

VICTOR HERBERT'S BABES IN TOYLAND

a musical in three acts

Written by Luis Manuel Rivera

Based on the operetta by Victor Herbert & Glen MacDonough

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Mother Goose, the presenter (soprano)
Alan, a lad (tenor)
Jane, his sister (soprano)
Mayor Barnaby, their uncle (baritone)
Gonzorgo, a ruffian (baritone)
Roderigo, his partner (baritone)
The Widow Piper, an old woman who lives in a shoe
(baritone)
Tom, her eldest son (mezzo-soprano)
Contrary Mary, her eldest daughter (soprano)
Bo-peep
Jack
Jill
Red Riding Hood
Sallie Waters
Miss Muffet
Curly Locks
Boy Blue
Tommy Tucker
Simple Simon
Peter
Bobby Shaftoe
The Giant Spider, a wicked creature (silent role)
The Brown Bear, a virtuous creature (silent role)
The Moth Queen, an enchantress (speaking role)
Inspector Marmaduke, of the Toyland Police (baritone)
The Master Toymaker, a merchant of toys (bass)
Grumio, his apprentice (speaking role)
Chorus: peasants, gypsies, dandies, fairies,
citizens, dolls, workman, widows

ACT I

EXT. CONTRARY MARY'S GARDEN

SONG: Mother Goose*MOTHER GOOSE enters.*

MOTHER GOOSE

There's a land of childhood fancies
 That is filled old romances
 A realm of nursery tale and rhyme
 And children of all ages
 From babies to the sages
 The land of Once Upon a Time
 Of fascinating stories
 Remember best the glories
 Dear friends of the golden days
 Comrades in all one's games and plays
 Life was like a holiday
 The world was in its prime
 In the happy land of Once Upon a Time
 Dear old, queer old Mother Goose
 We gather about you
 Curly heads love to look
 In your great storybook
 What would all the kiddies do without you
 Fair old rare old nursery days
 Too quickly you perish
 But as fond memory
 Back to childhood strays
 Mother Goose we cherish

SONG: Country Dance*PEASANTS appear. A dance ensues.*Dialogue*MAYOR BARNABY enters R., smirking and bowing.**PEASANTS snub him.*

BARNABY

Citizens of Storybook Town. I am delighted to see you all happy.
 Where are the Piper Children? Are they not here?

MOTHER GOOSE

No, Mayor Barnaby, not one of them has come to the fete.

BARNABY

That's odd. I'm giving it to please them all.

MOTHER GOOSE

(Indignantlly)

Are you our host?

BARNABY

But of course.

MOTHER GOOSE

Only yesterday, he seized Mother Hubbard's house, turning her into the street for an unpaid rent!

BARNABY

The law forces me to do so.

MOTHER GOOSE

Let's finish the afternoon by putting Barnaby under the town pump.
Crowd starts to take BARNABY R. when TOM enters L.

TOM

(Coming down C.)

What's going on?

BARNABY

(Rushing to Tom)

Tom, my boy, you have come to save me from the town pump! Don't let 'em hurt your future brother-in-law!

TOM

Which of my sisters has caught your miserly eye?

BARNABY

(Ecstatically)

Willful, entrancing Mary!

TOM

You wish to marry Contrary Mary? You might as well turn off the sun and blow out the stars! But let him go in favor of me. We may be relatives yet.

Goes down L.

BARNABY

Then there is hope for me with Mary?

TOM

Not a gleam. But someday, you'll be my uncle-in-law.

BARNABY

(With pretended grief)

Not if it's my niece Jane you're in love with. She and her brother Alan are at the bottom of the sea.

TOM

I don't believe it!

BARNABY

(Mopping eyes with handkerchief)

They will never return to their heartbroken Uncle Barnaby!

TOM goes up stage.

MOTHER GOOSE

And will their heartbroken Uncle Barnaby do with their fortune?

BARNABY

(Hypocritically)

I'm keeping it for them, the law forces me to do that.

MOTHER GOOSE

Trust you take good care of the money! But be wise you take better care keeping out of our way hereafter.

BARNABY

Nothing to worry about. If Jane and Alan should return...

ALL

Miser! Robber! Get out!

BARNABY

Fie on you frivolous fools!

BARNABY exits R.

MOTHER GOOSE

(To Tom)

How long were you and Jane sweethearts?

TOM

(Coming up C.)

When she came as an orphan to her Uncle Barnaby.

MOTHER GOOSE

Don't despair, Tom, she'll come back to you!

TOM

Or I shall go and find her!

SONG: Jane Jane Jane

TOM

Oh a sailor's my true love,
 And never a new love
 Will win his heart from me
 Though beauties entrancing,
 Alluringly glancing
 Will win him o'er the sea
 For it's all sorts of girlies he'll meet
 The dashing, the tender, the sweet
 But as to each maidie
 He shakes a daydaydie
 This answer he will repeat
 Jane, Jane, Jane!
 She is the girl who is waiting for me!
 Jane, Jane, Jane!
 True to my sweetheart I'm going to be.
 Vain, vain, vain!
 All of your efforts to lead us apart,
 Jane, Jane, Jane!
 'Tis her name reigns supreme in my heart!

TOM (cont'd)

There is one that he'll meet with
 Who's hard to compete with
 The over timid maid
 Who trembles and shivers,
 And shudders and quivers
 Of ev'rything afraid
 When to soothe her unending alarm
 She'll rush to his sheltering arm
 The way he'll receive her
 Will startle and grieve her
 He'll tell her in accents calm
 Jane, Jane, Jane...etc.
 There's the girl who can flatter
 With sugary patter
 And deep adoring gaze
 Whenever you find her,
 The men trail behind her,
 The poor things can't stand praise
 When to capture my true love she'll try
 By praising him up to the sky
 In spite of her cooing
 There'll be nothing doing
 For to her he will reply
 Jane, Jane, Jane...etc.

PEASANTS exit after song.

Scene

GONZORGO and RODERIGO enter R.

GONZORGO

Tell me, stripling, where can we find an old miser known as Barnaby?

TOM

(points R.)

In the house yonder. He claims his niece and nephew were drowned at sea.

GONZORGO

(with dignity)

You need question it no more. I say 'tis true.

TOM

And who are you!

GONZORGO

I was the captain of that ship, by name, Gonzorgo.

TOM

And who is the sad eyed gazelle on your left?

GONZORGO

A gentleman, and my companion to boot, Roderigo.

TOM

As a companion to boot, he looks mighty useful.

RODERIGO

(to Gon)

Is that an insult?

GONZORGO

(to Rod)

Not to you.

(to Tom)

We were the sole survivors of the shipwreck.

RODERIGO

It was a dark and stormy night-

GONZORGO

(to Rod)

Let me do the talking, please!

(to Tom)

Would you like me to take your measure?

TOM

Not if you require a deposit.

GONZORGO

What thinketh thou Gonzorgo is?

TOM

You talk like a sailor, are you?

GONZORGO

Is that a challenge?!

TOM

I wouldn't dare challenge you.

WIDOW PIPER enters L.

WIDOW

Tom, don't be rude to those gentlemen!

GONZORGO

Madame, is he your little boy?

WIDOW

Yes, he's the black sheep of the family!

GONZORGO

Because of that, I'll spare him.

TOM goes up stage.

WIDOW

Accept the blessing of a lonely widow.

GONZORGO

Have you been lonely for very long?

WIDOW

Two years.

RODERIGO

And have you only yonder stripling to love?

WIDOW

He has thirteen siblings, who need a father's care.

GON and ROD recoil.

GONZORGO

(aside)

To marry her would be like joining a union!

RODERIGO

Are any of them self-supporting?

WIDOW

Mr. Piper left us very well off,

(points L.)

and that's our cottage yonder.

GONZORGO

I adore the countryside, don't you?

WIDOW

Have you ever rented a city-flat with fourteen children?

RODERIGO

They interest me strangely. I'd like to meet them.

GONZORGO

Me too.

WIDOW

Mayor Barnaby is very fond of them.

RODERIGO

Barnaby is one of our closest friends.

GONZORGO

And when the nestlings have flown away, hast ever thought of mating once more?

WIDOW

I once married for money. Should I wed again, 'twill be for love. My second husband must be an artist, a poet, or a hero.

GONZORGO

Fourteen children, you said?

WIDOW

Yes indeed.

GONZORGO

Your second hubby will be a hero.

WIDOW

Would you two gentlemen like some refreshment?

GON & ROD

Will we? We will!

WIDOW exits L. with GON and ROD.

SONG: Never Mind, Bo-Peep

BO-PEEP enters, dejectedly. TOM goes to comfort her.

During the song, PIPER CHILDREN enter.

TOM

What is the matter, Little Bo-Peep?

BO-PEEP

I have been careless and lost my sheep!

TOM

Say, have you seen them, Jack and Jill?

During your journey up the hill?

JACK & JILL

They're not on the hilltop, but in the wood,
They may have met with Red Riding Hood.

CHILDREN

Don't cry, Bo-Peep, don't cry
To find your sheep, we'll try,
We'll seek them far, we'll seek them wide,
We'll seek them low and high!

BO-PEEP

Oh, Sallie Waters and Miss Muffet, too,
Have my stray lambkins been seen by you?

SALLIE WATERS

Better ask Curly Locks, fresh from the fair,
She or Boy Blue may have seen them there

BOY BLUE

Where they are hiding, Tom Tucker may know,
Simon or Peter or Bobby Shaftoe!

CHILDREN

Never mind, Bo-Peep,
 We will find your sheep
 No matter where they be -
 So be gay, Bo-Peep,
 Though astray, your sheep,
 Soon home again you'll see!
 Give a smile, Bo-Peep,
 For a-while your sheep
 May browse in pastures new,
 Never mind, Bo-Peep,
 We will find your sheep
 And bring them home to you!
 Baa! Baa! Baa!
 It was the black sheep that led them away,
 Baa! Baa! Baa!
 For this the rascal shall certainly pay
 Led them away by the tales that he told,
 Far from their meadow and far from their home
 Baa! Baa! Baa! Baa!
 Never mind Bo-peep...etc.

Dialogue

BO-PEEP

I've missed most of the party because those sheep got away- just like your cows, Boy Blue.

TOM

I just found out why Mayor Barnaby's paying for this party. He wants everyone to witness his engagement to Contrary Mary.

BO-PEEP

Mary hasn't gone and done a dreadful thing like that?

TOM

Not yet. But mother is set on the match, and intends to announce the wedding anyway.

JILL

Let Barnaby keep his old party!

BO-PEEP

He can't buy us with lemonade and candy, can he?

PETER

I'd rather go without pumpkin pie than be nice to him!

TOM

Right you are, Peter. Hope you lot keep out of trouble till I get back.

Starts up R.

BOY BLUE

Where are you going?

TOM

Away—this very hour, to look for Jane!

BOY BLUE

Which way do you go?

TOM

I'll start for the road by the forest.

RED RIDING HOOD

The one I always take to Grandmother's?

MISS MUFFET

Do keep out of that awful forest. They say there's a vale in it,
fitted with spiders!

TOM

No spiders for you, eh, Miss Muffet?

(pause)

Who will go as far as the turn of the road with me?

ALL

All of us!

*TOM exits R. with CHILDREN. Within a few seconds, JANE, ALAN and
a four GYPSIES enter R. JANE dons a domino mask, ALAN dons a red
mantle.*

JANE

It was very nice of you gypsies to guide us back home.

ALAN

Indeed it was.

WIDOW enters L.

WIDOW

(aside)

Hello, what's this? A band of gypsies on my property.

ALAN

(aside)

It's the Widow Piper!

WIDOW

(to Alan)

Come here, gypsy-girl, are you a real gitana?

ALAN

I am Floretta, The Fawn of the Forest. I peek into the future at
two bits a peek.

SONG: Floretta

ALAN

I am a Romany Rye,
 A timorous sprite of the wildwood,
 I dabble in magic,
 Both comic and tragic
 A witch I have been from my childhood
 Great is my mystical might
 The blizzard and avalanche mind me
 I'm likewise a voodoo,
 At casting a hoodoo,
 A qualified artist you'll find me!
 Floretta! Floretta!
 The gypsy am I,
 The past or the future
 To tell you I'll try!
 Your fortune I'll read from
 Your palm at a glance,
 Pray notice I also
 Collect in advance!

CHORUS

Floretta! Floretta!
 The gypsy is she,
 Far into the future
 She quickly can see
 Your fortune she'll read from
 Your palm at a glance,
 Pray notice she also
 Collects in advance!

ALAN

Are you unhappy in love?
 And does she presume to ignore you?
 I'll give you a philtre
 Which quickly will wilt her
 And cause her to madly adore you!
 If to be painfully rich
 You find yourself ready and willing,
 You may acquire millions,
 Or billions or trillions,
 By buying this charm for a shilling!

ALAN & CHORUS

Floretta, Floretta...etc.

GYPSIES and JANE exit R.

Scene

WIDOW

(giving money)

There, peek for me.

ALAN

(looking at her hand)

Your name as I make out is Piper. Your late husband was the Pied Piper.

WIDOW

Wonderful! Do you see all that there?

ALAN

You have a daughter named Mary. She's to marry a young man, charming, gifted, attractive, all that a young man should be.

WIDOW

Now tell me about myself.

GON and ROD enter L.

WIDOW

I have two suitors. Which one shall I marry?

ALAN

I must see them first.

GONZORGO

What have we here, a gypsy?

WIDOW

Read his hand.

(to Gon)

She's worth believing.

GONZORGO

(aside to Alan)

Bid her marry me and you shall wear jewels and silk.

WIDOW

What do you see?

ALAN

(studying Gon's hand)

I see a happy home, with a lovely lady, waiting for this handsome man with patience and a rolling pin.

WIDOW

Go on.

ALAN

The children are asleep.

GON & WIDOW

Whose children?

ALAN

(to Widow)

His children, of course. Quite plain here. He has a wife and three children.

WIDOW

Gonzorgo! - married!

GONZORGO

Tis a falsehood!

WIDOW

She speaks the truth and I believe her.

GONZORGO

(to Widow)

Dost doubt Gonzorgo?

WIDOW

I dost.

RODERIGO

(tenderly to Widow)

Shall we go?

WIDOW

First let Floretta read your hand.

ALAN

(seizing Rod's hand)

Ah ah ah! Naughty, naughty! You're a flirt. You dress up every night, calling on a different girl.

WIDOW

(to Alan)

Have you any idea what you've done. You have unmasked their faces.

ALAN

Now that you've seen their faces, would you prefer their masks?

WIDOW

Neither. Farewell, Floretta, may the blessing of a lonely widow follow you through life!

GONZORGO

And never catch up!

WIDOW exits L. GON and ROD exit R.

ALAN

Not bad for the Fawn of the Forest!

ALAN exit R.

Within a few seconds, Two DANDIES begin to enter R.

FIRST DANDY

I don't see anything of her anywhere.

SECOND DANDY

That's odd! She always works at her garden at this hour.

BO-PEEP and BOY BLUE enter R.

BOY BLUE

(Aside)

Look, Bo-peep, Mary's beaux!

BO-PEEP

What do you think? Just to discourage Mayor Barnaby, Mary is telling everyone that she is engaged.

FIRST DANDY

(looking off)

Here she comes now!

SONG: Entrance of Contrary Mary

Contrary Mary enters L.

CHORUS

Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
You've told us several thousand times -
Again we'd like to know
Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
Pause in your morning walk.
For roaming your garden we all beg your pardon
But we love, we love to hear you talk

SONG: If I Were on the Stage

MARY

If I were asked to play the part
Of simple maiden, light of heart,
A village lass in country clothes
As to and from her work she goes,
I'd sing a merry, lilting strain
And gaily dance to this refrain:
"Tra la la..."
If they should offer me some day
A prima donna role to play,
A stately queen with powdered hair,
Her costly gowns and jewels rare,
I would not act the part amiss.
I'd sing a Polonaise like this:

MARY (cont'd)

"Ah, you will all agree
That happy I should be. Ah!
I'm queen of all the land. Ah!...
With lords and ladies to kneel
And kiss my hand.
A king upon the throne
To woo me for his own, Ah!
The fairest woman ever seen! Ah!...
Who would not be queen?"
But best of all the parts I'd play,
If I could only have my way,
Would be a strong, romantic role,
Emotional and full of soul.
And I believe, for such a thing,
A dreamy, sensuous waltz I'd sing:
"Sweet summer breeze,
Whispering trees,
Stars shining brightly above,
Roses in bloom, wafted perfume,
Sleepy birds dreaming of love,
Safe in your arms, far from alarms,
Daylight would come, but in vain.
Tenderly pressed, close to your breast,
Kiss me, kiss me again..."

Everyone exits, leaving MARY on the stage.

Scene

BARNABY enter R.

BARNABY

(Tendering bouquet)

Here, pretty one, is a bunch of blossoms.

MARY

(Taking bouquet)

Thank you.

BARNABY

Mary, the bloom is no longer on my cheek.

(Takes her hand)

Don't be cruel, Mary, will you be my wife?

MARY

(Withdrawing hand)

Pardon me, your cheek is just as blooming as it ever was.

BARNABY

You treat me this way in the hope that Alan will come back and marry you. Take my word for it, you'll never see him again.

MARY

(Throwing bouquet away)

How I wish I could say the same of you.

GON and ROD enter R.

BARNABY

Behold the very men in whose tender care I placed my niece and nephew. Now do you believe me?

MARY

I'll neither believe you nor marry you!

Mary exits L.

GONZORGO

Ready to settle with your silent partners?

BARNABY

I don't understand you.

GONZORGO

Our contract to get rid of your niece and nephew.

BARNABY

What have you done?

GONZORGO

Jane and Alan are sleeping among the oysters.

BARNABY

Then I've seen the last of my charges.

GONZORGO

(presents bill)

And now you'll see the first of ours.

BARNABY

A bill?

GONZORGO

Our little charges for disposing your little charges.

BARNABY

Clearly, you don't want to be paid in money.

GONZORGO

We don't?

BARNABY

Come back within the hour, and I'll bring you a few shares of stock from my strong box.

GON and ROD exit R.

As BARNABY turns to go, JANE and ALAN enter L.

ALAN

Uncle Barnaby!

BARNABY

(almost collapsing)

Alan - you - you!

ALAN

Here we are, safe and sound!

JANE

(embraces him)

Oh, nunkey aren't you glad to see us.

BARNABY

(feebly)

Glad is not the word.

ALAN

Cheer up, Uncle Barnaby. You'll never be lonely again.

BARNABY

I sure won't.

JANE

We'll never leave you again!

BARNABY

How joyous that will be.

ALAN

That is until we get married. And when that happens, you must have our fortune all ready to hand over.

JANE

It's ours, you know, whenever we want it.

BARNABY

I have taken very good care of it, never fear. I'll go tell Gonzorgo and Roderigo the good news.

ALAN

They were lucky to go ashore when they did. Only a miracle saved us from the shipwreck.

BARNABY

They've been in tears since they left you. They will be deeply interested indeed.

JANE and ALAN exit R. GON and ROD enter L.

GONZORGO

Have you brought our pay?

BARNABY

You haven't earned it yet. Jane and Alan have survived the shipwreck!

RODERIGO

They're alive?

BARNABY

Painfully so. They think it was an accident, of course. While they still trust us, we must do away with them once more.

GONZORGO

How?

BARNABY

Take Jane and Alan the road to the Spider Forest. Without them noticing, you must snuff them.

GON and ROD recoil.

BARNABY

This time, I want no mistakes. Understand?

RODERIGO

But of course.

BARNABY

The terms are same as before, part payable in this highly desirable stock.

(Shows package of it)

I've put every penny of the children's money into it.

GONZORGO

It's name?

BARNABY

Eata Heapa Buckawheata.

GONZORGO

What is it?

BARNABY

A patent health food. It's made of excelsior, it tastes like sawdust, and it looks like buckwheat.

GONZORGO

Delicious!

BARNABY

Mixed with Modified Milk and Not Quite Butter, it's a meal fit for a horse! Find the children, then give your answer.

The trio exit R.

BOY BLUE, BO-PEEP and MARY enter L.

BOY BLUE

The coast is clear.

BO-PEEP

Now's your chance, Mary!

BOY BLUE

Do you know where you're going?

MARY

As far away as I can get. Goodbye.

MARY exits R.

BO-PEEP

Tom and Mary gone in one day- mother will be pleased!

JANE enters R.

BO-PEEP

Is that you, Jane?

JANE

Yes it's me. Have you seen Tom?

BOY BLUE

He went off to find you.

JANE

And man without a country, he is. And where are the rest of the children?

BOY BLUE

Doing their studies. It's the arithmetic that keeps us back.

(hands book to Jane)

Look at those sums we've got for today.

JANE

Oh, these are easy.

BO-PEEP

Come on everyone, Jane is doing our sums for us!

CHILDREN enter R. and L.

SONG: I Can't Do the Sum

JANE

If a steamship weighed ten thousand tons
 And sailed five thousand miles
 With a cargo large of overshoes
 And carving knives and files
 If the mates were almost six feet high
 And the bos'n near the same
 Would you subtract or multiply
 To find the captain's name?

CHILDREN

Oh! Oh! Oh!
 Put down six and carry two,
 Gee! But this is hard to do;
 You can think and think and think
 Till your brains are numb,
 I don't care what teacher says
 I can't do the sum

JANE

If Harold took sweet Imogene
 With him one eve to dine,
 And ordered half the bill of fare,
 With cataracts of wine,
 If the bill of fare were thirteen ninety five,
 And poor Harold had but four,
 How many things would Harold strike
 Before he struck the floor?

CHILDREN

Oh! Oh! Oh!...etc.

JANE

If a pound of prunes cost thirteen cents
 At half past one today,
 And the grocer is so bald he wears
 A dollar five toupee,
 And if with ev'ry pound of tea,
 He will give two cut glass plates,
 How soon would Willie break his face,
 On his new roller skates?

CHILDREN

Oh! Oh! Oh!...etc.

CHILDREN exit after song.

Dialogue

ALAN enters R., followed by GON and ROD.

ALAN

Come along Jane, Gonzorgo and Roderigo are taking us on a little journey.

JANE

Where to?

ALAN

Upon the yonder forest.

JANE

How exciting.

RODERIGO

Are you ready to go, dear pets?

ALAN

We're ready. Lead the way.

GONZORGO

Move lively, the sooner we get there, the better.

JANE, ALAN, GON and ROD exit L.

EXT. THE SPIDER FOREST
 SONG: Melodramatic Music
 MARY enters R. as TOM enters L.

TOM

Mary? How did you get here?

MARY

Ran away, just as you did. Because I didn't want to marry Mayor Barnaby.

TOM

I've lost my way.

MARY

So have I.

TOM

There's no sign of a path, shall we follow yonder stream and see if it will lead us out?

A prolonged yawn is heard. TOM and MARY exit quickly R. as BROWN BEAR appears L, yawning and rubbing his eyes. GON and ROD enter R., stealthily and frightened. BEAR sees them, they see BEAR. They run off L., pursued by BEAR.

Dialogue

JANE is heard crying as she enters R., limping and supported by ALAN.

ALAN

Don't cry, Jane.

JANE

Our guides are lost, and we're lost. Alan, I can't go any further on this sprained ankle.

ALAN

Then we'll rest a while.

ALAN leads JANE L., cutting away a spider's web.

JANE

I'm too frightened.

ALAN

Close your eyes, Jane, I am by your side.

SONG: Go to Sleep, Slumber Deep

	JANE
See that shadow sway!	
	ALAN
There is nothing, dear.	
	JANE
You must near me stay!	
	ALAN
I am watching here	
	JANE
Hark, the fairies call!	
	ALAN
No, that cannot be.	
	JANE
See that ogre tall!	
	ALAN
'Tis a cypress tree	
	(croons a lullaby)
Go to sleep, slumber deep!	
Little one, oh sleep,	
While watch we keep	
Dream and rest, that is best	
Till you hear the morning song	
From bough and nest!	
	JANE
Look what's passing by!	
	ALAN
I can nothing see.	
	JANE
I could really cry!	
	ALAN
Come then close to me.	
	JANE
Is the morning near?	
	ALAN
'Tis not far away	
	JANE
Much the night I fear!	

ALAN

Soon will dawn the day.

SANDMAN and FAIRIES appear.

SANDMAN & FAIRIES

Go to sleep...etc.

Jane and Alan fall asleep as SANDMAN and FAIRIES disappear.

SONG: Act I Finale

GIANT SPIDER enters L., casting his web about the children. BEAR enters R. A fight ensues. BEAR attacks SPIDER, who crawls off wounded L. BEAR cuts and tears away the web about the children.

MOTH QUEEN enters R.

QUEEN

You have done well, Brown Bear, for these children are under my special protection. But a few moments since, I was on my way to the village, in the guise of a tiny white moth. when the web of my old enemy, the spider, entrapped me. But these children rescued me, so I will protect them in return. Brown Bear, it is my order that you guard them until dawn, then lead them safely from the forest. Meanwhile, in dreams, they shall attend upon the court of the Moth Queen!

FAIRIES enter. A ballet ensues.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

EXT. TOYLAND'S MARKET SQUARE

SONG: Hail to Christmas*CHORUS is discovered, including SANTA CLAUS and SNOWMAN.*

CHORUS

Hail to Christmas, joyous Christmas
 Be gay, the day draws near
 Now Kris Kringle, dear Kris Kringle
 Will bring our king to be

MEN

Here from all Toyland
 Near and far, far and near
 All to our fair come
 To make merry here, merry here
 Here from all Toyland...etc.

CHORUS

To our fair, to our fair
 All to our fair come
 To make merry here, at our fair
 Hail to Christmas...etc.

WOMEN

Come where pleasure invites
 'Neath the glittering lights
 Singing a glad song, loud and strong
 As we journey along

CHORUS

Come where music enchants
 Sway there, swift in the dance
 Letting the night fly
 Till the sun's high
 Letting the night quickly fly
 Till the sun is on high!
 Come and dance!

SANTA CLAUS

Come where pleasure invites...etc.

CHORUS

Come where music enchants...etc.
 Hail to thee, joyous Christmas
 Hail to thee, hail to thee, hail to thee
 To our fair...etc.
 Hail to Christmas...etc.

Scene

BARNABY and WIDOW enter L.

BARNABY

Mary's in Toyland, I'm sure of that, and we won't go home till we find her.

WIDOW

A fine dance she has lead us for three weeks!

BARNABY

A love-chase for me.

WIDOW

We'll make her Mrs. Barnaby yet.

BARNABY

With the aid of Inspector Marmaduke, Toyland's leading detective.

INSPECTOR MARMADUKE enters R.

MARMADUKE

Ello, ello, ello. Have you sent for me?

BARNABY

Can you find Contrary Mary?

MARMADUKE

You've sent for me 'cause you can't find her yourself!

BARNABY

Do you think you can run her down?

MARMADUKE

A well-bred detective never runs a lady down.

WIDOW

She's the apple of my eye, lips like cherries, cheeks like peaches.

MARMADUKE

(Writing in notebook)

Wanted, young female with face like fruit-salad.

(to Barnaby)

Would you like her dead or alive?

BARNABY

Alive by choice. She's to be my wife, you know.

MARMADUKE

Must she marry you and does she know about it?

BARNABY

She must and she does!

MARMADUKE

We'll begin with searching the river.

MARMADUKE, BARNABY and WIDOW exit R.

TOM and MARY enter from opposite directions. TOM wears rich costume, suitable for Court attendant.

TOM

Good news! I've found employment. Royal messenger at Toyland's Palace of Justice.

(Turning about)

My uniform.

MARY

Splendid.

TOM

So we're not going to starve in Toyland after all.

MARY

I've found employment as well. Seamstress at the Toyshop. Under the alias, Mamselle Elisette.

TOM

We best get to work. See you tonight.

MARY

Goodbye.

MARY and TOM exit in opposite directions.

MARMADUKE re-enters R., JANE and ALAN enter L.

MARMADUKE

Strangers! Where did you come from?

ALAN

We know where we come from, but not where we got to. We were lost in the forest at our home, and after many adventures, we took a railway-train which brought us here.

MARMADUKE

Welcome to Toyland.

ALAN

Toyland? Are you an automaton?

MARMADUKE

I'm no dummy.

As MARMADUKE exits L., CHORUS enters R.

FIRST GIRL

What funny-looking things the parade had brought to town!

SECOND GIRL

What perfect frights. They must have fallen from the moon.

FIRST GIRL

You there, tell us where you came from.

JANE

First, I must learn more about this place!

JANE exits L.

FIRST BOY

And who are you, I may ask?

ALAN

Nothing yet. But one day, I'm gonna be a music-hall star.

FIRST BOY

And what would be your specialty?

ALAN

Giving advice to children in the form of a song.

FIRST BOY

You mean like some sort of musical parable?

ALAN

Yes, somewhat like that. Let me give you a demonstration.

SONG: The Song of the Poet

ALAN

Now once upon a time a poet wrote
 A song about a baby in a tree,
 Where up in the branches high,
 A tender lullaby,
 Was warbled by the breezes blowing free
 That little song went all the world around,
 But the poet never heard it till one day
 While in London on a lark,
 A nursemaid in a park,
 Sang it to a naughty infant in this way:
 (Cockney accent)
 Rockabye babbie in de treetop -
 "I ce'ainly shall slap ye in a moment"
 When de wind blows de cradle will rock -
 "Wherever is ye bo'le? 'Ave ye swallowed it?"
 When de bough breaks de cradle will fall -
 "Good ev'nik, Sargent!"
 Down comes de cradle and babbie and all -
 "Dere you gow! Out de pe'ambula'or again!
 An' a course ye 'ad to fall on ye face! Nasty brat!"

(normal voice)

The poet thought that he the world would see,
 In search of both experience and fame,
 So he took his stick and grip,
 And skipped upon a ship,
 And thus to New York City did he come

ALAN (cont'd)

One ev'ning he had nothing else to do,
 So he chanced into a music hall to stray,
 Where the leader of a band,
 Quite famous in the land,
 Played the poet's well-known lullaby this way:
 Rockabye baby in the treetop,
 When the wind blows the cradle will rock
 When the bough breaks the cradle will fall,
 Down comes the cradle and baby and all.

CHORUS

Rockabye baby...etc.

ALAN

Once more across the waves the poet went,
 A time to spend in sunny Italy,
 There a visit he did plan
 To musical Milan,
 Very celebrated home of melody
 Of music he set out to get his fill,
 And again he heard a noted leader play
 'Twas his lullaby sublime,
 But changed around the time,
 For in Italy they treated it this way:
 (operatic)
 Rockbye baby in treetop
 When wind blows cradle will rock,
 When bough breaks cradle fall
 Ah down, down, come cradle babe and all

CHORUS

Rockabye baby bye, bye...etc.

ALAN

It happened that the poet chanced to pay
 A visit to the Old Virginny South,
 Where the sweet potatoes grow,
 And tropic breezes blow,
 And the 'gators lark about the river's mouth
 'Twas there a strolling minstrel that he met
 Who had likewise heard the poet's famous song,
 And he struggled all the day
 To learn it in a way
 But the way in which he learned it was all wrong:
 (sings in Southern accent)
 Rockabye baby mah baby mine
 Swinging up high in de top o' de pine
 An' if ya come tumblin' to de groun'
 Ya mammy will kotch ye on de way down.

CHORUS

Rockabye baby...etc.

After song, ALAN exits L., CHORUS exits R.

Dialogue

MASTER TOYMAKER, GRUMIO and CHILDREN enter L.

TOYMAKER

Come along, children. While your mother is talking to the Inspector. Make yourselves at home.

BO-PEEP

Do you make all the toys here?

GRUMIO

But of course, for Santa Claus to deliver on Christmas Eve.

TOYMAKER

Grumio, you keep forgetting that I am the Master Toymaker, you're just my apprentice.

BO-PEEP

Haven't you no children of your own?

TOYMAKER

No. That's why I'm free to love all children, and try to make them love me. For a little remembrance in the heart of a child means more to me than anything else in the world.

JILL

Do you make toys that talk?

TOYMAKER

Walk and talk and do everything but think. I can give them everything but a soul, and one day, I might even give them that.

GRUMIO

May I go now, master?

TOYMAKER

First get the wooden soldiers ready, Grumio. The parade begins within the hour.

GRUMIO

Right away, sir.

GRUMIO exits L.

BOY BLUE

I've seen such wonderful playthings here. Do you make everything in this country?

TOYMAKER

That's the primary trade here.

JACK

Will we be dreadfully sorry to leave it.

TOYMAKER

Toyland is a place you'll never forget.

SONG: Toyland

CHILDREN group about TOYMAKER, some sitting, some standing.

TOYMAKER

When you've grown up, my dears
 And are as old as I
 You'll often ponder o'er the years
 As they roll swiftly by, my dears,
 That roll so swiftly by
 And of the many lands
 You will have journey'd through,
 You'll oft recall
 The best of all
 The land your childhood knew
 Your childhood knew.
 Toyland! Toyland!
 Dear little girl and boy land
 While you dwell within it
 You are ever happy then
 Childhood's joyland
 Mystical, merry toyland
 Once you leave its borders
 You can never return again
 When you've grown up, my dears
 There comes a dreary day
 When 'mid the locks of black appears
 The first pale gleam of gray, my dears,
 the first pale gleam of gray
 Then of the past you'll dream
 As gray-haired grown-ups do
 And seek once more
 Its phantom shore
 The land your childhood knew!
 Your childhood knew.
 Toyland! Toyland!...etc.

Dialogue

TOYMAKER

(checks pocket-watch)

But I must go. I've got work to do.

Come by my toyshop, and see all the toys made there.

As CHILDREN exit R., BARNABY enters L.

BARNABY

You must be the Master Toymaker. I'd like to hire you to make a few toys for me.

TOYMAKER

Then you love the children too?

BARNABY

I simply dote on them.

TOYMAKER

And what shall I make for them?

BARNABY

A lot of dangerous toys, that would cripple or even kill a child, in some clever way, of course.

TOYMAKER

Why do hate the children so bitterly?

JANE enters L., eavesdropping.

BARNABY

My late sister left me her children to look after, two little fiends, a boy and a girl named Jane and Alan. Vicious, bad-tempered, what a life they have led me. Even their great fortune, which by law will be mine next week, can hardly repay me for the trouble they have cause me.

TOYMAKER

Are they dead?

BARNABY

Yes, lost in the forest in my country long ago. I have seen the last of them, thank heaven.

JANE exits L.

BARNABY

I intend to pay you handsomely. Name your price.

TOYMAKER

An order of toys that main and injure children? None shall convince me if I heard that correctly.

TOYMAKER exits L.

BARNABY

Clever old fox. I'll meet him later at his shop, and I'll close the bargain before I leave it.

BARNABY exits R. JANE and ALAN enter L.

ALAN

And if we're not home in a week, Uncle Barnaby gets our fortune!

JANE

Yes, that's what I heard him say!

ALAN

Now I understand Uncle Barnaby.

JANE

I'm sure he had us lost in the woods.

ALAN

And lost at sea the same way. He's been playing keep-away. We must return home as soon as possible.

JANE

First we must shift our wardrobe. No-one else in Toyland dresses like this.

MARY enters R.

MARY

Can it be? Jane, Alan!

JANE & ALAN

Mary!

ALAN

How did you drift to Toyland?

MARY

I ran away to avoid marrying your Uncle Barnaby.

ALAN

How long has he been making love to you?

MARY

Since you and Jane were lost at sea.

ALAN

We were then lost in the woods. Hopefully you've run away with a tailor!

MARY

No, but I've been engaged as dressmaker at the toyshop.

ALAN

Could you find anything our size? We don't want to be captured.

MARY

Perhaps, some of the dolls might fit you.

GRUMIO enters L.

GRUMIO

I'll be locked up for this.

MARY

What's the matter, Grumio?

GRUMIO

I've busted the Captain of the Wooden Grenadiers.

JANE

Who is he?

GRUMIO

I'm the Toymaker's head apprentice, I was assigned to oversee the Toy Parade, but while prepare the automatons, I wound up the captain too tight, and now the parade is spoilt.

ALAN

If you hand me the captain's clothes, I'll lead the parade, and the Toymaker will be none the wiser.

GRUMIO

That is a brilliant idea. Why didn't I think of it? Go make you ready, the parade's about to begin!

ALAN

(Takes Jane's hand)

Come on, we're off!

Exeunt exit L.

SONGS: March of the Toys/The Military Ball

The DOLLS enter. A march and a dance ensue. Exeunt.

Dialogue

GONZORGO and RODERIGO enter R.

RODERIGO

'Tis a cold world, Gonzorgo. Can't find work. Unless something turns up, I'll worry myself in a stew.

GONZORGO

Worry yourself in two stews, if possible—one for me.

RODERIGO

I've got more complaints than a complaint-box.

GONZORGO

(Looking L.)

Don't despair yet. Here comes the Widow Piper!

WIDOW enters L.

WIDOW

Have you seen anything of a young lady who answers to the name of Mary?

GONZORGO

(Tenderly)

Infatuated girl, why have you followed me here?

WIDOW

(Recognizing them)

Oh, Mayor Barnaby's friends?

GONZORGO

Fate has mixed us up again.

WIDOW

Have you forgotten what Floretta told me? You are married.

GONZORGO

Bunk. You're the only girl I ever loved. I'm a regular bargain now.

WIDOW

You do look a little marked down.

GONZORGO

Yes, reduced to ninety-nine cents.

WIDOW

And you have suffered?

GONZORGO

For weeks we've slept on hard ground.

RODERIGO

It made me homesick.

WIDOW

Homesick?

RODERIGO

I had a sister who filled our home with cozy corners.
The harder the rocks, the more it seemed like home.

WIDOW

You have my sympathy.

GONZORGO

You can make one of us very happy.

SONG: When the Cat's Away

WIDOW, GON & ROD

There's a proverb that is trite, but true.

RODERIGO

It describes it neatly,

GONZORGO

Fully and completely,

WIDOW, GON & ROD

Tells us what a lot of girls will do
When the one in charge
Of them is not in view.

RODERIGO

Now we'll tell you
What the wise men say:

GONZORGO

"When the cat's away,
Then the mice will play!"

GON & ROD

We don't like to think of mice like that.

WIDOW

I don't like to think that I'm the cat!

WIDOW, GON & ROD

But though there are a few, perhaps,
Who doubt it, flout it,
Others find it true from day to day,
And often those who do not
Bear in mind that, find that
When the cat's away the mice will play!

WIDOW exits R.

Dialogue*MARMADUKE enters L.*

GONZORGO

Officer, if it takes a thief to catch a thief, we got you covered.

MARMADUKE

State your business.

GONZORGO

To fill in two vacancies.

RODERIGO

Haven't eaten for days.

MARMADUKE

Help me find Contrary Mary and you'll never have to work again.

GONZORGO

Just as long as we are paid in cash.

As GON and ROD exit L., MARY enters R.

MARMADUKE

(to Mary)

Ello, ello, ello. Have you seen a girl named Contrary Mary?

MARY

Yes I have. And who are you, I may ask?

MARMADUKE

Inspector Marmaduke of the Toyland Police.

(takes out notebook)

Describe the girl for me, will you.

MARY

If I'm not mistaken, she has a periwig, with a wooden leg and a glass eye.

MARMADUKE

And who are you, I may ask?

MARY

I am a lady journalist for the Woman's Home Magazine.

MARMADUKE

Then you must be Beatrice Barefacts. There are many questions I wish to ask of you.

MARY

(shows packet of letters)

Well you have to wait in line, for I've got many letters to answer.

MARMADUKE

All with important problems, I suppose.

MARY

(opens letter, reads from it)

Here's a sample.

SONG: Beatrice Barefacts

MARY

Dear Beatrice Barefacts, a country girl am I,
 Next month I'm going down to town,
 So tell me how to make a gown
 Of scraps that I've put by.
 I've carefully saved up
 A skirt of purple plush,
 With this it would be quite in taste
 To wear a yellow velvet waist?
 Your answer quickly rush.

MARMADUKE

Tush! Tush! Tush! Tush!
 Dear Maud you make me shiver,
 That dress worn on a ferry boat
 Would scare away the river.

MARY & MARMADUKE

Oh, write to Beatrice Barefacts
 Whenever you are in doubt,
 Oh she will help you out,
 She'll put your doubt to rout.
 The talented Miss Barefacts,
 She tells a thing or two
 In the Perfect Ladies column
 Of the Woman's Home Magoo!

MARY

Dear Beatrice Barefacts, I am a nice young man,
 I do not drink or smoke or swear,
 I tint my nails and bang my hair,
 And cards and races ban.
 My salary weekly is small
 I beg to say
 But I'd no longer dwell alone
 Now would you wed and start a home
 On eighty cents a day?

MARMADUKE

Nay nay! Nay nay!
 Dear Claude there's nothing in it.
 A home on eighty cents a day
 Would last just eighty minutes.

MARY & MARMADUKE

Oh, write to Beatrice Barefacts...etc.

MARY

Dear Beatrice Barefacts, am I in love or not?
Since I a certain party saw
I sleep and smile and eat no more,
But weep an awful lot.
Whenever I meet him
I'm frozen to the spot,
My blood goes rushing to my head
I know my nose turns fiery red
Can this be love or what?

MARMADUKE

Dear me! Dear me!
Louise it is a question,
You have a dreadful case of love
Or chronic indigestion.

MARY & MARMADUKE

Oh, write to Beatrice Barefacts

MARMADUKE exits R. MARY exits L.

INT. THE TOYSHOP
A cabinet is at R., with a table at L.

SONG: The Toymaker's Shop
WORKMEN, are seen, working at bench. TOYMAKER is at table, brooding over a crystal flask. Exeunt R. and L.

Scene

ALAN, MARY and JANE enter R.

JANE

I don't like this place. It's too spookylarious.
ALAN looks cautiously ahead R.

JANE

Who's there!

ALAN

It's Uncle Barnaby with the apprentice!

MARY

Will we ever get rid of him!

ALAN

Find a place to hide!

JANE and MARY exit L. ALAN throws himself across a workman's bench like a newly made mannikin. BARNABY enters R. with GRUMIO, who carries small cask of wine.

BARNABY

Where shall we leave the wine, a little gift from me to your master.

GRUMIO puts cask on table.

BARNABY

(Turns and sees Alan)

That toy soldier looks a lot like a nephew, Alan. No, can't be. Resemblance maybe. It's uncanny.

(to Grumio)

Tell your master of my appointment with him.

As BARNABY exits R., ALAN sneaks out L.

SONG: Gavotte

GRUMIO looks at the wine cask, takes it and drinks. He becomes slightly intoxicated. RAG-DOLL emerges from cabinet R. GRUMIO offers her wine. They commence drinking, dancing and upsetting chairs, tables, etc. in the process. They do not upset the Toymaker's table. As they finish their dance, they exit R. ALAN slowly enters L, followed by JANE and MARY.

ALAN

You best make a run for it, there seems to be trouble ahead.

ALAN, JANE and MARY quickly exit R.

Dialogue

TOYMAKER and WORKMEN enters R.

TOYMAKER

Grumio! Grumio, I say! What's this? Men, clean up this mess. That little rascal has been at the wine!

WORKMEN exit L. after cleaning up. BARNABY enters R.

BARNABY

Here I am, according to appointment. Did you reconsider my offer?

TOYMAKER

For toys that maim and injure children?

BARNABY

Something tells me you'd put your whole heart into the work.

TOYMAKER

Your liberality would call for that much interest.

BARNABY

Final answer?

TOYMAKER

Perhaps I can do more than you ask. What would you say to a toy controlled by a demon-spirit, showing no hint of its presence? Would it not be a dainty gift for one to dislike?

BARNABY

To be plain with you, you hate the children more than me.

TOYMAKER

But I teach them to love me so they'll accept from me the playthings as I just described.

BARNABY

Demon dolls, a master thought.

TOYMAKER

Come back within the hour. In the interval, I'll experiment with the incantation.

BARNABY

Success to you.

TOYMAKER

It shall be mine.

BARNABY exits L. ALAN enters R.

ALAN

What can he be doing! Nothing to do with toys or toymaking, for sure. If it's a secret, then I intend to find out.

TOYMAKER

And now for the trial of effort to complete the charm that will give me dominion over the otherworld.

SONG: Act II Finale

TOYMAKER opens the book on the table. He pours contents from various containers into the flask. He extends his hand over the flask and does a conjuring turn.

TOYMAKER

The light, the light of the otherworld! Can it be, at last, success?

(Cries in ecstasy)

I triumph, I triumph! You hear, you answer. Come forth!

(Smoke appears from the flask)

Demon spirits, I bid you enter the forms I have fashioned in human shape!

DOLLS enter R.

TOYMAKER

They move—no, no, it is the light that cloys my senses!

(Stares wildly at the figures)

Ah, it is true, true at last! I have found the spell at last! They turn to me, to me, their master, their creator! Fiends all of them. Slaves all of them, to me!

(To Alan)

Speak, speak! For I give you life, hating and unrepentant!

ALAN

Undo your work before it is too late!

TOYMAKER

Here's gratitude for you, I give you human form, I take you from the gloom and torments of the otherworld and you dare reproach me?

ALAN

Take care; these things have only murder in their hearts, you are on your own.

DOLL, C. assumes threatening attitude.

TOYMAKER

I do not fear them.

ALAN

(Points to Doll, who approaches with knife.)

Look there.

TOYMAKER

(Turning quickly)

Ah!

DOLL retreats. A murmur of defiance from the others.

TOYMAKER shows terror.

TOYMAKER

Let me pass. Stand aside, you hear me! Obey, or else I'll send your souls back to the abyss from which I brought them!

ALAN

You're lost. You've destroyed yourself. You gave them life to hate and slay and kill. They are ready to fulfill their purpose, and you will be their first victim!

TOYMAKER

No! No! No!

ALAN

Your commands are vain, they know it. They are mortal now, the same as you and me!

DOLLS advance to attack TOYMAKER.

TOYMAKER

Stop! Stop I say!

DOLLS kill TOYMAKER and escape. ALAN is left with TOYMAKER, tries to revive him. BARNABY and MARMADUKE enter, BARNABY accuses ALAN of killing the Toymaker. He summons GONZORGO and RODERIGO. They carry ALAN off at signal from BARNABY. Left alone, BARNABY shows his delight at his success of schemes against Alan. DOLLS appear and they fall upon BARNABY, and gives him a sound beating, he howls for mercy.

-END OF ACT II-

ACT III

EXT. TOYLAND'S PALACE OF JUSTICE

SONG: Hang March*OLD KING COLE with attendants enter L., proceed to R., and exit.*Dialogue

TOM and PIPER CHILDREN enter L.

TOM

Hear ye! Hear ye! If one Master Alan be among ye, this is last chance to appear before Old King Cole to say why he should not be condemned to die!

BO-PEEP

What has Master Alan done?

TOM

He is said to have slain the Master Toymaker.

CURLY LOCKS

Was he alone guilty?

TOM

Many believe the Toymaker was killed by a band of strangers, beings who were seen rushing from his shop. The Police can find no trace of them. Only Master Alan escaped.

BO-PEEP

Oh, Tom, how did Alan get himself into such a scrape?

TOM

I don't know, but it's very serious.

RED RIDING HOOD

Can we do nothing to help him?

TOM

Help him in his flight if you meet him.

JANE enters L.

JANE

Tom!

TOM

Jane! Where in the world have you been?

They embrace.

JANE

All over the world looking for you.

TOM

And I've been doing the same. What a lucky day!

JANE

For us, but not for Alan.

TOM

Poor fellow, he is in trouble. Any news of him?

JANE

None. Contrary Mary is with him and they're trying to get out of Toyland together.

TOM

Without passports that will be hard to do.

JANE

Who accuses Alan of the Toymaker's death?

TOM

Only your uncle Barnaby.

JANE

The wicked old man! He's taken our money, now he wants our lives!

TOM

I must go, the Court is in session. You go into the Court House and await me there.

JANE and TOM exit R. CHILDREN exit L. ALAN and MARY enter up R.

ALAN

So far so good. Nobody recognized us.

MARY

Can you believe them? You don't look a bit like the police description. Now for the last obstacle: The passports.

BARNABY enters unseen L. and recognizes MARY and ALAN.

MARY

If we get safely out of Toyland, where shall we go?

BARNABY exits unseen R.

ALAN

To our old home in Storybook Town first. Then we'll go abroad.

MARY

Where?

ALAN

To a far away country that Jane and I visited after our shipwreck.

MARY

Is the country you're talking about a nice one for young married couples?

ALAN

When young people marry there, they go to a place that's called "Maple Heights"—"Maple," because it's surrounded by pine trees, and "Heights" because it's on a prairie. Then a kind businessman sells them a semi-colonial cottage on weekly payments—and after they've been married ninety-eight years they almost own the cottage.

MARY

And I suppose they fall in love just as we do, and exchange all sorts of beautiful vows?

ALAN

Before marriage.

MARY

And after?

ALAN

It's quite the same as here—and everywhere else.

SONG: Before & After

ALAN

Before they were married they talked like this,
 "Will Lovey's own Dovey give Love a kiss?
 Will Owney's own Ownest be ever true and
 Oos 'ittle Oozelly Oose is oo?"

ALAN & MARY

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Pardon the laughter
 That was before but this is after

ALAN

Madam?

MARY

Sir!

ALAN

How dare you order fourteen dresses and twenty-two shirt waist,
 without consulting me?

MARY

Because I must wear them, you don't.

ALAN

Yes, but I must pay for them, don't I?

MARY

No, you don't. I haven't asked you for a single cent all year. I
 have had charged!

ALAN & MARY

No wise man will disparage marriage
 Yet still it is exceeding strange
 That when you marry
 Unless you're wary
 You both will find a dreadful change!

MARY

Before they were married when out they went,
A coupe or hansom or hack he'd rent
"My dearest," he told her, "My heart's own queen,
You ne'er in a trolley car shall be seen"!

ALAN & MARY

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!...etc.

MARY

How many times have I asked you not to read the newspaper at the
breakfast table?

ALAN

If I didn't read the paper, I would look at you.

MARY

You never dared speak to me like that before we were married!

ALAN

Well, before we were married, you never came down to breakfast
with your hair looking like withered pretzels.

MARY

Mother always said you were a brute. Oh, why did I ever marry you?

ALAN

That's what I have been trying to find out ever since.

ALAN & MARY

No wise man will...etc.

Dialogue

ALAN and MARY exit L. after song. BARNABY enters R.

BARNABY

Come back to your loving uncle, will you. You will find that
difficult.

MARY enters L.

MARY

Oh, it's you, is it?

BARNABY

(Sneeringly)

It's a fine morning for a wedding, Mistress Mary.

MARY

Whose wedding?

BARNABY

Ours, of course. I'll be short and sweet with you, Mistress Mary.
There's a marriage bureau next door to the court room-

(Points off R.)

and we'll be married at once, or else-

MARY

Or else what?

BARNABY

I'll hand Alan over!

(Pointing off L.)

He's in there, I know his disguise. In a moment the court will condemn him for killing the Toymaker.

MARY

You wouldn't betray him!

BARNABY

It's my duty. He has disgraced the family. He's an assassin, but for your sweet sake I'll let him escape.

GON and ROD enter R. holding a large legal document.

BARNABY

What have you there?

GONZORGO

A warrant to execute Alan, your scamp of a nephew.

BARNABY

(To Mary)

You shall decide. Will you take his life, or my name?

MARY

Come, to the marriage bureau!

Seizes BARNABY and rushes him off R.

Enter JANE L. CHILDREN enter R. and L.

JANE

(Seeing Gon and Rod)

Why, when did you two start out as plumbers?

GONZORGO

We're not plumbers; we're executioners. We know nothing about the business. It was influence, not our ability, that got us the job. However, we are willing to learn, and after we have practiced on three or four condemned people, we will get the hang of it.

(Points to Roderigo)

He has charge of the rope and axe counter, while little Zorgey runs the pincer and hot iron department.

JANE

Has the court sent for you?

GONZORGO

It has. We will shortly fill our first order.

JANE

Well then, listen to the wails of several other indiscreet people who, like yourself, did not know enough to come in out of the rain!

SONG: He Won't Be Happy till He Gets It

JANE

There's an apple growing on the tree
 Just over Jones's wall
 'Tis the end, the end, the heart's desire
 Of ev'ry boy that's small
 It's as green as grass, as sour as sin
 But Billy Smith don't care
 And any time you pass that spot
 You'll find that youngster there
 And he won't be happy till he gets it.

JANE & CHILDREN

Though afterwards in cider he will shy
 You bet your ev'ry dime
 Someday that wall he'll climb
 For he's going to get it by and by
 And he won't be happy till he gets it.

GONZORGO

In the middle of the car tracks
 In the rush hour of the day
 Stands a visitor from "J" Town
 Who has plainly lost his way
 He's asking a policeman in blue uniform and star
 "Oh tell me, Mister Officer, where can I get a car?"
 And he won't be happy till he gets it.

GONZORGO & CHILDREN

Up and down the street the cars just fly
 Bang! He dodges one all right
 But there's dozens more in sight
 And you bet he'll get one by and by!
 And he won't be happy till he gets it.

Enter BARNABY R. followed by MARY.

BARNABY

A man said to a maiden once
 "Now won't you kiss me, dear?"
 She said, "Oh no! Of course not,
 Oh what a strange idea!"
 The bashful man the subject changed and soon she cried,
 "Oh my! Please look and see
 I think I've got a cinder in my eye!"
 And she won't be happy till he gets it.

BARNABY & CHILDREN

She didn't think that he would be so shy
 With two lips upturned to you
 Pray say what would you do
 When you found there was no cinder in her eye?
 And she won't be happy till he gets it.

Scene

CHORUS enters R. & L. ALAN, is among them. TOM enters R.

TOM

(Reading from document)

Hear ye! Hear ye! Old King Cole finds the outlaw Alan guilty of the Master Toymaker's death, and orders that he be executed in the manner prescribed by law—

BARNABY

I'll do my duty as a good citizen, and a relative as well.

(points at Alan)

There is the criminal!

General start and exclamation.

ALAN

Who is this villain?

BARNABY

(To Alan)

Your unhappy uncle.

(To Crowd)

Let the law take its course.

TOM

Wait! I have not finished.

(Reads)

He shall be executed in the manner prescribed by law when found— unless he take advantage of the law which gives every condemned man the right to plead the benefit of widow.

ALAN

The benefit of widow?

TOM

An ancient law of Toyland meant to assist a deserving class of subjects.

ALAN

What is the benefit of widow?

TOM

Any widow, with or without a large family, may claim a condemned man for her second husband, and he shall be free as long as he supports said widow and saves her from becoming a charge upon the state.

ALAN

And may the victim choose the widow with, or without the large family?

TOM

Some have preferred the gallows.

ALAN

They must have been married before.

TOM

Do you claim that benefit?

ALAN

(Moves toward Mary)

I'll rather die than marry anyone but Contrary Mary!

BARNABY

If you mean Mrs. Barnaby, you are too late.

MARY

Alan, he recognized you, but swore to let you escape if I married him at once!

ALAN

I'll plead that benefit. Bring on your widows. I'll marry and live!

TOM

Let the Court summon the widows of our city.

MARY

(To Alan)

Courage, somebody will surely choose you!

ALAN

I feel like the prize at a grab bag party.

TOM

Despair not, some widow will surely find you worth taking.

MARY

(Indignant)

You needn't speak of him as though he were a marked down remnant.

ALAN

(To Mary)

To think that we're parted forever!

MARY

Not forever.

(Looking at Barnaby)

The joyful day may soon arrive when they'll expect me to wear crape for that!

BARNABY

Then here's where I give up smoking and go in for physical culture. As soon as I've engaged places on the coach, my dear, we'll depart upon our honeymoon.

Exits L.

TOM

Remember, the sentence will be carried out if a widow does not choose you in fifteen minutes.

ALAN

Don't worry, I'm liable to be killed in the rush!

CHORUS, CHILDREN and JANE exit R. and L.

TOM

I'll hurry them along.

Exits R.

MARY

Alan, will you do me a favor? As you've got to marry in order to live, I wish you'd marry to please me.

ALAN

How can I marry somebody else to please you?

MARY

Don't marry anybody who'll make you forget me.

ALAN

(Dubiously)

Oh!

MARY

If a dashing, pretty widow should claim you, don't accept.

ALAN

No.

MARY

But if a large, stout female appears—

ALAN

One of those girls who shuts out a good deal of light, with red hair, and a bad temper, and a squeaky voice, and a strawberry nose—

MARY

It would make me very restful if you married her—very restful indeed.

ALAN

How about me? I'll need a little rest myself!

MARY

Every time you looked at her I know you'd think of me.

TOM enters R.

TOM

The widows will be here in a minute.

MARY

Are they pretty?

TOM

They're a group of dreams.

MARY

(To Alan)

I'll leave you. Remember, nothing attractive, nothing that will take me from your thoughts one second.

Exits L.

TOM

Now, my boy, use your winning ways.

ALAN

How?

TOM

Why don't you try a serenade. Here's one I sang to Jane when we first met.

SONG: Castle in Spain

TOM

Oh, we'll live in a castle in Spain
 On the side of a hill by Granada
 And you'll then be a haughty Grandee
 And I'll be but a humble Espada
 All our days will be naught but a dream
 Of roses and raptures and blisses
 Till life to us only will seem
 A song that is broken by kisses
 Ev'ry troubadour there will you adore
 Come with mandolin your heart to win
 Vain each serenade 'neath your window played
 For the maid they woo to me'll be true!

Dialogue

GIRLS enter R. in black and red dresses.

TOM

(To Alan)

Here they are. Remember—for you, it's marriage—or worse!

ALAN

What could be worse?

(Sees Girls)

Oh—well, it might be worse. I don't know whether to play the red or black. I guess I'll put a little on both.

FIRST GIRL

(Looking at Alan)

Is this it?

ALAN

In every sense of the word, I am it.

TOM

(To Girls)

Don't hesitate, girls, the one who speaks first gets him.

Exits R.

ALAN

I wonder if they're matching for me?

FIRST GIRL

(To Alan)

So you are to die shortly?

ALAN

Not very shortly— it threatens to be a continuous performance.

SECOND GIRL

But you'll be saved if a widow proposes to you?

ALAN

I dare you.

THIRD GIRL

My husband ran a bread and pie shop and left me with thirteen children.

ALAN

A baker's dozen, eh?

FIRST GIRL

My husband kept a dairy,
(Pointing skyward)
but he's up there now.

ALAN

Gone on his milky way.

FOURTH GIRL

Do you believe in marriage?

ALAN

At the present moment I'd die without it.

FOURTH GIRL

It isn't so dangerous here as it used to be. All of our department stores are adding divorce counters.

ALAN

I suppose they guarantee alimony and a cut glass butter dish with each decree.

FOURTH GIRL

My husband was a millionaire.

ALAN

(Starts to take her aside)

Come up the street a minute, I want to talk to you.

FIRST GIRL

I dote on art. Are you familiar with the old masters?

ALAN

Just now I'm looking for a new one.

FIRST GIRL

I mean pictures.

ALAN

I mean a wife.

FIRST GIRL

Then you may propose.

SECOND GIRL

To me!

THIRD GIRL

To me!

FIRST GIRL

No! I saw him first!

GIRLS surround ALAN, and he walks R. GIRLS follow him.

ALAN

Get in line, girls, get in line!

Exits frantically R.

FOURTH GIRL

(To others)

Wasn't he mean?

SECOND GIRL

Simply horrid.

BO-PEEP enters L.

BO-PEEP

What did he do, and what did he say?

FIRST GIRL

A man who didn't have the courage to propose to a pretty woman.

THRID GIRL

Meaning me.

BO-PEEP

Shy, is he—and timid? Wait till the evening, take a stroll with him—maybe the moon will help you out.

SONG: The Moon Will Help You Out

BO-PEEP

When the man, stupid man,
 Is timid and shy,
 And the days and the weeks,
 And the years roll by
 With the man, stupid man,
 A victim of fear,
 Who will not speak the words
 You are longing to hear.
 If you'd fain put an end
 To worry and doubt
 Give the moon half a chance
 And he'll help you out,
 Give the moon half a chance, he'll help out.

BO-PEEP & GIRLS

There is something in the glimmer of the moon,
 That always puts two loving hearts in tune
 And the lad who fears to say,
 That he loves you in the day
 In the moonlight is inclined to tell you soon.
 So together in the moonlight stroll about,
 It will surely put his bashfulness to rout,
 Ere the ramble you complete
 You will find him at your feet,
 That is how I think the moon will help you out.

BO-PEEP

When the man, cruel man,
 Has started a tiff,
 You exchange as you pass,
 A frown and a sniff,
 All is o'er never more
 He'll sue for your heart
 You are false, he's a wretch
 You have drifted apart.
 So he sulks and he scowls
 You weep and you pout
 Till the moon gets a chance
 And he helps you out,
 Till the moon gets a chance, he'll help out.

BO-PEEP & GIRLS

There is something...etc.

Scene

ALL exit R. and L. TOM enters R. followed by ALAN.

TOM

(To Alan)

Gone, Alan! The widows have gone without claiming you!

ALAN

I guess I didn't appear to be as advertised.

GON and ROD enter L.

GONZORGO

Shall we proceed?

TOM

Wait till I return. There's one more chance!

Exits R.

GONZORGO

(Aside to Roderigo)

I wonder if he'll help us?

RODERIGO

Try him.

GONZORGO

(To Alan)

We're in a very embarrassing position.

RODERIGO

And only you can save us from becoming perfectly ridiculous. When we start to execute you, everybody is liable to laugh at us.

ALAN

I won't.

GONZORGO

If they find out we're not regular executioners, we'll lose the job.

ALAN

How can I help you?

GONZORGO

Since you must leave this cold, hard world, will you allow us to send you our way?

ALAN

I'll go your way.

RODERIGO

Wise boy. Now what would you like in the way of a farewell luncheon? It'll be your last. Have anything you like.

ALAN

I can't think of anything but angel cake—and a glass of wine.

GONZORGO

With a dash of poison in it?

ALAN

Poison?!

RODERIGO

Four drops of that in your wine—

GONZORGO

Just before you start for the scaffold—

RODERIGO

And you'll go into a dreamless sleep.

ALAN

And when I wake up I'll be where the angel cake comes from.

GONZORGO

Perhaps. But in any case you won't be here.

ALAN

Then go ahead and put it in the wine, and when the banquet is ready, serve it out here.

GON and ROD exit L. Enter the Entire Cast R. and L., except for TOM, WIDOW, MARMADUKE and BARNABY. The cast includes KING and the attendants. GON and ROD enter L. with a small table with a slice of cake and a glass of wine on it. When the company has entered, TOM enters R. with WIDOW.

TOM

Stop! Here's another widow!

(To Widow)

Mother, make Alan our stepfather and save his life!

WIDOW

I can't, I'm already married.

TOM

Married? You said you'd never marry anybody but a hero!

Enter MARMADUKE L. He goes to the WIDOW.

WIDOW

(Indicating Marmaduke)

And here he is.

MARY

What made him a hero?

WIDOW

We dined at the most exclusive hotel, and he dared to go without tipping the waiter!

BARNABY enters R.

BARNABY
(To Mary)

Now, Mary, my dear—what's this?

ALAN

The end of your nephew.

BARNABY

Too bad, too bad. I'm very sorry.

(All turn away from him)

It was my duty, I had to do it, I really had to.
Such treatment is hard to bear—

(His eye falls on the table with the wine glass)

—without help. At such a time as this I need encouragement.
Farewell, nephew.

(Takes glass and drains it)

Oh! Oh!

*All turn to him. He falls into the arms of GON and ROD, who carry
him off L. TOM follows.*

ALAN

He drank the wine that was intended for me!

TOM enters L.

TOM

Mrs. Barnaby, you're a widow!

MARY

A widow?

TOM

Excessive grief has taken Mayor Barnaby from us.

MARY

If I'm am a widow, then by law, I can claim Alan as my husband!

ALAN

Mary!

SONG: Barnaby o' Flynn

MARY

He's a lad from County Clare,
('Tis the wild ones come from there)
And be sure 'tis in his coat a rogue you'll see
O'er the girls he casts a spell,
Oh, I know that very well
(For between us from that spell I am not free!)
There's no colleen in the land
Could his eloquence withstand
Should he speak to her as he's spoken to me!

MARY & CHORUS

My heart have you stole, you're the thief of my soul,
My senses you have taken, too
Both fair Trojan Helen and Vaynus excellin'
They'd ne'er hold a rush light to you

MARY & CHORUS (cont'd)

Mavourneen! Mavourneen!
Sure one kiss would be no sin,
For I love you, Alanna,
Your slave is poor Barney O'Flynn!

MARY

'Tis no rest or peace I know
An' I often bid him go
For to one I'm sure he never could be true
But he answers, "Ah, mavrone
Faith 'tis you I love alone
With your tresses all of gold and eyes so blue!"
Then before he laves me door
I've forgiven him once more,
For wid blarney such as his what can you do!

ALAN, MARY & CHORUS

Me heart have ye stole, yure the thief of me soul,
Me sinses ye have taken, too
Both fair Troyan Helen an' Vaynus excellin'
They'd ne'er hold a rush light to you
Mavourneen! Mavourneen!
Sure one kiss would be no sin,
For I love ye, Alanna,
Ye slave is poor Barney O'Flynn!

FINIS