghh, dreaded pirates. Ooo-arghh, fearsome pirates. Ooo-arghh, menacing pirates. Terrors of the ocean.

ALL: (spoken loudly) Ooo-arghhhhhhh! Exit all fiercely.

Scene Three – In the lounge of Master Geltibran's home.

(Scene opens on Adeliza reading a fashion magazine, and Beauty doing some darning. She has a basket of clothes next to her. ENTER Mariella from stage left. She has a bunch of fashion magazines under her arm, and she's waving another magazine in the air.)

MARIELLA: Adeliza, have you seen what the princess was wearing at the palace last week? (dramatic sigh) It's indescribable. I'm simply lost for words.

BEAUTY: (to herself.) That's a first. (Mariella gives her the evil eye.)

MARIELLA: (shows magazine to Adeliza) Here...look.

ADELIZA: (examines picture in magazine) Oh my! All those sequins and embroidery; and it's made of the finest gossamer and silk.

MARIELLA: Doesn't it look like it's made of pure moonlight?

ADELIZA: I'd kill for a dress like that!

MARIELLA: I'd die for a dress like that!

BEAUTY: What's the point of dying for it? If you were dead you wouldn't be able to enjoy it.

MARIELLA: You just don't understand.

BEAUTY: You're right I don't understand, and I don't want to. Besides, I think there are better things worth dying for.

ADELIZA: Oh just ignore her, Mariella. She's just jealous that she'll never have a dress like that, or anywhere to wear one.

BEAUTY: And you will I suppose?

MARIELLA: Oh, I do miss going to parties.

ADELIZA: Me too.

BEAUTY: Well that's your fault. It's not as if you haven't had plenty of invites. You just need to stop saying no and pretending to be ill.

ADELIZA: We can't jolly well go when we've got absolutely nothing to wear.

BEAUTY: Nothing to wear? You could dress a country with the amount of clothes in your wardrobes.

MARIELLA: Yes, a country of paupers. We can't wear rags to a party.

ADELIZA: We'd be laughed out of society if they knew we wore things more than once.

MARIELLA: Things will be different when father's made his fortune and come home.

***** SONG: CD Track 6 Home for Good (Tune of 'The Animals Went in Two by Two) *****

ADELIZA & MARIELLA: (Key = A is Adeliza. M is Mariella. B is both.)

A When father's home we won't be poor. **M** Hoorah. Hoorah.

A He'll give us money and gifts galore. **M** Hoorah. Hoorah.

A He'll bring us scents from Christian Dior. **M** And servants to open every door.

B And we'll never ever want for more. When father's home for good.

M When father's home we'll all be rich. **A** Hoorah. Hoorah.

M He'll bring us all the latest kitsch. **A** Hoorah. Hoorah.

M We won't have to sew and stitch, **A** Or wear dresses that really itch.

B And we'll never ever want for more. When father's home for good.

A Our father travels here and there. **M** Hoorah. Hoorah.

A He'll bring us ribbons for our hair. **M** Hoorah. Hoorah.

A He'll buy us gowns with Parisian flair, **M** And shoes that feel like we're walking on air.

B And we'll never ever want for more. When father's home for good.

M He'll bring us back so many things. **A** Hoorah. Hoorah.

M Lovely tiaras and diamond rings. **A** Hoorah. Hoorah.

M We'll go to parties with princes and kings, **A** Because of the gifts our father brings.

B And we'll never ever want for more. When father's home for good.

(When the girls finish singing they pick up their magazines and start to leave.)

MARIELLA: Let's go and look at these somewhere else, in peace and quiet.

BEAUTY: You're the ones making all the noise.

ADELIZA: *(turning her nose up at Beauty)* Yes, let's leave the child here to finish the chores.

BEAUTY: I'm not a child. I'm only a year younger than you.

MARIELLA: *(also turning her nose up.)* We'll leave before the child has a tantrum.

(EXIT, stage left, Adeliza and Mariella with their noses in the air. (ENTER, stage right, Housekeeper with basket of shopping.)

BEAUTY: *(shouting after them)* I'm not a child.

MRS COOPER: I know you're not, dear.

BEAUTY: Oh... I'm sorry. I didn't see you come in, Mrs Cooper.

MRS COOPER: That's quite all right, dear. I take it that was for the benefit of your sisters?

BEAUTY: Yes. They do keep calling me Child.

MRS COOPER: Ignore it and they'll soon lose interest.

BEAUTY: I know that's what I should do, but it's so hard to remember it at the time.

MRS COOPER: Just keep trying. Now, how about a lovely bit of apple pie to cheer you up? I've just been to the baker's and bought some, and we can have a slice with some tea.

BEAUTY: That sounds lovely. *(she packs up her basket of mending.)* Did you stop at the harbour master's office? Was there any news from father?

MRS COOPER: I'm afraid not dear. The harbour master did say though, that there was a report of a storm further up the coast, which may have blown his ship off course and delayed it somewhat.

BEAUTY: I do hope he's safe.

MRS COOPER: I'm sure he'll be fine. Your father has a way of landing on his feet in difficult times; and nothing will keep him from coming home to his fine daughters.

BEAUTY: I know... you're probably right.

MRS COOPER: Of course I am. Now, let's go and have some pie. *(EXIT, stage left, Beauty and Mrs Cooper.)*

Scene Four – In the woods.

(2 squires are fencing. They've left their travelling packs by the side of the road.)

CURLY: Take that you fiend! *(He thrusts)*

BUTTERFINGERS: Never. I'll die first. *(He parries and Curly backs off)*

CURLY: Have it your own way. Like my hero the Black Knight says, "The sky above is always blue. If he wants to die then run him through." *(He runs forward and to attack again)* Arghhh!

(ENTER MASTER GELTIBRAN – stage right – and he's looking a wreck. Curly stops dead in his tracks as Master Geltibran distracts him. Butterfingers take this opportunity and strikes a deadly blow to Curly. Curly collapses in a heap. Master Geltibran stops still in shock.)

BUTTERFINGERS: Ah ha, a hit, a hit; my first ever. Wahoo *(he does a little jig)* Take that you blaggard! *(He gathers up his pack)* See you later alligator. *(Butterfingers turns to exit but finds that Master Geltibran is blocking his path)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(he's visibly shaking and stutters)* M.. m.. m.. MURDERER! You shall not pass!

BUTTERFINGERS: But I haven't...

MASTER GELTIBRAN: SILENCE! I've had a really bad day. I've been robbed of all my worldly goods except for the clothes I wear. I was forced to walk the plank by scoundrels paid to work for me. I had to swim miles to shore. I've been walking for 3 days. I'm hungry. I'm tired and I'm in no mood to let anyone get away with murder. You will pay for this evil deed.

BUTTERFINGERS: Look, I'm sorry you've had such a bad time, but there's no need to get violent.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(incredulous)* There's no need to get violent? You've just killed that lad in cold blood!

BUTTERFINGERS: But he's not...

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Enough! Prepare to meet your maker.

BUTTERFINGERS: Not on your nelly, mate *(Master Geltibran charges and Butterfingers runs around the stage.)*

BUTTERFINGERS: Curly! CURLY! Do something! Anything! CURLY!

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Stand still and take what you deserve. Are you a man or a mouse?

BUTTERFINGERS: Mouse, definitely a mouse. Curly wake up now!

MASTER GELTIBRAN: How can he wake up when you killed him?

BUTTERFINGERS: I didn't.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: How can you deny it? I saw you run him through, and for that you will pay. I'm taking you to the nearest courts of justice. *(He charges at Butterfingers and chases him around the stage again. Curly starts to stir. He sits up and rubs his head.)*

CURLY: Oww. That hurt.

BUTTERFINGERS: Curly! Stop him he's going to kill me.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(stops in shock and out of breath)* Huh! What? How?

BUTTERFINGERS: I tried to tell you.

CURLY: Tried to tell him what? What's happened?

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BUTTERFINGERS: He thought I'd killed you, so he was trying to kill me.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Not kill you; just turn you in to the authorities.

CURLY: Butterfingers couldn't kill a fly, let alone his best friend.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: But I saw him attack you, and then you fell and didn't move.

CURLY: I just knocked myself out for a while. *(Feels the back of his head)* Feels like I'm going to have a lump the size of an egg there now.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Well how was I to know?

BUTTERFINGERS: You could've checked whether he was dead.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: I know. I've just been through so much. *(He starts to cry)*

BUTTERFINGERS: *(pats him on the shoulder)* There there. I forgive you. *(Master Geltibran cries onto Butterfingers' shoulder)*

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(blubbing)* I'm sorry... and I haven't even got a rose. *(he's starts to blub more)*

CURLY: What do you need a rose for?

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(blubbers incoherently)*

CURLY: Do what?

MASTER GELTIBRAN: *(haltingly)* ...promised... home... rose... Beauty...

CURLY: I still didn't get that.

BUTTERFINGERS: Here, blow your nose on this *(hands a hanky to Master Geltibran)* and then try again.

(Master Geltibran blows his nose loudly and then hands the hanky back. Butterfingers takes it with a look of disgust)

MASTER GELTIBRAN: When I left home I promised my daughters that I would bring them back gifts from my travels. I managed to get my older daughters the things they asked for, but the crew I had hired turned out to be a bunch of pirates and stole everything I had. Despite all that I never even found the one simple gift my daughter Beauty asked for. A single red rose.

CURLY: That's no problem. We'll help you replace your stuff, won't we Butterfingers.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: That's a nice thought, but how can you help?

CURLY: We know the right people. Your finery will be replaced in a flash. It'll be as if pirates never attacked you.

MASTER GELTIBRAN: But what about the rose?

BUTTERFINGERS: Afraid we can't help you with that. Don't know of any roses grown around here.

CURLY: What about the fabled garden of...?

BUTTERFINGERS: Don't say it, Curly.

CURLY: OK

MASTER GELTIBRAN: Where? Oh tell me. Tell me, please.

BUTTERFINGERS: Nobody talks of it around here, lest the curse fall on us.

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END OF SCRIPT PREVIEW

Published by Magic Parrot Plays, 14 Bolton Close, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2JG, UK

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