

Dick Whittington

Dick Whittington

by

David Trowbridge

CAST

RICHARD WHITTINGTON

KING RAT

FAIRY BOWBELLS

TOM (the CAT)

ALDERMAN FITZWARREN

BEAU

ALICE FITZWARREN

SARAH (the Cook)

FUTTOCK

CRACKER

POSEIDON

VIZIER

SULTANA of MOROCCO

PROLOGUE

(enter Dick)

DICK Hi there folk, my names Richard Whittington! Most people call me Dick!
You see I left my home up north and I'm heading south to London.
The Biggest city in Europe. The streets are supposed to be paved with gold!
You see when I told my Parents what I was planning on doing
They said 'Don't do it son, it'll bring you to ruin'
I said 'I'm going to London my fortune to find'
My Mum and Dad said 'You're out of your mind'
London's not for you as you'll soon see,
I said I know what's the best for me
I'll make my way –find fame and fortune
Then I'll come back home and bring you a portion
So here I am , it's 1377,!
That's the year not the time, I hope that London really is heaven!
See you all in London! *(he exits)*

ACT 1 Scene One: Egypt, North Africa, the 14th century

Enter various Egyptians

SONG: OLD BAZAAR IN CAIRO

*Suddenly a number of rats scurry on people scream and run hither and thither once they've all gone enter
KING RAT a person sized rat with a crown and a very long tail*

KING RAT Ha ha ha! All gone!*(said as a parent having successfully made a child take it's medicine)*
Egypt is mine.....all mine! They don't call me KING RAT for nothing! Next stop Morocco!
Then Spain....then Oh la La, La belle France and then once my rats have overrun all of
Europe ..the greatest prize of all...England!

How do you do it? How does a rat take over the known world? I hear you ask. Well ask then, oh come on it's the first bit of audience participation. **Somebody** ask me.... please.

(Hopefully someone will, if not the MD can put him out of his misery)

Oh, I'm so glad you asked me. Well, it's simple. We live among you, eat all your food and give you nasty fatal diseases then eventually me and my rats will take over! I will be King of the World! So right now I'm off to spread it about a bit!

Ha...ha..ha..ha! London.....and the world! Here I come!

(EXIT RAT laughing. Enter FAIRY BOWBELLS)

SCENE 2 FOC (CAT is curled up in corner)

(enter Fairy)

FAIRY The Bells ring out! ...*(To MC)* Bells ring out!? Where are they?

MD Where are what?

FAIRY The bells! The bells! *(goes to MD)* The Bells! Where are the bells?

MD Wrong play dear! Oh the bells! Oh sorry! Don't ask me! I've got enough on my plate already! I wasn't looking at the script! You know not only am I doing the sound ...and the lighting and some singing... and even a bit of acting!

FAIRY No change there then! A bit of acting!

MD You're the FAIRY! You sort it out! Use your... *(sneering)* magic powers!

FAIRY The bells! the Bells! Give me the bells...PLEASE!

MD The magic word! That's better... a bit of politeness! Right!

(bells start to ring very loudly)

FAIRY The bells...*(she has to shout to be heard)* The bells!... I can't hear myself speak!

MD Pardon?

FAIRY *(shouting)* I CAN'T *(volume drops)* HEAR MYSELF...*(bells stop)* SPEAK!

MD There's no need to shout!

FAIRY The bells! ring out their magic chime, to welcome you to pantomime! Hello, I'm Fairy Bowbells and it is my job apparently is to look after a lad called Richard Whittington who on his way to London to find fame and fortune! Another dreamer! Oh some fairies do ave 'em. *(to MD)* You know that all too well don't you dear!

MD Get on with it ...stop hanging it out...enlarging your part!

FAIRY Some people...I only have to wave my wand at you and... Oh very well, here we go...Where was I? I know...I know...So come with me and we shall meet...

CAT Meat! Meat! Did someone say meat? *(he gets up and winds himself around FAIRIES legs)*

FAIRY Excuse me... Moggie! Is this where stray cats meet?

CAT Cats meat... She's said it again! Ohh! She looks like a Fairy. She appeared in a twinkling! Here... Mrs Fairy...sir...let me help you with your twinkling!

FAIRY Thank you Kitty*(as he helps her to remove her twinkling coat)*

CAT The names Tommy actu...Here, how come you understand what I'm saying?

FAIRY As you correctly guessed I'm a Fairy!

CAT Ooooh! Nice!

FAIRY I can understand you when you speak and so can the audience and the MD (when he's awake!)

MD Um! What ! What did you say? I just dozed off then!

FAIRY You just can't get the staff these days! Well kitty, sorry... Tommy... I said that I and the audience can understand you but none of the other characters on the stage! All they can hear are meows etc.

CAT Well understand this! I'm not just a cat! **I** am a TOM cat! I'll have you know I've got all my...

FAIRY Faculties!

CAT So what do you want? I was just lying there, minding my own business licking my...

FAIRY PLEASE!

CAT Paw! A cute, cuddly, loveable bundle of fur who was in a cats home waiting for ...food... a wealthy...nice human to feed and love me and give me a nice home...and food! Well I was in a niceish home until my human diedAh! Aaah! Come on ! Aaah! and I ended up back on the streets, Older... destitute and very hungry

FAIRY Ahh!... Everyone...Aah! Well TOM! I have a job for you!

CAT Job?...JOB! **JOB!** I'm a Cat...C..A..T ! Cat! I don't do ...*(said as if it burns his tongue)*WORK!

FAIRY Well you do now! I will brook no debate!

CAT Debate! Isn't that what they use to catch defish with?!!

FAIRY Ha-ha! Very funny..NOT! I want you to help and protect a young man called Dick Whittington who's about to arrive in London to seek his fortune!

CAT Protect from who?

FAIRY WHOM! Actually it's more of a what...King Rat!

CAT KING RAT! You mean that rats actually have a King?

FAIRY Oh yes let me tell you about him.

SONG: BAD KING RAT IS COMING TO TOWN!

RAT enters and gives a slow hand clap

RAT Oh, very good, NOT. A terrible song. You almost made me sound nice, and if that is one thing that I am not, is nice! Isn't that so boys and girls? They'll tell you. Aren't I wicked evil little rat? *(encourages the audience to say yes)* There you are, they agree with me. In fact it's the only time in this panto the audience agrees with me.

FAIRY You won't win, you will be stopped.

RAT Oh yes? You and your little wand won't stop all my rats.

FAIRY Maybe not but I know someone who can.

RAT Who?

CAT *(Coming out from behind the fairy)* Me!

RAT *(leaping across to opposite side of the stage)* Aaaargh! A C A T. Well, I'm not frightened of a mangy cat.

CAT Then why did you jump across to get away from me?.

RAT I .. I...I... just had to get away from the smell. Phew! Please you should try to do something about it you know.

CAT That's rich coming from the King of the super stinky rats!

RAT Are you saying that I smell?

CAT Yes I am. What you gonna do about it .. get some deodorant?

RAT I'll show you....*(During the above speech the CAT and the RAT have been squaring up to each other for a fight and getting closer and closer until the smell gets unbearable for each of them and they break away)*

FAIRY ENOUGH. Now look here Ratty....

RAT Ratty?!?!?

FAIRY You realise this is a pantomime.

RAT Looking at you two I thought it was a farce.

FAIRY And good will always win over evil. Isn't that so boys and girls? *(Hopefully they agree)*

RAT Well it won't this time.

FAIRY *(With audience help)* Oh yes it will!

RAT Oh no it won't *(Usual 'Yes it will/No it won't business)*

RAT Bah Anyway I haven't time to bandy legs with you. I'm off to reap havoc and discord . Ha ha Haha! *(exit RAT laughing maniacally)*

CAT I didn't think the bandy legs gag was *that* funny.

FAIRY *(looking at her watch)* We haven't got time for this. Its big hand past the little hand and I'm supposed to be meeting this Richard person in Hackney. Come on puss! Lets go and find him! *(they exit)*

SCENE 3

STREET SCENE IN FRONT OF FITZWARREN'S SHOP

Dick Whittington

Enter Beau yawning.

BEAU Hi there kids! (*Encourages them for a response*) I said Hi there Kids! (*hopefully a better response*) My names Beau, Beau Nidel and I work for Alderman Fitzwarren who is an international merchant, which means he has a shop and a ship that he sends all over the world to bring back stuff to sell in his shop! And I am his invaluable assistant. Hey you all look a friendly lot. Tell you what , I've just had a fantastically original idea. Each time I come on I'll say 'Hi kids' and I want to all to shout back 'Hi Beau!' Let's practise. (*gets the audience to try it a couple of times*)

FITZ (*off*) Beau! Beau! Where is that boy? ...

BEAU Oh no! it's the Boss.

Enter Fitzwarren

FITZ Beau, Beau Nidel Never has a name been more apt! Oh there you are. Do you know what time it is?

BEAU Time for elevenses?

FITZ This is the third time this week you've been late for work, don't you have an alarm clock at home?

BEAU Of course we do, but there's nine of us in the family and mum only sets it for eight!

FITZ Stupid boy! You're the laziest boy I've ever employed! My ship is supposed to be back today and I've got to get it unloaded and ready for my trading trip to Morocco.

BEAU Lazy! I've just been down to your ship...

FITZ Good! She's arrived back then!

BEAU We e l l... You know you sent her up to Scotland to pick up a cargo of Yo Yo's?

FITZ Yes

BEAU We e l l... On the way back she hit a reef!

FITZ Oh no! Did she sink?

BEAU Yes! Ninety nine times! (*to audience 'Yo-yo's-sink! indicates motion as if playing with a yo-yo!*) Oh please yourselves! At least no-one can say 'I'm not trying!'

FITZ Of course you are! Very trying! Making stupid jokes like that is very, very trying! Now I'll go to the dock and see for myself! You stay here and don't get into anymore trouble. (*to himself*) Stupid boy!

(He exits)

BEAU (*to audience*) What do I do if he sacks me? I've no training, no skills and I fall asleep at the drop of a hat.

(enter Alice Fitz's daughter)

ALICE You'll probably end up as an MP or even worse, a Lord! Come on Beau lets get dads shop open! (*she exits*)

BEAU That's Alice! The alderman's daughter! Isn't she lovely? Oh (*yawns*) I'm so tired! (*He leans against the prosc. and starts to snore*)

Dick Whittington

- ALICE *(entering)* Wake up Beau! Gosh! You are dozy today!
- BEAU Where! What! How! Oh golly! I must have fallen asleep! Here boys and girls you can help me! Every time I say 'I'm so tired' could you all shout out 'Wake up Beau'. Can you do that for me? Lets have a try first! ' Oh*(yawns)* I'm so tired!' I think you'd better try a bit louder OK? 'Oh! I'm so tired!' *(hopefully they'll prompt you)* Thanks that's great!
- ALICE Off you go Beau! You start opening the shop! *(he exits)* Oh Here's Sarah our cook. She'll want someone to help her in the kitchen! Let's go! *(enter Sarah the cook)* See you later Sarah! *(they exit)*
- SARAH Where are those two off to? *(respond if the audience tell you!)* I was wondering who made all that noise! It was you lot wasn't it? Well! Hello boys and girls, I'm Sarah the cook and I work for Alderman Fitzwarren. I'm also a widow! Do I get an AHHH? Thank you! I've been married twice! My first husbands been gone a long time. In fact he should be there by now! I was cooking Sunday lunch and I sent him to the end of the garden to cut me a cabbage and he went just like that! I was distraught! My dis had never been so straught! I didn't know what to do! In the end I opened a can of peas! My second husband ran off with the woman next door and Oh I do miss her! So now I'm footloose and fancy free... If it's free I fancy it! Oh I say! You do look like a nice lot! Especially YOU sir! *(pick out a man in audience and toys with him)* etc
- SARAH *(eventually)* Now you all know my name but I don't know yours. When I count to three I want you all to shout out your names 1...2...3! I didn't hear you, lets try again 1...2...3! Excellent ! Now we know each others names *(does parties)* Right I'm off, I've a meal to cook! Bye! See you later! *(enter DICK)*
- (she exits as Dick enters)*
- DICK Hello again! Its me ! Dick Whittington! I bet you forgot who I am! No! Good! Right, I know I'm in a village that's on the outskirts of London but I'm not sure were! Do you lot know? Can you tell me, please. Oh! Acne! I think I had some of that when I was a teenager! *(enter CAT and Fairy)* Oh! HACKney! Is it called that because it's a lovely Spot!!
- FAIRY Here you are puss. This is Dick Whittington! Why don't you go over and say hello!
(CAT crosses and twirls about his legs)
- DICK Hello there kitty! *(CAT howls and spits)* Oh! What have I said wrong! I didn't expect a hissy fit!
- FAIRY Down Tom! Be a good puty- tat!
- CAT Puty-tat! Puty tat! What is the world coming to? *(Goes to Dick)* So you're this mysterious Dick! *(To Fairy)* How can I help him?! He doesn't want to speak to me!
- FAIR *(to cat)* What did I tell you? The audience can understand you! I can understand you but no one else can! *(to Dick)* Richard, this cat is now your companion. He's here to help you against a great evil! The King of Rats is in London and he's planning to get rid of all the people so that he and his ratty minions can take over London and then the world! You two are the only ones who can defeat him!
- DICK King Rat! Take over the world. I don't believe it!
- FAIRY You'll have to look after each other and work together! ...or else! *(Both nod to Fairy who disappears)*
- CAT Who's Else?! And I thought he was as thick as he looks! No!... that's just not possible! *(enter Alice)*

Dick Whittington

- ALICE Hello there cat! Nice to see you again! To see you nice! (*All adopt THE pose!*) Who's this young man with you!
- DICK Hello! I'm Richard Whittington and this, apparently, is my cat!
- ALICE (*to DICK stroking cat*) He's perfect (*to audience*) And this boy isn't bad! (*to Dick*) Hello! My names Alice! (*she curtsies, he bows in response*)
- DICK You see I've just arrived in London and I wandered out to this picturesque rural village. Can you tell me the name of this village, I heard some people talking and they called it 'acne'! That can't be right can it?
- ALICE That's the accent! It's called Hackney and this bit is called London Fields! As I said I'm Alice Fitzwarren and my father, Alderman Fitzwarren, owns that shop over there!
- DICK He must be very happy then. He has what looks like a fine shop...and the most beautiful daughter in the whole of England!
- ALICE (*curtsying*) Thank you, Master Whittington!?
- DICK You can call me Dick! Please do! Mind you I may not stay long enough for us to get to know each other unless I find a job and earn some money to rent a room !
- ALICE As I said my father owns that shop and I think he needs a new assistant! You could stay with us and sleep in the shop! Then we could get to know each other a lot better!

SONG (Al & Dick)GETTING TO KNOW YOU IN FOC

- CAT More caterwauling! What have I done to deserve this!
- ALICE I'll have to ask my father! Why don't you have a quick look at the sights of London and come back this afternoon! I'm sure he'll say yes!
- DICK Well, goodbye 'til later! Come along Tom(*they exit*) Bye!
- ALICE Bye (*this carries on as long as it can be sustained!*) I wonder what's cooking in the kitchen?

SCENE 4

KITCHEN ROUTINE(OPTIONAL)

(*Sara is sitting, eating*)

- SARA Hello boys and girls. As you can see I'm sooooo busy!
(*enter assistant*)
- BEAU Hello Sarah! The Alderman says I'm to help you prepare the dinner! I see you're eating again!
- SARA When you're as good a cook as I am (*the BEAU pulls a face*) you are wise to check your that your cooking skills are still up to scratch! Have a bite (*indicates plate on a stool. BEAU goes over, picks a small piece of cake and starts to chew, it is obviously hard going*) Good isn't it!
- BEAU I would say it was up to your usual standard (*indicating to audience that the usual standard is awful*)
- SARA Yes! This snack is my tensies!
- BEAU Your tensies? What are your tensies?
- SARA I have them an hour before my elevensies! Right! We're going to make a cake!
- BEAU Good idea!

SARA Recipe book please. It's under the table. *(BEAU picks up the large book and slams it down on Sarah's hand)* Not on my hand!

BEAU Sorry Sarah! *(She picks up the book and tries to hand it to Sarah. She misses and drops it on Sarah's foot)*

SARA Ow! Not on my foot!

BEAU Sorry Sarah! *(They both try to pick it up and crash heads!)*

BOTH OW!

SARA *(Imitating BEAU)* Sorry Sarah! *(she pick up the book)* Now follow the recipe! *(SARA wanders around the table and the BEAU follows closely. Sarah stops and the BEAU bumps into her. Sarah jumps)* Now what are you doing?

BEAU Following the recipe!

SARA Look! I'll read it out and you do what I say.

BEAU Sorry Sarah

SARA and stop saying sorry Sarah!

BEAU Sorry Sarah! Oops!

SARA Take a big dish!

BEAU Pardon?

SARA Take a big dish. *(BEAU exits and returns with a big fish)*

BEAU Right

SARA Now put an egg in it

BEAU Pardon?

SARA Put and egg in it

BEAU Right. *(Gets an egg and puts it in the fishes mouth)*

SARA Add flour

BEAU Right *(Gets a flower and puts it in the fish's mouth)* There I've done it! *(Sarah turns around)*

SARA What are you doing?

BEAU Fish, Flower, egg!

SARA No! A dish! D-I-S-H!

BEAU Sorry Sarah! *(BEAU finds a dish)*

SARA Start again! Egg! *(BEAU drops in an egg, shell and all)* Now beat it!.

BEAU Pardon?

SARA Beat it! *(BEAU starts to exit)* Where are you going?

BEAU You said 'beat it!'

Dick Whittington

SARA No! no! no! Get a wooden spoon and beat it! (*BEAU gets the spoon, looks at it then at SARA, thinks then bangs the spoon on the table*) No! Don't beat the spoon, beat the egg with the spoon! (*BEAU does so*) Now a little flour.

BEAU Right! (*BEAU exits and returns with a flower*)

SARA Not a real flower! A bag of flour! (*BEAU exits and returns with a bag of flour*) Now stir in flour!

BEAU Pardon?

SARA Stir in flour!

BEAU Right (*BEAU puts spoon in bag and stirs making a mess*)

SARA No don't stir in the flour. Stir in the flour! (*BEAU is confused*) Oh tip it all in the dish and stir it!

BEAU Sorry! (*does so dropping in bag and all*)

SARA Now sugar! One pound!

BEAU Sugar (*finds bag of sugar and tips it in bag and all*) One pound (*Takes a pound coin from pocket and drops that in the bowl*)

SARA Butter (*BEAU gets a packet of butter and drops that as is*)

BEAU Butter!

SARA Milk! One jug!

BEAU Milk! (*pours in milk*) One jug! (*Drops in jug. Sarah turns in time to see the jug being dropped in!*)

SARA No!no!no! Not the jug!

BEAU Sorry Sarah

SARA Don't be silly and put a sock in it! (*BEAU finds a sock, sniffs it, pulls a face then drops the sock into the bowl*) Now turn on the oven!

BEAU Pardon?

SARA Turn on the oven! (*BEAU thinks for a moment then sits on the hob and revolves on their bottom*) Is it hot?

BEAU I am and I'm feeling giddy!

SARA (*looking round at BEAU*) What are you doing?

BEAU Turning on the oven!

SARA Get out of the way! I'll do it! Now put the dish in the oven!

BEAU Pardon?

SARA Into the oven! Into the oven! (*BEAU tries to climb into the oven*) Not you! Put the Dish in! (*BEAU puts the dish in and closes the door*)

SARA Now we won't have to wait long, It's a special Michaelwave oven! (*there is a flash and a bang and the door opens*) Oh goody! It's done! (*takes cake from the oven*) Now icing!

BEAU So do I! (*and starts singing*)

SARA I said icing for the cake! Its under the table. Now give me the cake!

BEAU Give you the cake! (*BEAU goes towards Sarah holding the cake tin (which is empty)then Trips over his/her feet and pushes the cake tin (probably full of foam rubber into Sarah's face)* Whoops! (*Blackout and curtain*)

SCENE 5

A London Street (FOC)

(enter DICK puffed followed by Tom)

DICK I've been all over London. All round the city walls. I've looked at the steeple of St Pauls, did you know it's over 500 feet tall? I walked across London Bridge but you don't get to see much of the river with all the houses built on it! Then there's the heads of traitors stuck on spikes on top of one of the entrance gates...horrible. And now I'm back in Hackney and completely puffed. How are you doing Kitty after that long walk?

CAT Don't dare call me Kitty! My names Tom! That's T...O...M! Tom!

DICK Why are you growling at me? (*to audience*)Do you know why he's growling at me? You do! Please tell me why? Do you know his name? Oh his names Tom is it? Well I'm sorry I called you Kitty and I think you're as tired as I am. Why don't we both have a nice snooze against this arch(*the pros arch*)

CAT OK! Be familiar! See if I care!. This whole thing could be a CATastrophe! This boy could be a CATalyst for all sorts of trouble! Anyway now I've got CATAarrh! And if this goes on I could have CATalepsy! (*enter FAIRY*) That's all I need! The Fairy!

FAIRY That's enough of the CATalogue! Oh you've got me at it now!

(KING RAT enters)

FAIRY Look over there! (*indicating KR*) That's the evil King Rat! I'd pretend to sleep if I were you but keep one eye open to see what he gets up to! Goodbye for now! (*She exits*)

RAT Whittington! The one person who can defeat me! And a C...A...T! The most horrible creature in all of the world! If those two work to together they may actually succeed! Well I won't have them spoiling my plan for world domination. I'll sneak over there and pour a little of this deadly poison, just enough to kill him, down Whittington's throat! (*cackles loudly then realises he's making a noise and shushes himself. He approaches the sleeping pair and prepares to poison Dick. He is just about to pour a few drops when Tom wakes up and attacks him. They struggle until KR gives up and runs away!*)

CAT Oh rats! He got away! Rats! He's a rat! Get it! Oh suit yourselves!

DICK (*waking up*)What's going on? Did you frighten the great big rat away den?

CAT Sometimes he can be so patronising!

DICK Right lets get back to the Fitzwarren's shop and see if I've got a job!

SCENE 6

INSIDE FITZWARRENS SHOP

FITZ So where's this Dick Whittington you've told me so much about! I thought he was coming to see me for a job?

ALICE I'm sorry Daddy I don't know where he is. I hope that nothing's happened to him!

Dick Whittington

(enter Dick and Cat)

CAT Well will you look at that! She must be the Alice he's been going on about! I thought he must have been in some kind of wonderland! But for a human she's actually quite attractive!

DICK Hello Alderman! *(cooly)* Hello Alice!

ALICE *(equally cooly)* Hello Dick

FITZ *(loudly clearing throat!)* Ha_hmm!

ALICE Father this is Richard Whittington but he likes to be called Dick!. Dad- Dick!, Dick-Dad!

FITZ He looks like rif-raf to me! I won't speak to him!

DICK Good day sir! It is indeed a pleasure and a privilege to such an important and dignified man as yourself!

FITZ *(preening)* What a polite and intelligent young man!

CAT You wouldn't catch me being taken In by that load of old flannel!

DICK And this is my cat, TOM

FITZ What a fine looking animal!

CAT The truth! So perceptive! I like him already!

FITZ He must have a first rate pedigree!

DICK Oh he does! He's a pedigree chum of mine!

FITZ Ladies, gentlemen and children, I apologise for that dog of a joke! Come with me Dick we'll go into my office and discuss your pay.
(enter BEAU)

BEAU Oh I'm so tired! *(hopefully the audience will remember to say 'wake up Beau')**(to aud)* Thank you! Here I've just thought of a new breakfast cereal! I call it 'Rise and Shine' 'cause it's made of yeast and furniture polish! *(yawns loudly)*

ALICE Caught you dozing and unaware have I?

BEAU Caught me what?

ALICE Unaware! Unaware! You know what unaware is don't you?

BEAU Of course I do! It's my vest and pants!

ALICE He really is so dozy! *(she exits as Dick enters)* Why don't you sort out the store room with Dick! But first, can I have a word with you in private Dick*(they exit)*

BEAU What did I do wrong? *(enter KR)* Who, or more precisely what is this?

RAT Hello boy. What's your name?

BEAU Nidell! Beau Nidel!

RAT For the moment you still have your job don't you?

BEAU Yes. Um... What do you mean by 'for the moment'?

RAT I want you to look at this beautiful ring I'm holding in my paw...um... hand!

BEAU It's really beautiful and glittery.

RAT Now put it on your finger!

BEAU (*looks at ring then to audience*) Should I take this ring? I don't trust him but it's so beautiful! and ...precious!

RAT Come on boy, don't hesitate, yes this ring is now your precious. PUT IT ON(*Beau puts the ring on and is hypnotised*) Now I can command him to do whatever I wish.

BEAU I will do whatever you wish.

RAT You will do something that the Alderman will not like and blame it on Dick.

BEAU I will do something that the Alderman will not like and blame it on Dick.

RAT That should stop Dick and his wretched cat from beating me Ha... ha ..ha. ha (*etc., he exits laughing evilly. Enter DICK carrying a parcel marked FRAGILE*))

PARCEL SKETCH

DICK Hello Beau. How are you doing. Tell me what to do and we'll work together.

BEAU Are you going out with that parcel?

DICK Yes. The Alderman told me to take it to....

BEAU The Post Office! He sends everything through the Post Office!

DICK Really?

BEAU But you mustn't take that to the Post Office. I mean it's clearly marked fragile! I wouldn't take it there.

DICK Well perhaps you wouldn't but...

BEAU Don't say you're going to send it through the Post Office! It'll never get to its destination in one piece (*he grabs the parcel*) First of all they'll stamp it like this (*Bangs his fist on top of parcel*) Then they'll drop it onto a weighing machine like this (*drops parcel on floor*) Then they'll drop it into a sack like this (*picks parcel up and drops it onto the floor again*) Then they might kick it like this (*kicks the parcel*) Then throw it into the wagon like this (*throws parcel against the wall*) and by the time it gets where its going whatever's in it is smashed to bits! I'd never send a parcel by post!

DICK I wasn't going to! I was going to take it to your house! It's a new automatic alarm clock and teamaker combined so that its easier for your Mother to get you up in the morning!
(*enter FITZ*)

FITZ What's happened to my parcel?

BEAU I really don't know. Something in my head told me I should do what I did! I'm sorry!

DICK I did see something a bit ratty scuttling away sir ! I suspect Beau couldn't help himself!

FITZ Well I did see something like that myself. Oh well, I suppose I'll just have to put up with you coming in to work half asleep! Come on. Lets get on with the stock take (*they exit*)

Enter King Rat

RAT I must cat rid of that Dick...Whittington and his Urghhh! C...A...T! Horrible creature! I schemed and connived and plotted...and perhaps you gormless lot can help me? W.e.ll! Perhaps not! Looking at you I can see that there's probably just one functioning braincell amongst the lot of you! And that's me being generous! I wonder if its safe... hang

on! Hang on! SAFE! That's it! The safe! Now I've just thought of a despicable and cunning plan to get rid of that brat Whittington and his horrible smelly cat!

SONG (TBD) King Rat

(he exits chortling enter Fitz with a Large bag or two of money followed by Dick and the cat)

- FITZ The shops takings! We've taken the most takings we've ever taken! It's taken my breath away! I put it down to you two! You and the cat have brought me ...us... some luck!
- DICK No sir! We've just been very busy!
- FITZ Don't be so modest! You've worked harder than Beau has ever done. He so lazy he falls asleep running for a bus!
- DICK He's trying to improve! He borrowed a book from the library 'How to cure laziness in seven days!
- FITZ Trouble is he's so lazy he asked Alice to read it to him! *(enter Alice)*
- ALICE And I've just left him snoring! Even being read too tired him out!
- FITZ Now Dick we must find you somewhere to sleep!
- ALICE If Dick and the cat sleep down here they could keep one eye on the shop and the other on the safe!
- FITZ Good idea Alice! I'll put the takings in the safe and you and the cat can sleep over there on the sacking. Good night! *(he exits)*
- ALICE Good night Dick and good night to you, you beautiful cat.*(She scratches behind his ears)*
- CAT/DICK Good night! *(they turn and face the audience)* Isn't she lovely! Sigh!
(Dick crosses to the sacking and snuggles down.)
- CAT I don't like this! Now we're all alone and I have this feeling of Doom!, Doom! We're all doomed!
- DICK What are you yowling on about Tom? Go to sleep!
- CAT It's alright for him but I've got a touch of the dooms! *(he curls up next to Dick)* Poor lad! Something bad's going to happen! I can feel it in my whiskers! I mustn't fall asleep! *(yawns widely and falls asleep! Enter KING RAT)*
- RAT So this Dick and the C...A...T have to guard Fitzwarren's money! I have to make this Dick look very bad to Fitzwarren! I know! First I'll steal the takings and while Dicks sleeping put it in his knapsack! *(which he does)* Now to wake up the household! Stop THIEF! STOP! Leave that money alone! Dick's taking all of the takings!*(laughs)* Now get out of that Dick Whittington!
- (RAT exits enter Alice, Fitz, Sarah and Beau who is yawning hugely)*
- BEAU Oh I'm so tired! Ohhhh! The safes open!
- SARA Stupid boy! We've been burgled!
- FITZ All the takings taken! It takes my breath away! I can't take it in!
- DICK But there was no-one here except...

Dick Whittington

SARA You and the cat!

FITZ I'm sorry Dick I'll have to take a look in your knapsack!

ALICE Surely Daddy you don't think that Dick has taken the takings!
(All turn and look at her)

SARA Well someone has!

BEAU *(Yawns)*What about Dicks knapsack! The one on the stick!

DICK There's nothing in there except a clean shirt and a doublet...

BEAU *(yawns)* What's a doublet!

SARA Two singlet's!

DICK and a couple of pairs of Calvins! Please feel free to look inside!
(FITZ opens the bag and finds the bag of money! He takse the money out)

FITZ Richard... how could you!

DICK I didn't do it sir! I'm innocent!

CAT *(sniffing around)* I smell a rat!

FITZ Richard Whittington , you are the only one who could have taken the takings! You just didn't have time to take them away! Now take a hint and take the High Road ... before I call the sheriff!

ALICE Daddy! I'm certain Dick didn't do it!

SARA I agree! He just isn't clever enough! *(she exits)*

FITZ Then who did? The cat?

CAT Blooming cheek! The cat! I always knew with him they'd be a clause in the contract!
Claws in the contract! Get it? Oh please yourselves!
(Dick takes the empty bag)

DICK Come on Tom! I might as well go back to Gloucestershire and I want you to come with me!
*(turns to Alice)*I didn't do it Alice, I promise!

ALICE I believe you Dick!

FITZ Get ye gone villain! *(As he hustles Dick and Tom out)* I put my faith in that boy. I can't believe he did this!

SCENE 7
HIGHGATE HILL FOC

DICK Highgate Hill! Gosh what a climb! But the view is wonderful from up here!
I need a rest! I think I'll sit here*(sits with his back to the mile stone)*

CAT That rotten rats behind all this! You know I'm really tired after all this walking!
I'm really glad we've paused_Paused-paws! Get it? Oh well suit yourselves!
I told you it would be a CATastophe! Strange that there's never a Fairy around when you need one. Here Fairy!...fairy!...fairy!

Dick Whittington

- DICK You're making a lot of noise! You know what I wish?
- DICK/CAT I wish I(we) had a Fairy Godmother!- Like in the pantomimes!
(there is a flash, enter Fairy Bowbells)
- FAIRY Hello Dick! I'm Fairy Bowbells, and I'm your Fairy Godmother and bells are what you will be hearing soon! The sound of bowbells calling you back to London!
Richard listen close and have no fear!
I'll tell you just what happened there!
The villain here is one King Rat
He stole Fitzwarren's money and put it in your pack!
- DICK/CAT King Rat!
- CAT *(unaware that the rat is creeping up behind him)* Just wait until I get my claws into that rotten rat! If he was here now I'd walk up to him and say...*(RAT taps TOM on the shoulder)*..It's really nice to see you again...you're looking very well....*(he hides behind the Fairy)*
- RAT Frightened are you? What a poor, pathetic, pussy tat or more accurately ...tatty puss!you are! Hiding behind a Fairy!
- CAT I wasn't hiding! I was checking her wings were on straight!
- FAIRY Will you two stop! Rat, you are a nasty, evil blot on the landscape.isn't he boys and girls?
- RAT That Tom needs a trip to the vet!*(makes a scissors motion with his paw)*- and they can get rid his fleas at the same time!
- FAIRY Dick has a destiny and try as you might you won't defeat him!
- RAT Oh, yes I will!
- FAIRY Oh no you won't! *(repeat this RAT and Fairy bit as long as it works)*
- RAT/CAT Oh yes you will!..Ooops!
- FAIRY Be gone foul fiend!
- CAT OK I'm just leaving!...Oh! You mean the rat!
- RAT I'll be back and I'll defeat Dick and his mangy moggy! Then I'll do some nasty things to you disgusting lot out there! Ha! ha! ha! etc*(indicating audience! He exits)*
(the bells chime out)
- FAIR Turn again Whittington, return to London Town
Three times you will be Lord Mayor, a man of great renown
Turn again Whittington, your fortune too find
Because you are honest and gentle, thoughtful and kind!
(voices call out 'Turn again Whittington!')
- DICK This is my destiny! This is my dream!
(the stage lights dim and a spotlight falls on DICK others exit)

SONG

(To dream the impossible dream chorus joins in)

- DICK I'm going back to Alderman Fitzwarren's and I'm going to prove that I'm innocent!
Come on Tom!
- CAT At least this part of the journeys down hill! See you in 15minutes!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE 1

ALDERMAN FITZWARREN'S SHOP

(Enter Beau)

BEAU Ohhhh! I'm so tired! Oh you're back are you! Well, did you have some nice refreshments? Good! The staff here are quite nice. Oh I've got a funny feeling in my hands! Do you know the saying 'by the pricking of my thumbs, something wicked this way comes'. Well that's exactly how I feel! Something wicked eh! I'm going to clear off!

(enter King Rat)

RAT Don't move boy! *(Beau freezes)* I'm back! Now I may have gotten rid of that Dick and his C...A...T but I still have to get my rats into the country so that they can spread the Black Death! Well this is *(holds up an envelope)* phase two of my plan! Because this letter here is from the Sultana of Morocco to Alderman Fitzwarren . (It isn't! I actually wrote it during the interval)*(he giggles insanely)* In this letter it says that the Sultana wants Fitzwarren to take his ship to Morocco and collect a load of goods which will make him much, much richer. Oh! This is sooooo clever! You see there are no goods waiting in Morocco! Just hoards and hoards of my plague carrying rats who will fill the ship's hold! Then when the alderman and his crew get back from Morocco those rats will come ashore and before you know it millions of people will die! Ha...ha...ha! Ha...ha...ha! The next stage in my plot to rule the world!! Now, you boy, come here!

BEAU I can't ...you froze me!

RAT So I did! Oh I'm such a silly billy! Unfreeze! Right boy, come here! Come to your new master!

BEAU I really don't want to! My Mum always told me not to talk to strangers! And you must admit you are pretty strange! Ratty looking face, ratty looking ears, ratty looking tail!

RAT I trust that you've still got that ring. That precious ring! Boy ...look into my eyes!

BEAU Eye, eye! Strange looking eyes too!

RAT Enough of the flattery! Since you still have the precious ring you will follow my instructions to the letter! When I call you, you will do my bidding no matter how evil it maybe! Off you go! Hang on! I think I see a way of killing two birds with one stone! Come back boy! If that Dick should have returned, tell the Alderman and his daughter that I put the money in Dicks pack! Then maybe Dick will travel with the Alderman to Morocco *(gives the letter to Beau who zombie like exits)* And he and the cat will be amongst the first to die!*(Ha...ha... exits laughing)*

Enter DICK and cat)

DICK Well here we are Tom ! I hope Alice ...and the Alderman will believe I'm as innocent as I actually am!

(enter Alice and Alderman)

FITZ What are you doing back here? I said I never wanted to see you and your cat again!

DICK I've come back to prove my innocence for that is what I am! Innocent!

ALICE I believe you Dick!

FITZ Well I don't! (*enter Beau still under the influence*)

BEAU He is innocent! King Rat put the money in Dicks pack!

FITZ,AL & SARA King Rat!

BEAU He's called King Rat because...well, he is King of rats!

DICK And how do you know this?

BEAU Know what?

DICK About this King Rat?

BEAU King Rat!? What's that? Oh I forgot something! Alderman I have a letter for you! Its postmarked Rabat, Morocco! (*he gives Fitz the letter then exits*)

FITZ (*looks through letter*) Bring a ship...stop... lots of goods. stop.. you'll be rich, rich, richer! Signed Jordan, Sultana of Morocco! Right I'll have to get the ship prepared! We need a Captain!(*To Dick*) Well Dick It seems I was wrong about you! I apologise!...Erm! Do you have any nautical experience Dick!

DICK Well... I sailed a pedalo on a lake near my house!

FITZ Excellent! You can Captain my ship .

SARA Is that wise sir! When the Mayoress who was launching the ship she fell off of the podium into the sea!

ALICE Oh! That's why the ships name is the Saucy Mrs Glub! Glub! Glub! I always wondered why! No! I'll be Captain! After all I do have my Master's papers! And Dick can be my first mate!

(*Alice, Dick and Fitz exit*)

SARA I've always wanted to be a captain! I've always fancied myself with a telescope popping up to the poop, having a peep and popping down again!

SONG Road to Morocco(Sarah, Beau, Fitz)

(? Move FOC)

BEAU Hello Sarah! Do you like my precious?

SARAH Your Precious? I don't know, you've never showed it to me!

BEAU My precious! (*he indicates the ring*)

SARAH What a lovely ring. Where did you get it?

BEAU I can't remember? (*he exits as KR enters*)

RAT Hello!

SARAH Who or more what precisely is this? Hello! As a favour will you smile for me?

RAT Smile?

SARAH Yes! You know open you mouth and smile!

RAT Like this! (*a terrible rictus smile*)

SARAH You know when you smile like that you remind me of my favourite film star!

RAT Brad Pitt?

SARAH (*coquettish*) No! Jaws!

RAT I'm more masculine than Brad Pitt! I've got hairs on my chest! (and just about everywhere else too!)

SARAH So's a Rotweiler! (*to audience*)For some reason I smell a rat!

RAT I could sing love songs to you under your window!

SARAH and I could lean out and throw a rose to you!

RAT As a way of showing your desire for me?

SARAH Still in it's pot! Now get away from me you nasty, horrible, smelly...rat!

RAT Why are human women so fickle!

SARAH Go away before I set a rat catcher onto you! You dirty Rat!

SONG Goodbyeee

Sarah and Rat

(*curtain closes behind them for song and at the end he slinks off*)

ALICE(off stage) All aboard! All aboard! Come on you lazy lubber's. We're just about to cast off!

SARAH That reminds me , I'd better get my knitting !
(*she exits, curtain opens on the ship set*)

SCENE 2

ONBOARD THE SS GLUB, GLUB, GLUB

(a something across the back of the represents the bulwark of the ship)

(*Sarah enters behind it and hoists herself over it getting stuck half way, enter Futtock and Cracker*)

FUTTOCK Avast behind!

SARAH Who said that! Cheek!

FUT I did Lady! It's a way of getting people out of the way! We're about to cast off!

SARAH (*holds up knitting*) So was I! It's cable stitch!!(*realises*) Oh! He called me Lady! What's your name young man?

CRAC Young man?

FUT I'm Futtock !... Albert, Simon, Isiah, Futtock, lady!

SARAH A...S...I...F, as if! And what was your job before you went to sea?

FUT I was a cesspit cleaner lady

SARAH Well it's a pleasant name! (*holding nose approaches Cracker*)And you are?

CRAC Cracker! My Fathers was a Cracker, my Mothers was a cracker! In my family we're all Cracker's!

SARAH Yeeess! How long have you been a sailor?

CRAC I been fifteen years before the mast!

Dick Whittington

- SARAH Don't be silly the mast has always been here. And how did. you become a sailor?
- CRAC A man came up to me and said 'wouldn't like to go to sea?' and I said 'see what?' And he hit me on the head! When I woke up I was at sea! And up the creek without a paddle!
(enter Alice)
- ALICE Enough of all this merry nautical banter! Cast off fore! Cast off aft!
- SARAH How did you know I was knitting? All aboard the skylark! Let's go jigging in the rigging!
(enter Dick)
- DICK Come on you lot! Shake a leg! *(Sarah, Alice, Futtock and Cracker look at each other then shake their legs)*
- ALICE Look lively now! What is this, a branch of DFS?!
- Enter Fitzwarren*
- FITZ All hands on deck.
- SARAH About time too.
- (The others all put their hands on Dick)*
- FITZ What are you doing?
- SARAH Putting our hands on Dick.
- FITZ I said DECK! All hands on deck!
- SARAH Ooh, wont Ant feel a bit left out?
- FITZ No!! All hands on Deck. NOW.
- (They all put their hands on the floor)*
- FITZ Not like that! Get up, getup. We are going to do some drill.
- SARAH That's good because I've got my Black and Decker and could do with a couple of shelves in my cabin.
- FITZ Not that sort of drill. Now then look lively look lively. *(They all jump about)*
Stop it. Atten-shun! *(They all come to attention and salute except SARAH who goes to FITZ with her hand out)*
- SARAH Oooh about time and all.
- FITZ What do you want?.
- SARAH Me pension
- FITZ *(Shouting close to SARAH face)* I said Attention – Attention!
- SARAH *(Wiping her face)* Alright, Alright I didn't want a weather forecast. Rain coming in from the East *(she goes back in line)*
- FITZ Stand at ease! *(they all flop about)* Straighten up Straighten up! Now close up.

SARAH Pardon?

FITZ I said close up. *(SARAH raises the front of her dress to reveal bloomers with US flag)* Not like that!

SARAH What do you mean? “Not like that!”. Don’t you like them? They’re my new American pants.
FITZ American pants?

SARAH Yes, One yank and they’re off!

FITZ I meant close up the other way.

SARAH Oh, you should have said. *(She turns with her back to the audience and raises the back of her dress showing her bloomers)*

FITZ NO! Now get in line. *(they do so)* From the left Number! *(They all start to sing and dance the rhumba)* What are you doing? STOP. I said Number.

CREW WE thought you said Rhumba!

FITZ I didn’t say rhumba I said from the left number

CRAC One!

FUT Two!

ALICE Three!

DICK Four!

SARAH One!

FITZ *(puzzled)* Again.

CRAC One!

FUT Two!

ALICE Three!

DICK Four!

SARAH One!

FITZ Sarah are you one?

SARAH Well, sometimes I get this urge to put on a lot of makeup and wear false eyelashes!

FITZ Stop it. Now, Present Arms. *(They wave their arms in front of them)* Not like that. Get some mops and be quick about it.

DICK *(to off stage)* Mop please! *(Mop is thrown from the wings and he catches it)*

- FITZ Oh well done young man!
- SARAH Ooh that looks easy. *(To off stage) Mop please! (Mop thrown from other side and hits her back she turns and addresses off stage threateningly) Watch it mate! (picks up mop) Oh look Victoria Beckham! (Stands behind mop) Can you see me at the back? (moves mop to one side) Is that better for you?*
- FITZ Now, it's time for fitness training.
- SARAH What???!
- FITZ *(Taking Sarah's mop he holds the mop horizontally in front of him and does high steps saying) Knees up, knees up as if you are riding a bicycle. (the others do it except Dick who is just standing around as if turning the mop like a bicycle handlebars and going "Wheeeeeee" like a motor bike)*
- FITZ Stop! *(to Dick)* What do you think you are doing?
- DICK Freewheeling!
- FITZ Freewheeling? You're as bad as her! *(meaning Sarah)* Now Shoulder Arms *(They bang the mops on the ground and put the mops on the left shoulder except Sarah who puts hers on her right shoulder)* No Sarah, put yours where Dick's got his.
- SARAH What?
- FITZ I said Put yours where Dick's got his! *(She puts her mop on Dick's shoulder)* No not like that!
- SARAH What do you mean Not like that! You said Put yours where
- FITZ Look watch the expert.
- SARAH Oh is he here?
- FITZ *(doing the drill counting off, right, centre ,left then shoulder)* One two three, two two three, three two three and over the shoulder. *(doing actions with mop ending on shoulder)*
- CREW One two three, two two three, three two three and over the shoulder. *(and throw mops over their shoulders)*
- FITZ Pick them up, pick them up! Do you know Sarah you are next to an idiot?
- SARAH Am I? Very pleased to meet you.
- FITZ Now for the last time One two three, two two three, three two three and over the shoulder. *(he throws the mop on the floor)* That's the way to do it!
- CREW One two three, two two three, three two three and over the shoulder. That's the way to do it! *(they throw the mops to the floor.)*
- FITZ Pick them up now you will exercise to music.

Dick Whittington

(they do a dance routine to various pieces of music)

- ALICE There's a storm blowing up, I can sense it in my water!
- SARAH There's nothing I can say to that!
- DICK I'll get into the dinghy and try to tow us into the wind!
- ALICE My hero!
- SARAH HERO! He row? Get it?..Oh why do I bother?
- FUT/CRA We just asked the same question! *(enter Fitz)*
- FUT Excuse me Alderman, but there's a storm blowing up! We're only making two knots. If we don't get our knots up we're done for!
- FITZ I'll have a word with Dick! *(He goes stage right and leans over the rail)* Row a bit harder there's a good chap!
- DICK *(his head appears over the rail)* I can't sir! I've caught a crab*(he holds up a crab)*. ..Tell Sarah I'm dressing it for dinner!
(Fut crosses to Fitz and whispers in his ear)
- FITZ *(to Dick)*You can come back on board! The crew have hoisted another sail!
- SARAH Did someone say sale? Oh we've done that joke already!
(Dick climbs over the rail and calls for Tom who slowly enters licking his paw, his stomach is very pronounced)
- CAT He'd forgotten I was on board! Well I am and I hope that all ships will have cats in future 'cause this ship was running with rats. It isn't any longer!
- DICK Hello Tom! Who's a clever boy then! I'll bet it's you who has gotten rid of all the rats on board! No wonder you've put on weight!
(lights go down everyone freezes)
- KING RAT So that C...A...T is on board! I'll have to deal with him. If he gets to Morocco he'll kill all my rats and they'll be none left to take over England...then Wales...then Scotland and then...Ha...ha...ha. *(has coughing fit)* I know! I'll sink the ship! Cat's can't swim well and he'll drown! Next time I'll make sure there are no cats on board.
Storm blow and drown the cat
Sink this ship and that will be that!
(lights darken, the wind starts to wail, there are flashes of lightning and thunder)
- FUT Avast! Avast!
- DICK Avast what?
- FUT It's a storm Dick, but not as we know it!
- ALICE Here it comes! Hold on everyone! It's a storm!
- ALL Whoa!...Help!...Arrgggh...etc *(everyone tumbles stage left then stage right this continues throughout)*
- DICK Gosh! It's really getting rough!
- CRA Much more of this and the ship will founder!*(Dick looks confused)*
- ALICE Founder means that the ship will sink!
- CAT I wish they had cat flaps on ships! Then I could escape this CATAclysm!

DICK I feel seasick!

ALICE Don't bring that up now!
(as the crew career left and right KR stands untroubled by the movement)

RAT Ha...ha...ha! A storm...a perfect storm! ...MY perfect storm! Let's hope the ship survives and that the C...A...T drowns.
(the Fairy appears. Also untroubled by the storm)

FAIRY Oh no you don't. You dirty rat!
Lord of the sea –hear my plea, Calm this roaring, raging sea!
(storm fades away and everyone stops charging about. Fairy vanishes!)

RAT I tried a storm but it wasn't perfect! Somehow I have to stop that C...A...T getting to Morocco!

Think rat! Think! *(It exits)*

DICK I'm pleased that's over! It was a bit rough! I nearly was sick over the front of the ship!
(Alice goes up to and leads him to front centre of the stage. The curtain closes behind them!)

ALICE It's called the bow, not the front! Now close your eyes!

DICK Why!

ALICE You trust me don't you? Now stand here and stretch your hands out to the sides! Now open your eyes!

DICK *(opens eyes)* I'm King of the World!

SONG
MY HEART WILL GO ON!
(both)

SCENE 3
AT SEA FOC

RAT I tried a storm but it was far from perfect! And now I have to get rid of that cat or all my plans could come to nothing! What more can happen to a large ship on it's maiden voyage? Whatever it is it's got to be Titanic! I've got ! By George I've got it! *(enter Beau)* Come here boy! You still wear the ring I gave you and because of it you will do anything that I command!

BEAU Yes Oh master!

RAT Go below and cut the ropes that control the rudder. I am the all powerful King Rat! Abracadabra! Iceberg appear in front of this ship! Ha..ha..ha! *(he vanishes)*
(he exits as the curtain opens)

FUT Iceberg ahead!

ALICE Iceberg! But this is the Mediterranean! *(calls)*Put the rudder hard a starboard!

CAT I think we're about to have another CATastrophe!

RAT *(enters briefly)*You did that in the first act! C...A...T you're going to an early grave!
Ha...ha...ha..!*(exits)*

FUT The ship won't steer! We're going hit the Iceberg!

CRA ICEBERG dead ahead!... ICEBERG...ho! *(crunching noise)*

DICK Quick, everyone to the bow of the ship. She's going down by the back end!

ALICE STERN!

- DICK *(sternly)*EVERYONE TO THE BOW!
(They huddle together as the ship supposedly sinks beneath them)
- DICK We're trapped inside! When I say so take a deep breath and hold it!
(Fairy appears)
- FAIRY Oh mighty Poseidon! These people were sent to your domain by the evil King of Rats when he sank their ship! Please save them or give them some air!
- POS Very well. As Lord of the Deep I hear your plea
It's my will that what you ask will be!
Enfold these humans in and their cat
In a pocket of air. Just like that!

SCENE 4 Underwater scene

(curtains open on the UV scene.

POSEIDON sings a song ?ASLEEP IN THE DEEP *at the end of the song the curtains close behind leaving POS and FAIRY in front)*

- POS The rat again! Ships keep sinking and where do they end up! I'm seriously considering a residents parking zone. Of course, like most Council's I won't allow enough spaces for all the residents but that's part of the fun isn't it! And with all that money from the charges I can do a makeover on the place!...PLAICE! It's a fish! Get it! Ho...ho...ho! *(Fairy appears beside him)*
- FAIRY These people and the cat were on their way to Morocco to help the Sultana defeat the germ ridden rat's before they take over the country. Could you have them washed up safe on the Moroccan shore!
- POS Well if it helps defeat that rotten rat I'll be pleased to help them. That Rat was getting far too big for his paws!
Safe within a bubble of air,
Against King Rat it's only fair,
That those who fight to block his way
Shall fight to live another day
So put them all upon the shore
So they can even up the score
To Morocco go you merry crew
That's the very best I can do for you!

SCENE FIVE A Moroccan Beach

(enter a very bedraggled Fitz)

- FITZ Looks like I'm the only one saved from the wreck- Dear diary, wrecked after hitting an iceberg in the Mediterranean after four weeks on the ship when the food was awful! For those four weeks we had nothing but baked beans for every meal! Oh! There were rumblings in the fo'castle *(pronounced 'folksall')* ! Now here I am wrecked, wrecked, wrecked on an island in the Med – my only provisions eight dreary gramophone records. I'd better explore to see if anyone else survived!*(exits)*
(enter Alice and Dick)
- DICK It looks like we are the only one to have survived our Poseidon Adventure!
- ALICE Let's ask the boys and girls if they've seen anyone-*(asks audience)* have you?
- DICK So your Father survived! Which way did he go? Come on! We'll try to find him! *(both exit)*
(enter CAT wearing a snorkel and flippers)

Dick Whittington

CAT I'm the only one saved from the wreck! (*hopefully the audience will say that you are not*) Did they? Good! Then I can sit here on this log until they all turn up. Now it's a CATalogue!

MD You've done that before! No more..PLEASE!

CAT Shut up! Call yourself a musical director, you have to call a locksmith every time you try to change key! You just sit there and tinkle away in the corner...on your piano keys! (*Alice and Dick enter*) Ah! Loves young dream!

DICK Tom! You're safe!

(*enter Fitz*)

FITZ Alice! Dick and cat! You're safe!

DICK We're all safe!

CAT They're so good at stating the blooming obvious!

DICK I saw Futtock and Cracker. They managed to find a lifeboat. Unlike us they weren't dragged down by the ship! They're probably rowing back to England as we speak!

ALICE But where are Sarah and Beau? Please don't tell me they've drowned.

FITZ Oh Sarah! Oh Sarah...Sarah...Sarah! What shall we do without her smile, her merry banter, her sparkling native wit ...and who will do my cooking, cleaning, washing and ironing?

ALICE How can you say that father?

DICK Perhaps she's been washed up on another beach!

CAT She was washed up years ago!

DICK Lets all go and look for them!

(*all exit. Sarah enters*)

SARA I'm the only wreck saved from the ship. I'll have to look for Ant and Dec. I know I'm a celebrity so - (*shouts*) GET ME OUT OF HERE!

(*enter Beau*)

BEAU Which do you prefer, Ant or Dec!

SARA Urm!..the little one!

BEAU They're both little!

SARA Do you think they'd like me? After all I do have an hour glass figure!

BEAU Except all your sand has run to the bottom!

(*the others enter*)

FITZ Hello Beau. Hello Sarah! At least you're safe! We thought you had drowned!

SARA Oh no! I've got built in water wings! At least we're safe on these shores.

FITZ What's shores?

SARA I'll have a large gin and tonic!

FITZ I wish I knew where we are!

SARA Page 25 of the script – Sorry! I know where we are –I've seen the signs!

ALICE What signs?

SARA That one over there! Morocco welcomes careful castaways! Twinned with acne!?

DICK It's getting dark! I'm going to sleep over there, .come on Tom *(they exit)*
ALICE And I'm going to sleep over there! *(exits)*
SARA That leaves just us three! We'll sit one this log and keep each other company!
(Beau and Fitz sit either side of Sara)

'GHOST' SCENE *(with King Rat. Curtains close after.)*

SCENE 6 FOC

Enter KR and Fairy)

FAIRY You've almost lost!
RAT My rats have almost taken over this country! We've eaten all the food in all the storehouses!
We're just staring to work on the palace! We'll eat the Sultana out of house and throne!
FAIRY Bah!..Humbug! *(she exits)*
RAT I still have my secret weapon!...Precious! precious! Ha...ha...ha! *(they exit . Sarah enters)*
SARA All alone!...again! Do I get an Aah! *(etc etc)*

SONG*(A sung version of 'Stranger On the Shore')*

(after song enter Vizier)

VIZ I though I heard a cat in pain! *(see's Sarah!)* I was almost right! *(he goes to her and genuflects)*
SARA Ohhhh! A man!
VIZ I am Allmyear the Sultana's Vizier! *(said as Wozear!)*
SARA Wozear?
VIZ Yes! I wozear all my life! Already! Come with me to the Palace and I will introduce you to my boss oh Fair Maiden!*(he starts to exit)*
SARA Fair Maiden! He called me a fair maiden! He's really bowled me over! Bowled a Maiden over! Get it! Oh suit yourselves! Wait , wait *(Viz stops)* I have friends with me! *(Bellows)*OY! YOU LOT! –THIS WAY!
VIZIER Come with me, Walk this way!
SARA If I could walk that way I wouldn't need the ointment!*(as they exit the curtain opens)*

SCENE 7

THE SULTANAS PALACE.

The Sultana sits on her throne

SULT I am the High and Mighty Sultana of Morocco! Here I am, sat sitting on the throne of my land. All I ever wanted was a Palace in the sun! My country is over run by Rats. They're even eating me out of my Palace! Doom! Doomed! We're all doomed! And I had hoped to get a bigger role than this!
(enter Vizier, Sara and the cat)
VIZ Oh Great Sultana I have found a wreck from the ship!
SARA Cheek!

Dick Whittington

- VIZ Sorry! I have found some survivors from the ship reported sunk yesterday. This is Sara, Cook and housekeeper to Alderman Fitzwarren of London Town, England, the world etc... As I gaze at her I can see her eyes are like pools!
- CAT Cess-pools!
- VIZ Her cheeks are like peaches!
- CAT Football Peaches!
- VIZ Her teeth are like stars!
- CAT They come out at night!
- SULT Enough! What is this small creature that makes a strange noise every time you stop speaking!
- (enter Dick and others)*
- DICK That oh great Sultana is my cat!
- SULT Cat! Cat? I have heard of cats! I believe that they are worshipped as gods in Egypt!
- CAT Do you hear that! I'm divine!
- VIZ You had all the local cats destroyed years ago when you thought that they carried the plague!
- SULT And since then the rats have multiplied Young man! You whose cat this is! What is your name and what are you and your companions doing in my country?
- DICK My name is Richard Whittington your Majesty! The Alderman's ship in which we sailed was wrecked and we were cast ashore near here!
- SARA We had to sleep on the beach all night! Such a posh beach it wouldn't even let the tide in!
- DICK The Mediterranean doesn't have tides!
- SARA That's it! Spoil the joke!
- SULT What were you doing...sailing in a ship off of my coast?
- FITZ You sent me a letter your Majesty asking to trade!
- SULT Oh no I didn't!
- FITZ Oh yes you did! *(etc)*
- SULT I am the Sultana! What I say goes! Leave the cat with me and I will converse with him in his language!
- DICK You can speak cat?
- SULT Leave us while we have a chat! Vizier take them and give them refreshments!
- FITZ Talks cat! I don't believe it! *(Everyone except Tom leaves)*
- SONG** The Cat Duet(Tom & Sultana)
- SULT Thank you for speaking with me! Vizier, bring the others back here!*(Vizier exits)* I will have that cat for myself!
- CAT Oh no you won't! *(others return)*
- SULT I want your cat and I will have him!

DICK I'm sorry your highness, but he's not for sale! He's more than a cat, he's my friend!

SULT But after your heads are chopped off he will need a new friend!

SARA After-gulp-our heads are chopped off!

BEAU You can't do that, we're attached to them!

SULT I can do anything I want! I am the Sultana of Morocco!

SARA But if you chop my head off I won't be able to see where I'm going!

VIZ Almost all of our food has been eaten by rats! We cannot feed strangers as well!

SULT We, ...well the common people, are all starving!

ALICE Tom is a Cat-cats hate rats! He'll get rid of the rats for you and then the Alderman, once we get back to England, can supply you...

FITZ At cost price!

ALICE with all the food you can eat!

SULT/VIZ Food! Food!...food!

SONG Food Glorious Food(SULT & VIZ)

DICK I can hire Tom to you if you like but he stays with me and when he's dealt with your rat problem he'll be coming home with me!

(Enter King Rat)

RAT While the cat's away THE rat will play! You Beau! Dick wants to take your precious away from you!

BEAU No! No! You can't have it! Its mine! My precious! *(beau backs away and takes the Viziers sword)* What am I doing? This isn't right! It's this rotten ring that you gave me you dirty rat! *(he tries to get the ring off his finger but as he backs into Sarah she grabs him and pulls his face into her bosom. Alice rushes forward, grabs Beaus hand and pulls the ring off of his finger. She throws it into a corner where it explodes!)*

RAT Curses! *(He draws his sword and move to attack Dick, the Vizier gives Dick his sword, there is a sword fight. The rat gets the upper hand, Dick loses his footing and the rat is about to kill him when the cat jumps on his back, Rat manages to throw him off, Tom is apparently injured, rat turns to fight Dick only to impale himself on Dicks sword)* *(to audience)*It's a shame that I don't have the cats nine lives!*(he drags out the death going backwards and forwards across the stage, eventually he expires)* I'll be back *(said a la Swarzaneger)**(he sits up)* perhaps not!*(he dies).*

(Alice and Dick help TOM up. The Vizier drags the rat off)

SULT Well done that man! You fought well but was your brave cat that won the day! You Fitzwarren shall return to England with a contract to supply us with food and everything that we need to rebuild this country!

DICK Tom and I will stay long enough for to help get rid of all the rats. Now that their King has gone I don't think they'll stay long!

ALICE Will you marry me Dick!

TOM Of course he will! And while that's going on I'll start on the remaining rats! *(he exits)*

SARA *(goes to Beau)* Will you marry me my hero!

SULT Here! What's going on? Is that it? That's all I get to play!

FAIRY I'll magic the rest of you back to London! Yes Sultana here's a bit more for you to do! You and the Alderman (*she brings the Alderman and Sultana forward, the curtain closes behind them*) will take the audience through the song sheet!

THERE'S A HOLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

(*When the songsheet is finished it is pulled off. Sult and Fitz exit and enter Fairy*)

FAIR Welcome to the inauguration of the new Lord Mayor of London . But first let me tell you what happened to the others! Futtock and Cracker rowed away from the sinking ship, got lost and ended up in America! Beau and Sarah got married but Beau reckons he'll recover eventually!! Tom drove all the rats out of Morocco and he, Dick, Alice and Alderman Fitzwarren returned to London.

And now Ladies, Gentlemen and children I am pleased to present Richard Whittington who will be Lord Mayor of London three times and is and will remain happily married to Alice forever after.

WALKDOWN

then

SONG

SHINE

Our pantomime is over
Its our *?(number)* show
Our very first was Toad of Toad Hall
Forty eight full years ago
And tonight right has triumphed
For yet another year
If you enjoyed our pantomime
Please give yourselves and
Us... a really great big cheer!