

"SAWDUST
CAESAR."

the Story of
ALLADDIN D.
TWANKY.

by
Andy Smith.

Alad. I'll see you have...

Twank. On no, Aladin...no...something special...

Alad. I heard what you said to those people....

Twank. What people...? When...?

Alad. Just now..!

Twank. Ah ha...yes...well...what did I say..?

Narr. Many years ago, before the face of the moon became old...long before this great city in which we live spread itself over the hills and valleys, long before you or I set foot upon the earth, a thousand lifetimes ago the world was young the soft breezes of evening were filled with magic.

Soft and distant music drifted like falling sparks.

The streams and trees were the dwelling places of the spirits who watched over them and the antelope and wolf and all the creatures of the forest listened to, and conversed with the wise men, and the cutters of wood and tillers of the land.

By the still and slow-moving waters of Wah Hsi-T'sung or the silver torrents of the Curtain of Sparkling Water the fruit trees bowed to the waters face, and the people, grateful for the heaven on earth in which they lived sang quiet songs and burned incense to the Great Spirit of the Wind and Rain.

In all things, throughout the Great Kingdom Without Boundaries....in all things, there was harmony.....

Twank. (off) Aladin...Alllaadin...Alllaaaaaadiiin...
(on) Oh Aladin.. (To audience) Have you seen our Aladin? I'll skin him alive when I catch him...
(EXIT..Off) Aladin...oochhhee... Al-ad-in...
Where are you?
(on) Aladin, where are you?.. is that you, Aladin?

Alad. (Up tree) No its not...There's nobody here.

Twank. Is that you...Aladin?

Alad. No it isn't...

Twank. Oh yes it is....

Alad. Oh no it isn't....

Twank. Come here, this instant..you wicked layabout..!

Alad. No

Twank. Come here, or I'll... There's a good boy

Alad. No I won't...

Twank. I've got something for you...

Alad. I'll bet you have...

Twank. On no, Aladin...no...something special...

Alad. I heard what you said to those people....

Twank. What people...? When...?

Alad. Just now..!

Twank. Ah ha...yes...well...what did I say..?

Alad. You said...you said...'I'll skin him alive when I catch him...So there...

Twank. I never did...

Alad. You did...

Twank. Didn't

Alad. Ooooooh you did....

Twank. Oh dear... Oh, Aladin...Why do you torment me so..? (sits, bloomers etc.) I'm only a poor old washer-woman trying to make ends meet. I can't be forever chasing after you...And I have got something nice for you....

Alad. No you haven't...

Twank. Oh yes I have....

Alad. Oh no you haven't...

Twank. I have....

Alad. What is it then...?

Twank. I can't tell you that...Its a surprise...

Alad. Oh yes...?And I know what...A belt with yer rubber roll-on.

Twank. No. A nice surprise... Why don't you come down out of that tree... then I can give it to you....

Alad. Haha... You don't expect me to fall for that old line do you...?

Twank. Oh....Oh...Aladin you've broke me heart. Its a sad day when a son don't trust 'is own muvver....Oh dear, Oh dear, whats to become of me...whats to become of me..?

BoooHooo...Oh Aladin, my only help in a harsh world.. (Gestures to audience with fist) Why don't you come down out of that tree, Aladin.. You know it gives me wind when I cry.

Come to your broken-hearted old muvver, who has worked her fingers to the bone, and comfort her, Aladin (aside with fist)..My piccanini....

Come to your mother, son (aside) Who has worked her fingers to the bone for you...Boo hoo... And I have got something nice for you.....Boo hoo....

Alad. Oh mother I'm sorry I've made you so sad...(climbing down) When you've got something nice for me.....

Twank. I have.....

Alad. And you've worked your fingers to the bone for me..

Twank. I have...

Alad. And you've been a good mother.....

Twank. I have.....

Alad. And I've been wicked and broke your heart....

Twank. You have....

Alad. And you've got me something nice....

Twank. I have.....(aside..fist..)

Alad. What is it...?

Twank. You'll find out....

Alad. What is it..? Is it going to be nice..? (nearer)
 Twank. Oh yes...very nice...
 Alad. Let me have it...Please... (nearer)
 Twank. Come here to your dear old mother... (both together)
 ...who has worked her fingers to the bone.....
 Twank.and get it.....
 Alad. Ooooooh...I can hardley wait.....(nearer)
 Twank. Neither can I....
 Alad. Is it going to be nice..??
 Twank. Nice..... Of course its going to be nice... Nice for
 me...(grabs him by the ear)...Nasty for you.....
 Alad. OOOOOoohhharrgh,....
 Twank. Wait til I get you home....I'll give you something,
 all right.....
 Alad. Aaaaahhhhhhhh 'oooooohhhhhhhh.....
 Twank. And when Barnacle Bill comes home from sea, he can give
 you a belting as well.....

(Once round the stage by ear and off..)

THEN PZ

LOTUS I am Lotus Blossom ...
 B. My eyes are the Moon over Sung Chen ...
 My skin is the petals of the flower that bears my name ...
 For me, the stars rise over the River of Limpid Waters ...
 and for me they set behind the peaks of T'su Sheng ... and
 fade in the valleys' mists ...
 For me, the cranes turn above the fir forests and for me,
 the cormorant dives ...
 For me, the mountain antelope will bear a harness ... and
 for me, the wind will move the cyprus trees to sighing ...
 My father is the Great Mandarin ...
 I am the diamond set in his badge of office ... all I see
 before me is mine to command ...
 The lives of the people are my playthings ...
 Before me men grow pale ...
 Before me their thoughts turn from Marilyn Monroe ... not
 to mention Jane Russell ...
 Before me, Daniel O. Selznik wept ~~that~~ salt tears ... Before
 me the Warriors of the Golden Horde bowed their heads and
 the flowers of the mountains became dull as lead ...
 As you can imagine ... as with many young ladies of independent
 means ... there is, in my life, an element of boredom ...

tkx Ah! Who can this youth be ... sweeping the path through
 this garden ... He has a certain ... je ne sais quoi ...
 I shall disguise myself and engage him in conversation ...

(Opens her fan ...)

He does have a certain charisma
 Good day, young man ...

ALAD. Hello ... lovely day, isn't it ...

LOTUS. Quite beyond compare ...

ALAD. It most certainly is ...

LOTUS. Might I ask what you're doing ..?

ALAD. Yes ... you might ...

LOTUS. Well ..?

ALAD. Well ... what ..?

LOTUS. What are you doing ..?

ALAD. Well ... I'm sweeping the path up, that's all ...

LOTUS. Why ..?

ALAD. What ..?

LOTUS. Why are you sweeping it ... up ..?

ALAD. It was all covered with litter ...
 It seemed like a good idea ... at the time ...

LOTUS. If you're sweeping up the litter, why haven't you got rid
 of all the dead leaves as well ..?

ALAD. The leaves ..? They're not litter, they're supposed to
 be there ...
 Litter is litter ... and leaves is leaves.
 If you'll excuse me, I think I ought to get on with it.

LOTUS. No, don't go ... Stay and talk to me ...

ALAD. I ought to get on with it ... I haven't got all day, you know ...

LOTUS. No, don't go ... What's your name ..?

ALAD. I'm Aladdin ... And I really must get on ...

LOTUS. I don't understand about the leaves ... Will you please explain ..?

ALAD. Well ... it's very simple ...
If you sweep a path, it's clean ... right ..?
If it still has fallen leaves on it, it's beautifully clean ...
Now I really must get on ...

LOTUS. Stay and talk to me ... Don't you want to know what my name is ..? You remind me an awful lot of Cary Grant ...

ALAD. I'm very busy ...!

LOTUS. If you ...

ALAD. Look ... LOOK ...! Over there ...!

LOTUS. What ..? Where ..?

ALAD. There ...! By the trees ...!

LOTUS. What was it ...?

ALAD. A white bird with a blue tail like a string of amethysts ...
It's gone now ... Did you see it ..?

LOTUS. No ... I didn't see it ...

ALAD. I've got to go, it's my dinner time ...

LOTUS. Well, if you must ... We'll meet again ...?

ALAD. I don't know ... But I expect so ...

LOTUS. Good bye, then ... no, not good bye ... but, 'au revoir' ...

ALAD. Yes ... Well ... Might see you later, then ...

(Moves to exit ...)

What is your name ..?

LOTUS. Lotus Blossom ...

(She exits ...)

ALAD. I'd better have a word with Barnacle Bill about all this ...
He's a man of the world ...

THE END 4

(Enter Barnacle Bill with his Parrot and Kitbag)

Barn. Now look at me when I'm talking to you...

Parr. Alright...

Barn. Look at me..and stop talking while I'm talking....

Parr.while I'm talking...

Barn. Alright..?

Parr. ...alright...

Barn. Now then, Parrot...Are you going to behave yourself when I'm talking to the Widow Twanky.....?

Parr.course I am...

Barn. ...and remember...Any mucking about and you get this..right...?

Parr.right....

Barn. Now, Polly.....have you been..?

Parr. ...yes + have....

Barn. Show me then....(flip) There's a good parrot... Now listen to me...are you going to be a good bird...?

Parr.yes I am.....

Barn.and you're not going to muck about.....

Parr. ...no I'm not...

Barn. And you won't let me down...?

Parr. ...no I won't....

Barn. And you'll shut up while I'm talking...?

Parr. No I won't...

Barn. Yes you will....

Parr. Yes I will....

Barn. And you won't...you know...

Parr. No I won't.....

Barn.on the three piece suite.....?

Parr.I said I won't....

Barn. Have you been..?

Parr. Yes I have....

Barn. Show me....(flip) What a good Polly... Now you won't repeat everything I say, will you....?

Parr.no I won't...

Barn. There's a good bird.....

Parr. There's a good bird.....(grab..flip...grab...flip...)

Barn. I warned you...

Parr. I'm sorry....

Barn. That's alright...this time...But you will be a good bird

Parr. ...be a good bird...be a good bird...(grab....flip.... grab...flip...} can't catch me...ah ah....(grab...flip.. grab....flip..)Ah ha ha ha ha ha.....

(ALADDIN in the street outside his house.
Enter ABANAZAR, disguised as a travel-stained wanderer.)

ABAN. Ah ...! Woe is me ...!
I am so faint and weary that I must rest me from my search
awhile ... (eye to ALADDIN) ... Many a league have I wandered
through plain and mountain ...

ALAD. Who can this strange traveller be ..?

ABAN. I have eaten the dust of deserts and drunk the snow of the
mountains of Chang Wei Ha ... but I have never been discouraged
in the search for my long-lost brother, nor have I been
able to rest ... for, is it not written ...
Though the trees crave rest, yet the wind will not
be still ...
But, alas ... My spirit grows weak through lack of sustenance ...

ALAD. Excuse me, sir ...

ABAN. Yes ... my young friend ..?

ALAD. Excuse me ... But I couldn't help overhearing what you said ...

ABAN. (gasp) ... How strange ...! You seem somehow familiar ...
And yet ... No, it cannot be ... no ... no ...

ALAD. What, sir ..? What cannot be ..?

ABAN. Ah ...! 'twas no more than the sad fancy of a lonely old
man ... Nothing more than a moment of weakness ... brought
on, no doubt, by lack of food ... Ah ha ... yes ... Ah ... yes ...

ALAD. I hardly dare suggest it, Venerable Sir ... but perhaps
you would honour our humble table with your presence in
the unworthy hovel of a poor old washer-woman and her worthless
son ... For you are obviously a scholar, sir ...

ABAN. Oh ... an intellectual, my boy ...

ALAD. Yes ... that, as well ...

ABAN. Did you say a moment ago that you were the son of a washer-
woman ..?

ALAD. Yes ... Widow Twanky ... and I'm Aladdin ...

ABAN. When the light strikes your profile from a certain angle,
I'm reminded ... no, fortune could not be so kind ...

ALAD. What ..?

ABAN. What news of your father ...?

ALAD. He's been dead for years, I'm afraid ...

ABAN. Oh, how could fate be so unkind ..? Now, to find, now,
my search at last over ... over at last ...! To find that
I am many years too late ... Oh, cruel, cruel fate ...
Oh, Aladdin ... my heart breaks ... I am quite cast down ...

ALAD. I don't understand ...

ABAN. Ah, Aladdin ... Aladdin ... I am your father's brother ...
Your Uncle Abanazar ...!

ALAD. He never mentioned you ... not ever ...

ABAN. Oh Aladdin, we quarrelled with great bitterness before I went into the world to seek my fortune and my brother vowed that my name would never again pass his lips until the day of his death ...
I had hoped that time would have softened his heart, but I am too late ... too late ...
I had hoped to ease his final years by sharing my good fortune with him ... and thus to heal the breach between us ...

ALAD. Really ...

ABAN. Really ... But now that he's gone with our differences unsettled ... the least that I can do is to provide for my beloved brother's widow and his only son ...

ALAD. Are you really my Uncle, my father's brother ..?

ABAN. Yes, my nephew Aladdin ... Indeed, I am ...

ALAD. I must tell my mother... come with me. No! Stay here and have a rest ... Don't go away ..! I'll go and get her ... Stay here! Wait a minute ...

(Exit ...)

(Enter ALADDIN with WIDOW TWANKY)

ALAD. Here he is ... Mother, this is Uncle Abanazar ...

TWANK. Who ..?

ALAD. Uncle Abanazar ...!

TWANK. You don't have any Uncle anything ... let alone Abanazar!

ALAD. That's just where you're wrong ... Mother, this is Uncle Abanazar ... father's brother ...

TWANK. That layabout never had any brother ... he was too lazy ... This old tramp's an imposter ..!

ALAD. You mean he isn't who he says he is ..?

TWANK. No, I mean he's an imposter ...!

ALAD. I don't believe it ...

TWANK. You're as daft as your father ... that's your trouble ..! All right, Jack ..! What's the game ..?

ABAN. The game ..? Madam, this is no game ... I am, indeed, the brother of your late lamented husband ...

TWANK. Oh, yes ..? Well, if you're anything like him, I don't want you hanging around here littering the place up ..!

ABAN. My dear ...

TWANK. Don't get saucy with me, tosh ...

ABAN. My dear, I've explained to young Aladdin here how I have been searching the country from end to end for any trace of my long lost brother ... to share my good fortune ...

TWANK. Good fortune ... eh ..!?

ABAN. Yes, I've made my fortune building pagodas with British Rail sandwiches ...

ALAD. Why British Rail sandwiches ..?

- ABAN. ... because all the corners turn up ... My secondhand rickshaw business is second to none ... And there is also my Take-Away Communist bookshop ...
- TWANK. ... Take-Away Communist bookshop ..?
- ABAN. Yes ... you buy a book and they take you away ..!
- TWANK. So, you're not here on the elbow, then ..?
- ALAD. Mother ..! Really ..!
- ABAN. No ... no ... Aladdin, do not be offended on my behalf ... Your suspicions are entirely natural ... after all, why should you trust me ... a complete stranger to you ..?
- ALAD. (aside to WIDOW TWANKY)
I think
Mother .../he wants to help us out ...
- ABAN. So, now I shall begin my long journey home burdened with grief at the news of my brother's death ...
- ALAD. (aside to WIDOW TWANKY)
To help us ... out ...
- TWANK. How dja mean ..?
- ALAD. Give us money ..?
- TWANK. Money ..!? Us ..?!
- ALAD. That's right ..! He's a wealthy man ..!
- ABAN. ... and the scorn of his family ..!
- TWANK. Oh, Ah, erhum ... No, wait a minute ... Don't go off just like that ... Have a cup of tea ...
- ABAN. No, no ... I shall not impose upon you further ...
- TWANK. It's no trouble ... no trouble at all ... Aladdin ... the cups! No, sit down ... there, that's right ... Come to think of it, there is a family likeness ... How many sugars? How's business ..? Have a cigar ..! Have a Havana ..! Have a banana ..! Havanagia ..!
- ABAN. No sugar, thank you ...
- TWANK. Have a Mazurka ..!! Let's live, the night is young.!!!
(They dance ... WIDOW TWANKY leads ...)
- No sugar for your Uncle Abanazar ..! Ah ..! Here's the tea ... Why, thank you, Aladdin, my dear ...
- ABAN. What a charming young man ... A perfect gentleman ...
- TWANK. I just adore rich men who smoke cigars ..!
Have another Havana ..!
- ABAN. No, really ... No, thank you ...

TWANK. I just adore rich men who don't smoke cigars ... Ah, how romantic it is to see the sun go down behind the gasworks and smell the scent of the glue factory on the evening breeze ... and hear the call of the baboon over the rubbish tip. Oh, Abanazar ... Oh, Abanazar ... Call me your Tondeleo ... your dusky maiden ...! Can't you picture me with a rose between me teeth ... I could keep it in the same glass of water ...!

(Enter BARNACLE BILL)(and PARROT)

BARN. Hello, what's all this, then ...?

TWANK. Ixx Ah, Barnacle Bill, I want you to meet Aladdin's uncle, Abanazar ...

(Aside to BARNACLE BILL) ... and tell that obscene parrot of yours to keep a civil tongue in its head ...!

Abanazar ... meet Barnacle Bill ... an old friend of the family ... Barnacle Bill meet Abanazar ...!

BARN. Huh ...!

ABAN. Well, this is indeed a pleasure ... how do you do ...

TWANK. Well, shake hands, then ...

PARR. ~~Skissaks~~ Gollocks ...!

TWANK. Was that you or the ~~parrot~~ parrot ...? Now you shake hands this instant or you'll get no cow pie tonight ...!

(They shake hands ... BARNACLE BILL with reluctance and resentment)

ABAN. ^{So} /Pleased to meet you ...

BARN. Likewise, I'm sure ...

ABAN. Tell me, err Barnacle Bill, what do you do for a living ...?

(BARNACLE BILL look-comment to audience)

TWANK. Enough of this idle chit-chat ... or you'll have them chinking in the one-and-nines there ... Abanazar and me are going out on the town ... you and Aladdin can git yer own dinners for a change ... I want to live, I want to see the world and trip the light fantastic ...

BARN. Well, don't forget to shave ...

TWANK. Come, Abanazar ...

(WIDOW TWANKY and ABANAZAR exeunt)

BARN. Well, that's charming, init ...

PARR. Ah haha haha ... Ah hahaha ... (grab, flip ... grab, flip) ...

BARN. I don't want none of your lip ... I'll tell you what, we'll sneak a drink out of the special bottle of home brew ...

(Enter WIDOW TWANKY) ...

TWANK. And lay 'off my home brew while I'm out ... (Exit WIDOW TWANKY)

PARR. Ah hahaha hahaha ...

BARN. Shut up ... (grab, flip ... flip, grab ...)

PARR. Shoulda known better ... Shoulda known better ... hahaha ...

ALAD. Never mind ... let's have something to eat ...

BARN. All right ... you stop here, while I go and get it together ...

(Exit BARNACLE BILL)

(ALADDIN walks about for a moment)

ALAD. I wonder what Lotus Blossom is doing ... I wonder if she's looking up at the same moon as I am ... I wonder if ...

(Enter BARNACLE BILL)

ALAD. How long's dinner going to be ..?

BARN. Three and a half inches ... It's a sausage ...!

ALAD. I thought we were going to have chicken ...

BARN. Have a heart, it got better ... but we have got half a pound of freaky bacon ...

ALAD. Don't you mean streaky ..?

BARN. I know what I mean ... I've seen it, you haven't ...

ALAD. Well, anyway, let's go and eat ...

(ALADDIN and BARNACLE BILL exeunt).

(Enter NARRATOR)

SEE
P. 8

NARR. { Time passes ... The moon moves like a ghost, the sky's cold eye gazing indifferent on hut and palace, merchant and vagrant ... In the alleys, cats flit and slide and bats, invisible in their blindness, flicker like pickpockets ... It is night ... night as blue and grey as deep-sea water breaking over black coral ... The cyprus trees stir in the wind ... voices fill the branches like the swallows of summer. An owl calls. A dog barks ... time passes like a broken necklace ...

(Enter WIDOW TWANKY and ABANAZAR, a little the worse for drink)

~~(WIDOW TWANKY has a hooter of some sort and is singing it)~~

~~TWANK. (sings ...) It's not unusual to be @ by anyone ...~~

~~(Enter BARNACLE BILL)~~

~~It's not unusual ...~~

~~BARN. Where have you been ... till this time of night?~~

~~TWANK. There wasn't no need for you to stop up ...~~

~~(TWANKY shrugs off fur coat ... (card gag)~~

~~Abbie very kindly took me to the theatre which is more than you've ever done ...~~

~~BARN. Oh, it's Abbie now, is it ...?~~

~~TWANK. Yes, it is ... if it's any business of yours ...~~

~~BARN. And did you have a nice time ... at the theatre ...?~~

~~TWANK. As a matter of fact I did ... (Look-comment to audience)~~

~~ABAN. Tell me, my friend ... do you like Brecht ...?~~

~~BARN. I've never tried it, usually, I have Cornflakes first thing ...~~

~~(lights ...)~~

(ALADDIN is sweeping. He leans on his broom).

(Knock! Knock!)

(Enter 1st HOOD)

1st H. Which one of you two is Aladdin Twanky ..?

(ALADDIN begins to sweep away across stage, looking over his shoulder at 1st HOOD ... He sweeps into the feet of 2nd HOOD ... Feels his way first with the broom, then with his hand, still looking over his shoulder ... Turns, sees 2nd HOOD)

1st H. I asked you a question, Shamus ...

2nd H. He asked you a question ...

1st H. I said which of you two is Aladdin Twanky ..? You or your thin friend ..?

ALAD. I'm Aladdin ... (to audience) ... They can't be the police. They knocked..!

1st H. Whatja know ..! He's Aladdin Twanky ..! Well, ain't that nice ..!

2nd H. Ain't that something ..!

1st H. Yeh ... It's Aladdin Twanky ... Ain't he cute ..?

2nd H. Ain't he nice ..?

1st H. He coulda had class ... Real class ...

2nd H. Yeh ... Real class ... He coulda had real class, Charlie ...

1st H. I was saying ... you coulda had real class ...

ALAD. What d'you mean ..?

1st H. Don't rush me, kid ... And take your hands out of your pockets ... (to 2nd HOOD) That goes for you, too ..!

(ALADDIN has had his hands out of his pockets throughout)

ALAD. Excuse me, but my family's so poor it's not necessary to have any pockets ...

2nd H. A wise guy, huh ..! Don't get euthenasia with me, sonny, or you'll end up in a cement macintosh ...

1st H. Overcoat ...! What did I send you t'night school for?

2nd H. Overcoat ...! One of them, too ...!

(Takes out notebook ... writes ...)

~~Overcoat~~ Overcoat ...! Overcoat ...! Howja spell it ..? Huh ...?

1st H. O-v-e-r-c-o-a-t ... overcoat ... Pronounced, limp ...

2nd H. Pronounced ... limp ..?

1st H. Yeh ...!

(1st HOOD kicks 2nd HOOD in the leg ... reaction of agony ...)

Pronounced limp ...

ALAD. What d'you want me for ..?

1st H. All in good time, kid ...

2nd H. Not so fast ...

1st H. Would you mind standing a little closer together ... That's better ... Have a cigarette ..?

ALAD. I don't smoke but thank you all the same ...

1st H. That's a smart kid ... Ain't that a smart kid ..?

2nd H. That's a smart kid ...

1st H. You look like a bright kid to me ...

2nd H. That's right ...

ALAD. Thank you ... nice of you to say so but in all modesty ...

2nd H. Nice manners, too ...

1st H. You coulda gone places if it weren't for your accident ...

ALAD. Accident ..? What accident ..?

1st H. You mean you ain't had it yet ..?
It looks like we got here in the nick of time ...

2nd H. Umm Hmmm ...!

ALAD. What d'you mean ..?

1st H. When not engaged as plastic surgery consultants ... We tell fortunes for fun and profit ... and I foresee a nasty accident for you ...

2nd H. ... the consequence of you being involved with a certain young lady ... But it perspires that we get here in time ...

ALAD. I'm afraid I don't understand ...

2nd H. He don't understand ...

1st H. Let me put it to you another way ... Shamus ... Just keep away from Lotus Blossom if you want to stay in one piece ... Her papa don't like this idea of his little girl mixing with the ... rough element ...

2nd H. We don't want to have to turn you lopsided ...

1st H. That ain't the idea at all ... and it's so tiring ... and what's more, I just got my suit back from the cleaners ...

2nd H. ... and what's more, it's just been cleaned as well ...

1st H. It's nothing personal ... just The Mandarin can't locate you in Debrett's and he don't like that ...

2nd H. He don't like that at all ...

1st H. So lay off, Shamus ... just a little friendly advice ...

ALAD. Why should I ..?

1st H. 'Cos that's the way it gotta be, sweetheart ...

ALAD. And what if I don't take any notice ..?
Not that I won't ... I'm just curious, you understand ...

ABAN. So ... Everything proceeds as I foresaw.
 I, Abanazar, the Magician ... the Master of Darkness ...
 The Son of Horus and of Isis have insinuated myself into
 the household of this foolish widow. I shall now use and
 destroy the innocence of her idiot son for my own purposes ...
 When my scheme is complete, then I shall be all powerful
 and so, though dead, Aladdin will not have lived in vain ...
 He will have played his part ... however insignificant ...
 in my rise to power ... In my triumph ...
 Once the lamp is mine again, my progress will be unimpeded ...
 My legions will once again cause the earth to tremble beneath
 their feet and turn the sky to darkness with the multitude
 of their banners ...
 Aladdin's innocence will carry him unscathed through all
 the hidden dangers of the cave wherein the lamp lies entombed ...
 however, once it is retrieved, I shall obliterate my tracks,
 lest the secret of my power be known ... unfortunately,
 Aladdin forms a not inconsiderable part of my tracks in
 this matter ... Therefore, I shall ... obliterate him ...

(Enter ALADDIN) *THEN P 14.*
THEN P 15. 16 + 17. The back.
 Ah ... Aladdin ... er, why are you so dejected ... hmmn ...?

ALAD. Hello Uncle ... it's nothing ... A little setback ... that's
 all ...

ABAN. Er ... I have in mind a little adventure ... A little holiday ...?

ALAD. A holiday ...? Where ...? I could do with a few days out
 of town ...!

ABAN. Oh, yes ...?

ALAD. Yes ...

ABAN. Why might that be, Aladdin ...? You can confide in me ...

ALAD. Well ... I've been threatened.

ABAN. Threatened ...?

ALAD. Yes ... I was shock-down by a couple of thick-ear melodrama
 hoodlums. I think that's what they were ...
 But I'd have showed them ... I'd have given them the old
 One-Two ... One-Two ... I'd have shown 'em ... Oh, yes ...
 But I thought it would be a good thing to make myself scared ...
 I mean scarce ...
 Oh ... if only I had some money, it'd all be different ...!

ABAN. Aladdin, you must promise to divulge to no one what I am
 about to tell you ... Do you promise ...?

ALAD. Why ...?

ABAN. Why ...? Because secrecy is of the essence ... where treasure
 is concerned ...

ALAD. What ...? Treasure ...? Tell me ...!

ABAN. You must tell no one ... No one ... Do you hear me ...!

ALAD. Not even Barnacle Bill ...?

ABAN. Not even he ...!

ALAD. Not even ...!

ALAD. It's 'him' ...

ABAN. Oh, very well ...! Very well ...! Not even 'him ...' ...!!

ALAD. ... That doesn't sound right either ...
Perhaps it is 'he', after all ...

ABAN. Oh, hever mind ...! Do you promise ...?

ALAD. All right ...! Yes, I do ...! What is it ...?

ABAN. Very well ... I'll tell you ... Come closer ... No one must
overhear us ... Two days walk from here, there is a cave ...

ALAD. Yes ...?

ABAN. And this cave ...

ALAD. Yes ...?

ABAN. Is full of treasure ...

ALAD. No ...!

ABAN. Yes ...!

ALAD. And ...?

ABAN. All that wealth is yours ... Yours if you have the courage
to take it ... Riches beyond the dreams of avarice, greater
than the treasures of Solomon ...

(They mime their conversation as the NARRATOR tells of its
contents ...)

NAR. He tells of diamonds more numerous and rainbow-shot than
the rains of the monsoons ... Of emeralds like the eyes
of jungle creatures torn from the seams of living rock beneath
the mountains of the South by slaves in chains of silver ...
Of gold and silver as the fish of the sea and the number
of all their scales ... and the pearls of the archipelagoes
bought with the lives of native laughing divers from chasms
of bright and poisonous coral ... and the jaws of the shark.
He speaks of the Treasures of Amnaphet ... and of Croesus ...
Kubla Khan ... Cyrus and Sheba ... Tlacopan and Tezcucoc ...
Of the Golden Cities of the vine-swarmed jungles of the
edge of the world ...
He speaks of riches beyond comprehension ... and of power.
His tongue weaves the spell of greed like a spider's web ...
His power reaches out like a hand of black shadows and draws
Aladdin to him ... captive to his evil eloquence ...
The rabbit to the snake ...
The bird to the lure ...

(ABANAZAR has persuaded ALADDIN to go with him ...)
(They move to exit watched by the NARRATOR ... they stop ...)

ALAD. What shall I tell my mother ...? Shall I tell her where
we're going ...?

ABAN. Tell her no more than she need know ... Tell her part of
the truth ... Tell her we've gone exploring in the desert ...
In fact, I'll tell her myself ...

(Enter WIDOW TWANKY)

You won't raise any objection to my taking Aladdin away
on holiday for a day or two, will you?

TWANK. Are you really ..! No ... I don't mind ...
 (To ABANAZAR) Just you be careful you don't lose him out
 there ... on secpnd thoughts ... don't be too careful.
 Well, go on, off with you, then ... I can't stand about
 here all day ... I've got work to do ... Not like some people
 I could mention ...

ALAD. Goodbye, then, Mother ...

TWANK. Just a minute ..! Have you washed your feet...?

ALAD. Yes ...

TWANK. Cleaned your teeth ..?

ALAD. Yes ...

TWANK. Changed your underwear ..?

ALAD. Yes ...

TWANK. You're sure ..?

ALAD. (loudly) Yes ...

TWANK. (loudly) Don't shout at me ..!

ALAD. (louder) I'm not ...!!

TWANK. (louder) Yes, you are ...!!

ALAD. I'm not ...! I'm not ...! I'm not ...!

TWANK. Alright ... Go on, get out ... Clear off ...!

ALAD. Alright, I will ... I am ...!

(Exit ABANAZAR and ALADDIN)

(BARNACLE BILL is alone on stage ... he is whistling 'All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor' ...)
(Enter LOTUS BLOSSOM ...)

LOTUS Excuse me ...

BARN. Yes ...?

LOTUS Excuse me ... I wonder if you could tell me where I might find Aladdin ...?

BARN. Ah ha ... You must be Lotus Blossom ...!

LOTUS Yes ... I am ...

BARN. He's told me all about you ...
But he's not here at the moment ... he's gone off into the desert with some fella called Abanazar who's supposed to be his uncle ... but it all seems a bit suss to me, I can tell yer ...

LOTUS Supposed to be his uncle ...? Doesn't the Widow Twanky know ...?

BARN. Well, his father never mentioned any brother ... but this Abanazar says he is ... so what can you do ...
Oh ... by the way ... I forgot to introduce myself ... I'm Barnacle Bill ... what you might call a friend of the family ...

LOTUS Yes, Aladdin has told me about you ... He looks upon you as a father, you know ...

BARN. (embarrassed ...) Yes ... I know ...

LOTUS He's a very wonderful person ... I care for him very much ...

BARN. What are you so sad for, then ...? All of a sudden ...?

LOTUS Oh ... I don't know what to do ...! It's my father ... because he's The Mandarin, he thinks we're too good for Aladdin simply because he comes from ... peasant stock ... He's forbidden me to see him ...

BARN. Is it that important ...? The worst he can do is cut off your allowance, isn't it ...?

LOTUS No ...! He can cut off his head ...!

BARN. That's a bit strong, ennit ...?

LOTUS But that's the way his mind works ... I don't know what to do ...

BARN. Well, look ... for the mean time, you go home and feed swans or paint some Willow Pattern tea cups or something and when he gets back with this Abanazar character ... the three of us'll have a little talk about things ...

LOTUS Yes ...

BARN. Don't worry ... something is bound to turn up ...

LOTUS I hope so ...

BARN. Of course it will ... in the meantime, don't worry ... now off you go ... I'll think of something ...

LOTUS ...

BARN. Goodbye ... come back tomorrow ... everything'll be alright ...

(Exit LOTUS BLOSSOM)

As if I didn't have enough ^{my} on/plate, as it is ... what with
one thing and the other ... the other particularly ...

(moves to exit)

Oh, yes, the next scene takes place in a desolate pass deep
in the desert ...

(Exit)

(Enter ALADDIN and ABANAZAR ... ABANAZAR in front ... ALADDIN is carrying a bundle)

ALADD. How much further ..?

ABAN. Not far now ... Not far at all ...

ALAD. Are we nearly there ..?

ABAN. Yes ... nearly there ...

ALAD. I'm tired ... Look, over there at that rock ... Where are we going ..?

ABAN. I've told you already ...

ALAD. Tell me again ...
Tell me again ..!

ABAN. We're looking for a cave full of treasure ... You can have anything you want out of it ... The only thing I want is a battered old thing ... a lamp ... that has a great deal of sentimental value for me ...

ALAD. Why's that ..?

ABAN. Why ..? It used to belong to a relative of mine ...

ALAD. I see ... Why can't you get it ... out ... yourself ..?

ABAN. No real reason ...

ALAD. No, why ..?

ABAN. If you must know ... I'm afraid of the dark ... I can't go down there ... So you'll have to do it ...

ALAD. Are we going to be there soon ..?

ABAN. Yes, we are ... We've just got to go round that corner and we're there ...

(exit ... voices off as they climb to the balcony and reappear there ...)

ALAD. (peering down into the auditorium) Is this it ..?

ABAN. Yes ... here we are ...

ALAD. It's very dark ... no wonder you don't want to go down there ... I don't, either ...

ABAN. Don't worry ... you'll be perfectly safe ...

ALAD. It don't look safe ...

ABAN. It is ..!

ALAD. But it don't look safe ... I'm scared ..!

ABAN. Think of the treasure ...

ALAD. I am ... and I'm still scared ... money can't fix a broken neck, can it ..? I'm not going down there and that's the end of it.

ABAN. Look ... put this ring on, this'll keep you out of trouble ...

ALAD. Is it really ..?

ABAN. Yes, it is ...

ALAD. I'll put it on, then ... I feel better already ... If your sure it really is magic, I'll go down there ...

ABAN. Give me the bundle and I'll help you down ...

ALAD. No ... No ...! I'm scared ...

ABAN. I've already told you ... there's nothing at all to be worried about ...

ALAD. There's nothing at all for you to be worried about ... you're staying up here ...! I'm the one who's going down there, aren't I ...?!

ABAN. Yes ... but ...

ALAD. If it's so safe, why aren't you the one going down there, eh ..? Why don't you go down ..? Eh ..?
I'll stop up here and hold the bundle instead ...

ABAN. I can't go down there ... I've told you ... Aladdin, I've a confession to make to you ... I am a terrible coward, I couldn't possibly go down there ... I'm nothing but a miserable coward ... But I'd hoped that you'd be brave enough to help your poor old Uncle Abanazar ...

ALAD. Yes ... I understand but ...

ABAN. No, no ... there's nothing more to be said ... We'd better start back now ...
It grieves me deeply, Aladdin, to discover that you are not the man your father, my brother, was ...
We'd better be getting back ... I'm so deeply disappointed ...

ALAD. But ...

ABAN. I had hoped that I would not find my own weaknesses in the character of my long-lost brother's son ...

ALAD. Alright, that does it ...! I'll go down ... if the ring really is magic ...

ABAN. Indeed, it is ...

ALAD. Right then ... Hold this ...

ABAN. Remember, all I want is the old lamp ...

(ALADDIN climbs down into the cavern ... and finds himself among the treasure ... (light boxes) ...)

ABAN. Are you down yet ..?
Are you there ..?

(ALADDIN stands astounded ...)

Aladdin ... what are you doing ...!
What is the matter ...???

ALAD. I've never seen anything like it ...

ABAN. Just get me the lamp ...!

- ABAN. The lamp ... Find the lamp and give it to me ... then you can help yourself to whatever you want ... to whatever you can carry ... But hurry up, Aladdin ...! You must make haste ...!
- ALAD. You said it was safe ...!
- ABAN. So it is ... So it is ... err, but we wouldn't want your dear mother to worry, would we ...? So get a move on ... Have you found the lamp ...?
- ALAD. No ... I Can't see it ...
- ABAN. Well, start looking ... we cannot stop here after dark ...
- ALAD. What was that ...?
- ABAN. Nothing ... nothing ... but make haste, Aladdin ... make haste ... Have you got it yet ...?
- ALAD. I can't see it anywhere ... wait a minute ... What's this ...? You can't mean this filthy old thing ... can you ...?
- ABAN. Is it a lamp ...?
- ALAD. Yes ... but ...
- ABAN. Then get what you want and get up here before it is too late ...
- (ALADDIN stuffs his pockets with treasure and sticks the lamp into his back pocket ...)
- ALAD. I've got everything and I'm coming out now ...
- ABAN. Throw the lamp up to me ...
- ALAD. No ... hang about ... I'll be out in a minute ...
- ABAN. Hand me the lamp, Aladdin ... that I may help you out ...
- ALAD. It's too steep, I can't get a grip ...
- ABAN. Hand me the lamp, Aladdin ...
- ALAD. I can't find a foothold, it's too slippery ...
- ABAN. Give me the lamp, Aladdin, so I can pull you out ...
- ALAD. I'm scared ...
- ABAN. Give me the lamp at once ... do you hear ...?
- ALAD. Uncle Abanazar ... please, help me out ...
- ABAN. Aladdin ...! The lamp, give it to me ...!
- ALAD. No ... I'm frightened ... I can't get out ...!
- ABAN. Give me the lamp ...!!
- ALAD. No ...
- ABAN. The lamp ... (thunder) Give me my lamp ...!!
- ALAD. Your lamp ...?

(Thunder ... lightning ...)

ABAN. Give it to me ...!!!

ALAD. No ... Nooooo ...

(Thunder ... lightning ... wind ... etc.)

ABAN. Give me the lamp ... Give it to me ...!!!

ALAD. No, no ... No ...!!!

ABAN. Give it to me ...

ALAD. No ...

ABAN. No ...? Then stay there for ever, Aladdin ... and amid these useless treasures learn the foolishness of thwarting ... The Mighty Abanazar ... Master of Darkness ...

(Thunder ...)

Oh, unwise ... Thrice accursed ... Aladdin ...!!!

(Maniacal laughter ... tape)

Oh, Mountain ... move your roots, deeper than the history of all China ... Oh, mountain, older than the Forbidden City ... Bury this accursed peasant and all his ancestors ...

Oh, River of Limpid Water ... change your course to flood and foam above the fallen mountain and seal the earth with your raging waters ...

And there, slime-shelled fishes creep and demon pike with eyes that burn shall keep your tomb from the memory of men ... and your bones from the light of the sun ...

I ... Abanazar, the Master of Darkness ... The Great Magician ... The Alchemist ... do command it

(Thunder ... lightning ... sound, etc.)

Farewell, Aladdin ... Farewell ...
You will find that diamonds make but worthless bread,
And burnished gold a corpse's bed ...

(Thunder ... lightning ... sound, etc.)

Farewell, Aladdin ... Farewell ...
Haaahahahaahahahaahahahaah Yabhhhaaaahahaha, etc.

(Thunder ... lightning ... the mouth of the cave is sealed as Aladdin falls to his knees in terror ...)

(In the subdued light, he then searches in mounting fear for a way out ... no luck ... he sits)

ALAD. What am I going to do ..? I'll be down here forever ..!
I'll never get out ... Buried alive ..!
Oh ...! Oh ...! That wicked Abanazar ..! Whatever shall I do ...

(He wrings his hands ...)

Oh, dear, oh, dear ... What's going to become of me ..?
I'll never get home again ... and I'll never see my dear old mother again ... but, come to think of it, that's the least of my worries ...

ALAD. That wicked Abanazar ...

(Enter the Genie of the Ring ...)

G of R. Was that you rubbing the ring just then ..? Was it ..?
Was that you, just when I'm particularly busy ..? Have
a heart ...!

ALAD. Who are you ..? Don't hurt me ...! I didn't mean any
harm ... I was only looking ...

G of R. Where are we ..?

ALAD. Who are you ..? Where did you come from ..?

G OF R. Blimey ...! I don't fancy it in here very much ... what
did you say ..?

ALAD. Who are you ..?

G OF R. Me ..? (looking round ...) Me ..? Oh, I'm the Genie of
the Ring ...

ALAD. The what ..?

G OF R. The Genie of the Ring ...!

ALAD. If you say so ... If you say so ...

G OF R. Well, that's charming, that is ... most people are glad
to see me, I can tell you. Still, not to worry ...
Where are we at ...?

ALAD. Where are we at ...?

G OF R. That's what I said ...

ALAD. We're doomed, that's where we're at ... Buried alive under
a bloody great mountain, that's where we're at ..

G OF R. Oh yeh ..? Well, never mind.
You haven't got such a thing as a quarter-inch flat-head
bolt, have you ..?

ALAD. Have I got what ..?

G OF R. A quarter-inch flat-head bolt.

ALAD. No ... I haven't ... What for ..?

G OF R. Well, the gears have stripped. I've been on me back all
day under it ... tightening it all up ... I done what I
can but we're always stuck for spares and I just happen
to be in need of a quarter-inch flat-head bolt 'cos it's
still slipping out all the time ...

ALAD. What's slipping out ..?

G OF R. The gears ...

ALAD. The gears ..? What gears ..?

G OF R. What gears ..? What gears ..? THE gears ...!

ALAD. Where ..?

G OF R. Where ...? The gears ...!

G OF R. What works ..? In the ring ..!

ALAD. In the Ring ..?

G OF R. In the Ring ..? No ... in the ring ..! What I said ... I'm the Genie of the Ring and I need a quarter-inch flat-head bolt to lock the gears, then I can run it in first ... Which is better than nothing ... not a lot, though ... never mind ... Oh, yeh ... your wish is my command ... by the way ...

ALAD.. What d'you mean ... exactly ..?

G OF R. It's quite simple. If you want anything done, I have to do it ...

ALAD. Why ..?

G OF R. Why ..? Well, it's because you're wearing the ring, I suppose ...

ALAD. Oh, I see ...

G OF R. It's just the way things are. If you want anything done, I do it ... It's dead simple ... ennit ...

ALAD. Anything I want ..? Like what ..?

G OF R. Anything at all ..! Just name it ...

ALAD. Can you get me out of here ..?

G OF R. Course I can ... No trouble at all except for the gears, that is ... but it should be alright ...

ALAD. Well, would you please do it ..? Now ..!

G OF R. O.K. ... Are you ready ..?

ALAD. Of course I am ...

G OF R. Let's go then ... Got everything you want ..?

ALAD. Just get me out of here ...

G. OF R. Right then ... Up we go, first floor - Lemons, Lino, Ladies' Lingerie ...

(Exeunt)

(WIDOW TWANKY on)
(Enter ALADDIN)

TWANK. Where have you been ..?

ALAD. You may well ask ..I

TWANK. And what is that supposed to mean ..?

ALAD. From now on, Mother, everything is going to be different.

TWANK. Different? Different ..? You mean you're going to get a job instead of lying around the house all day ..?

ALAD. No ... that's not what I mean ...

TWANK. Too much to hope for, I suppose. You haven't worked since you were a bouncer at Mothercare ...

ALAD. That's not true, Mother ... I had three days work last week ...

TWANK. Doing what ..?

ALAD. I was bending mice at the Chinese Restaurant ... But it's all going to be different now ...

TWANK. So you say ... But why ..?

ALAD. I've got something to show you ... here ...

TWANK. What ..?

ALAD. Look ... just a minute ...

(Gets it all out of his pockets ...)

Look at this lot ...!

TWANK. What ..?

ALAD. There, all our troubles are over. You'll never have to wash another shirt as long as you live ...!

TWANK. But it's just a fist-full of gravel ... Really, Aladdin, I haven't got time for your stupid games ...!

ALAD. But ... but it ... they were diamonds and jewels in the cave ...!!?

TWANK. What cave ..? And where is Uncle Abanazar ..?

ALAD. He's gone. I don't know ... He shut me up in the cave ... I don't think he really was my father's brother ... not really ... Do you know that ...

TWANK. What d'you mean ..?

ALAD. I think he was a wicked magician ...

TWANK. What makes you say that ..? I thought he was rather sweet ...

ALAD. He buried me in this great big cave under a mountain and a river and made it fall in the valley and then he changed the way the river was running and made a lake over the top and then ...

TWANK. You've been taking them pills again, haven't you ..?

ALAD. But it's all ...

TWANK. Oh, you make me tired with your fantasies ...

ALAD. (loudly) But it did happen, it did ...!

TWANK. (loudly) Don't shout ...!

ALAD. I'm not shouting ...!

TWANK. Don't dare shout at me, Aladdin Twanky ... or I'll give you such a belting ...!

ALAD. I wasn't shouting ...!! (loudly)

TWANK. Don't shout ...!!

ALAD. I wasn't ...!!

TWANK. Well, don't ...!!

ALAD. It did happen ... didn't it (to audience - reply)

TWANK. Well, then ... Clever Dick ... how did you get out ...?

ALAD. I'm coming to that ...!

TWANK. You're not going to start shouting again, are you, eh ...?

ALAD. I'm going to tell you ...

TWANK. Well, come on then, tell me ... If you were buried alive, how did you get out ...?

ALAD. I will ...

TWANK. Well, go on then ...

ALAD. I'm going to ...

TWANK. Alright ...! Tell me ...!

ALAD. I will ...!

TWANK. Go on, then ...!

ALAD. I'm going to ...! (loudly)

TWANK. Don't shout ...!

ALAD. I'm not ...!

TWANK. You are ...!

ALAD. I am not shouting ...! (loudly)

TWANK. You are shouting ...! Tell me how you got out ... Or I'll give you a bunch of fives ...!!

ALAD. Alright then, I will ...! My Genie transported me out ...

TWANK. Right, that's it, then ... (goes to give ALADDIN a bunch of fives ...)

ALAD. It's true, Mother, my Genie transported me out ...

TWANK. Your what ...? .

ALAD. My Genie ...!

TWANK. Did what ...?

ALAD. Transported me out ...

TWANK. He never did ...

ALAD. He did ...

TWANK. Come on, son ... I wasn't born yesterday, you know ...

ALAD. Look, all I've got to do is give this ring a quick polish ...

TWANK. Well, why don't you ...

ALAD. He'll come leaping out if I do ... so watch out ...

TWANK. Well, get on with it, then ...

ALAD. I will, then ... but don't say I didn't warn you ...

(rubs the ring .. nothing happens ...)

TWANK. Big deal ...

(rubs it again ... nothing ...)

Where's the flash, then ... eh? ... where's the smoke ??
Where's the big bang ??

(rubs it furiously ... nothing ...)

Really, Aladdin, you're the limit. I haven't got time
to waste bandying legs with you ...

(Enter GENIE OF THE RING with a mug of tea and a sarnie ...)

G OF R. 'Scuse me ... sorry about this ...

TWANK. Who's that ?? Look at the state of him ...

ALAD. It's the Genie of the Ring ...!

TWANK. He's not staying, is he ?? He's not going to sit on me
nice furniture in those filthy overalls ... you're not going
to do that, are you, mush ...?

(Double-take ...)

The Genie of the Ring ...? What, him ?? You'll believe
anything, Aladdin ... anything, you will really. (To Genie
of the Ring) ... Excuse my boy, he's a bit on the simple
side ... In fact, he's as thick as a donkey's dangler ...

ALAD. It is the Genie ...!

TWANK. He means well but ... (tap-tap ...) I don't suppose your
overalls need laundering, do they ?? Very reasonable ...

ALAD. Mother, it is the Genie ...! It is ...!!

TWANK. Not while I'm talking business, son.... Excuse me a moment = (to Genie)
(to ALADDIN) - I don't want to have to, but I will if you
don't belt up ... so help me ...

G OF R. Excuse me, Missus ...

TWANK. Yes ...?

G OF R. I don't suppose you've got such a thing as a quarter-inch flat-
headed bolt, have you ...?

- TWANK. I'll have to have a look ... what's it for ..?
- G OF R. I'm having a bit 'of grief with the Ring ... playing me up, like ... I was telling the boy, all the gears ...
- TWANK. All the what ..?
- G OF R. The gears ...
- TWANK. What gears ..?
- G OF R. Oh, no ... The works ... in the Ring ...
- ALAD. I told you ... but you wouldn't listen, would you ..?
- TWANK. This ... this ... is a Genie ..? He looks like a muck shoveller to me....
- G OF R. I'm only doing my job ...
- ALAD. I told you our troubles were over ...
- TWANK. You did ..?
- ALAD. Yes, I did ...
- TWANK. And are they ..?
- ALAD. Yes, they are ...
- TWANK. Why
- ALAD. I'll tell you why ... He does everything I tell him ...
- TWANK. So what ..?
- ALAD. Well ... instead of you working all day washing clothes, you can go around getting more orders, then, with the extra money, we'll be able to employ somebody to do the dirty work and that'll make more money and in the end, we won't have to do anything at all and the Genie can manage the business and we can go and live at the seaside ...
- TWANK. Tell me that again, slowly ...
- ALAD. Well ... instead of working all day walking around getting new orders with the Genie, you can get all the business over with and we won't have to do anything and you can get a job doing dirty work if you can manage it and do all the washing in the sea ... side ... (looks puzzled, etc.)
- TWANK. That sounds like a good idea ... Will he do it ..?
- G OF R. Your wish is my command ...
- TWANK. Charmin', I'm sure ... (curtesies)
- ALAD. Will you manage the business for us ..?
- G OF R. If that's what you want ... No trouble at all ...
- ALAD. I told you so, didn't I. Now, we're both on Easy Street ... at last ... for life ...

(ALADDIN and TWANKY move to exit, leaving GENIE OF THE RING)

I said something was bound to turn up ...

- G OF R. Typical ... Typical mug punters ... satisfied with the pennies, when they could have ...

(Enter ALADDIN with BARNACLE BILL)

ALAD. ... and that's exactly what happened ... just like I explained ...
I don't know what he wanted the lamp for ...

BARN. What happened to it ...?

ALAD. The lamp ..?

BARN. What else ..?

ALAD. I don't know ... No ...! Wait a minute ...! I stuck it
in my back pocket ...!

BARN. Well, don't just stand there, get it out ...

ALAD. Yes ... Look ...! Here it is ...!
It's a bit bent ... I must have been sitting on it ...

BARN. Let's have a hatcher's book ...

(ALADDIN gives it to him)

Well, that's nothing to write home about, is it ..? Nothing
special ...

You haven't told your Mum about this, have you ..?

ALAD. No ... I'd forgotten all about it ...

BARN. How did you get the Genie to come out the ring ..?

ALAD. Well, I just gave it a rub ...

BARN. I see ... why don't you give it a try with this as well ...

ALAD. It might work ...!

BARN. Yeh, I know it might work ... that's why I said it ...

ALAD. Well, let's have it then ...

BARN. There's no need to get brusque about it ...

ALAD. I'm not getting brusque about it ...

BARN. Alright then ...!

ALAD. Alright ...! So, give it to me ...

BARN. Here you are ... Give it a polish ...

ALAD. Right ... I wasn't being brusque ...

BARN. That's alright ... Give it a rub ...

(ALADDIN rubs the lamp ...)

Well, it don't seem to be working ...
Give it the old once over with a Brillo Pad ...

(ALADDIN tries again ...)

BARN. I dunarf fancy a smoke ...!

(Gets out a cigar ...)

Oh, dear ... I've only got one ...

ALAD. Well ...?

BARN. What dja mean ... Well ..?

ALAD. Don't just stand there ... Break it in half, then ...

(BARNACLE BILL breaks it and gives half to ALADDIN)

BARN. There you are then ...

ALAD. That's not fair ...! If I'd broken it, I'd have given you the big half ...!

BARN. Well, I got the big half ... so what are you moaning about ..?

(ALADDIN strikes a match on the lamp ...)

ALAD. I wish I had one to myself ...

(Enter GENIE OF THE LAMP)

G OF L. One cigar between two ..? Hardly suitable ... Oh no, hardly acceptable ... hardly concomitant ... Perhaps I can be of some assistance ...

(Hands ALADDIN and BARNACLE BILL a cigar each ...)

You can't say I don't look after you ...

That's a nice parrot ...

BARN. Yeh ... I got it for the Widow Twanky ...

G OF L. Not a bad swop ...

Well ... Ladies and Gentlemen ... my dramatic enterance ... as you have witnessed at this point ... brings the first half to a triumphant conclusion ...
... However ...!

BARN. However ...!

G OF L. Before the interval, we proudly... as advertised in the Rattle Snake Breeders' Gazette (incorporating the Rubberwear Monthly ...) present ...

The Assassination to Death of Julius Caesar ... OR ... She was only the Engine Drivers Daughter ... but She Disappeared with a Poof ... poof ... poof .. poof . poof,poof,poof,poof ...

I thank you ...

(Exeunt)

INTERLUDE.

1.

THE ASSASSINATION OF JULIUS CAESAR ...

(Enter CASSIUS enters during fanfare ...)

CASS. Strange signs have there been above the mighty towers of Rome,
The night sky filled with frightful apparitions
And the cobbled streets around flicker with white fire.
Children, fitful in their sleep, have called out to nurses and
To mothers, and men in dreams have seen such things
As fill their waking hours with fear.
White worms fill the earth and the livid hours move
Where once was darkness towards dawn ...
Strange births have been of creatures frightful
And the maimed and screaming of beasts deformed
And objects dead as rock and stone ... the very
Marble of our sovereign State ...
The mad cry out and creep and crawl, affrighted
By Phaeton's passage of the sky. Clouds open and Jupiter's
Very fingers reach them down towards our heads ...
Leaves fall from trees where should be fruit,
Dead faces lurk where should be flowers,
Musicians' hands lie still upon their instruments
And women neither sing nor dance,
Nor raise their downcast glances from the ground
For fear of that which is unspoken,
For fear of that which stalks abroad and fills the air
With strange and clouded meanings ...

Full three times hath Caesar, whom the Gods protect,
Averted hand and eye from the Imperial Crown of Rome,
And though averted hand and eye may be, I fear
His mind strays close and his desires lead
Toward the crusted diadem ...
But see, here Caesar comes emboldened in his pomp and power
And I, Cassius, needs must play his friend
Until the tyrant's fatal hour ...

(Enter MARK ANTONY and CAESAR with cigars ...)

CASS. All hail, Mighty Caesar, Scourge of the Barbarians, Emperor
Divine of Sun and Moon ... Son of Zeus, I, Cassius ...

CAES. Just a minute, fella ... ain't you forgetting something ..?

CASS. Eagle of the Legions ... Mighty Potentate of East and West ...
Fountainhead of all Rome's Power ...
I, Cassius, salute thee ...!

CAES. Proceed, chief ...

CASS. We of the Senate, the Nation-States' most mighty voice
Have come in supplication unto Thee ... Oh, Mighty One ...
Oh, Magnificent Cassar ...

CAES. You can't help liking him ...

CASS. ... and failing supplication will demand ...

(MARK ANTONY grabs him by the lapels of his toga ...)

CAES. Don't come the old Hail Caesar with me, sonny ... uvawise,
Big M., here, will tear your tiny head off ... Right ..?

(MARK ANTONY drops him ...)

Tony, baby, go turn the legions around ... it looks kinda

CAES. Meanwhile, Laughing-Boy and me will have a little talk ...

(Exit MARK ANTONY)

What's on your mind, fella ..?

(CASSIUS' next speech performed with much pacing by CAESAR, followed by CASSIUS. CAESAR interjects 'that's very true ...!', etc. ... where appropriate ...)

CASS. Oh, Mighty Caesar, we of the Senate who do love thee well
Are by strange visitations moved to come to thee,
And by the words of Honest Joe Casca, the Punter's Friend,
and Soothsayer ...

CAES. Marry me, Mrs. Claypole, and I'll never look at another
horse again ...!

CASS. Oh, Mighty Caesar, when the populace of Rome
Did offer unto thee the crown, then did thou turn away therefrom
And with vestal downcast glance did say
Thine aspirations led not onwards to an Imperial Crown ...
And thou wast not tempted then to ope the box nor take the
money ...
Yet would it seem that thine resolves hath faded gradually
away
And now art thou prepared to reach with envious hand
Toward the sceptre of that forbidden office ...
Therefore, I, the chiefest voice of all the Senate, have
come
To thee to be assured that there is within thy mind
No thought of doing what I just spoke ...

VOICE Eight to One ... Ides of March ... You all know me, Honest
OFF. Joe, the punter's friend ... Five to One ... Ides of March ...
Three to Two ... Two to One ...
Seven to Four On ... Ides of March ...

CAES. Did you hear something ..?

CASS. No, nothing ...

CAES. What about you, Brute ..? Excuse me a moment, fellas ...
I thought I heard an interpolation ...

(Exit CAESAR ...)

CASS. Art ready, Brutus, to strike the tyrant down ..?

BRUT. Look ... you know I can't stand the sight of blood ...

CASS. Ah ... but think of the money ...

BRUT. But I am ... I am. We dunnarf need it ... there's nothing
in the house for the wife to eat except half a hundredweight
of red-hot nutty slack ...

(Enter CAESAR)

CAES. Just as I thought ... It was an intoipolation ... I'da shot
it but they're out of season ...

CASS. Where is our confederate, the third conspirator ..?

(Enter third conspirator - they draw their daggers ...)

CAES. Now, just a minute, fellas ...

CASS. Now, a blow for freedom ...

- CAES: I bet you say that to all the sailors...
- CASS: Die, Caesar....
- CAES: Are you gonna trust me, or that crooked bookmaker..?
(CAESAR grabs third cons. arm and looks at the knife)
- CAES: Have you been eating your dinner with that...?
Do you mind...
- CASS: Die, Cruel Tyrant....Thus we make Rome free.....
- CAES: I'm not going to be cut up with that filthy knife...
And look at his finger nails.....
The whole things off.....Finished... Forget it, fellas..
- CASS: Go wash your knife, will you..
(Exit third Con.)

(Enter MARK ANTONY with binoculars)
- M.ANT: Sorry to take so long....I had trouble parking the legion..
They've got tickets all over them...
- CAES: (Sees the binos) So you've been taking side bets again,
have you...? (Smack)
- M.ANT: (Waving binos) You try and back ten thousand men down a
on-way-street without them.....
- CAES: Sorry kid.... (to audience) A stupid brute, but loyal...
- CASS: Where's the third conspiritor..?

(Enter third conspiritor)
- CASS: So die Caesar....Strike Brutus.... Are you a man or a mouse..?
- BRUT: Eek Eek....(They stab him)
- CAES: Et tu Brute...?
- BRUT: Fraid so, old son.....

(CAESAR begins to fall)
- CAES: Mind me leg, fellas.....

(He hits the ground and expires. He is carried out..)

FIN

HAR. Man at his birth is tender and weak ... at his death he is ~~is~~ ^{dry} and brittle ...

Plants when they come forth are tender and moist -
When dead, they are dry and tough ...
Thus rigidity and inflexibility are the concomitants of death ...
softness and weakness are the concomitants of life ...

So the night, like the squalls of winter on the high passes of
Kung Shen Ku'ang, drifting towards dawn, watches over the sleep
of Abanazar and Aladdin ...

The Magician dreams of solitary and inflexible power.
Aladdin dreams of undefined happiness ...
The Magician twitches and gnashes his teeth in his sleep, mutters
curses and with a wave of his hand, humbles the world beneath his
feet ...

Aladdin sleeps quietly ...
In the far corners of the sky, day comes ...
His fills the valleys like white sea foam; cattle stand still and
silent ...

A leaf falls ...
Birds hop and scorch the corn stubble ... the only moving creatures
in a frozen landscape ...

The faded green of the early sky above the scattered reddening
clouds becomes blue ...

In the far and solitary distance, a woman is singing ...

Day begins ...

(Enter ALADDIN)

ALAD. What a beautiful morning ...

(yawns and stretches ...)

I wonder if the lamp's still working ...

(He polishes it ... taps it ... shakes it ... in progression as nothing happens ...)

(Finally ... enter GENIE OF THE LAMP in his pyjamas ...)

G OF L. What sort of a time do you call this, then ..? It's a bit early, you know ... AND I was on late-turn last night ...

ALAD. I'm sorry, I didn't realize ...

G OF L. No, well ... people don't, do they ... that's half the trouble ... they don't ...

ALAD. Do you want a cup of tea ...?

G OF L. That'd be very nice, if there's one on ...

ALAD. It's no bother ... Come in the kitchen ... I want to ask you something ...

(They exeunt ...)

(Enter ABANAZAR ... tiptoes across stage ... once, twice ...)

Noise off ... ABANAZAR hides ...

Enter BARNACLE BILL, locks round, goes to bottle ... ABANAZAR

creeps up on him with cosh ... As BARNACLE BILL takes a swig out

of bottle ... ABANAZAR creeps up on him with cosh and Snack ...

BARNACLE BILL falls down ... ABANAZAR looks round the room ...

finds nothing ... ABANAZAR hears ALADDIN off and exits ... BARNACLE

BILL comes round and get sup ...)

BARN. An immature and slightly impertinent ... but somehow insouciant little Chateau Kiss-of-Death ... earthy but not coarse with a certain 'Je ne sais Pourquoi ...'

(Enter ALADDIN and the GENIE OF THE LAMP)

ALAD. Yes, that's what happened ...

G OF L. So, they tried to intimidate you ..?

ALAD. Yeh, and they scared me as well ...

G OF L. Well, you don't want to worry too much about that ...

ALAD. (to BARNACLE BILL) Oh, hello ... there's some tea in the pot if you want it ...

BARN. Right ... I'll go and get meself some ... It's safer ...

(Exit ...)

ALAD. You can do everything I ask you to ... As that right ...?

G OF L. Oh, yes ... no trouble at all ...

ALAD. Money and that ...?

G OF L. Of course ...!

ALAD. So anything ...? Anything at all ...?

G OF L. That's what I said ...

ALAD. Fifty P. ...!

G OF L. You what ...?

ALAD. Fifty P. ...!?

G OF L. You're joking ...!

ALAD. I knew you wouldn't ...

G OF L. Fifty ...? P ...? (laughs)

ALAD. Alright, then ... Twenty ...? Ten ...? Five ...?

G OF L. You'll have to excuse me a minute ...

(recovers)

There ya ... Fifty P. ...

ALAD. So, it works ... it really does ... anything I want you can get ...!

G OF L. That's right ... Whatever you want ...

ALAD. Not just Fifty P ...?

G OF L. No ... not just fifty P ...

ALAD. So I can have a bit more ...? If I want ...?

G OF L. That's right ...

ALAD. Another one ...?

G OF L. How you are ...

ALAD. X Another ... One ...

G OF L. There ... whatever you want ...

ALAD. Another one ...! I could even have a pound ... Couldn't I ... if I wanted ...?

G OF L. That's right ...

ALAD. Then, I will ... I'll have a pound ...

G OF L. And here you are ... One pound, coin of the realm, signed by the great O'Brien himself ...

ALAD. Thank you ... In fact, there's a lot of things I could have, there are ... Things I've never thought about having before ...
Never even crossed my mind ... (pause ...)
Never even thought about ... (pause ...)
Things I can't imagine ... Er, excuse me, will you ... Please ...?
I'll have to ... (pause ...)
I think I'll go for a walk ... (pause ...)
Yes ... Never even thought about ...

(Exit ALADDIN)

G OF L. There's a critical moment, it seems, with all of them ... ones they realise ... Definitely ... a critical moment ...

(Enter GENIE OF THE RING)

G OF L. (to GENIE OF THE RING) Have you got it fixed yet ..?

G OF R. Holds together, dunnit ..? But that's about all it does do ...
I think I'll trade it in on a part for a motorbike ... or one of them three wheelers ...
On the other hand ...

exchange

(GENIE OF LAMP AND GENIE OF RING exit talking ...)

1931. This passed ... When he first spent in ... of conducting business ...
However, the general ...

(Enter MADRUS ... He now has eyesetter on his plain grey suit ...)

has made initially tentative moves, followed by an increasingly
skilful consolidation of his position ...

The laundry is now a casino and marriage parlour ...
and his ventures branch outwards into ever diversifying interests ...

(Enter the two HORNS)

2nd H. Say, look who it aint ...?

1st H. Well, if it aint Lover-Boy ...

2nd H. Hiya, Pretty-Boy ...

MAD. Keep away from me ...

1st H. Sho we meet once more in the weaving of life's rich tapestry ...
I hoped it'd be under more caniverous circumstances ... We gave
yuh liddle friendly advisho ... Seems yer didn't take it ...

2nd H. You could get very sick ... You're neglecting your health doing
that ...

1st H. And that's chad ...

2nd H. Very sad ...

1st H. In fact, you don't leave us with no option ... You're gonna have
to sweep yourself up with your own broom ... It's nothing personal ...

2nd H. You understand that, don't you ?? We're very nice, once you
get to know us ...

1st H. It's nothing personal ... Just one of those things ... Feight you
win a little ... then you loosh a little ... But you had to learn
the hard way, kid ... Start counting ... in ten seconds, you're
gonna be as dead as Vaudeville ...!

2nd H. Shome people woulda quit while they was ahead ... Frinstance ...

1st H. I woulda quit while I was ahead ...

2nd H. I woulda quit while I was ahead, too ...

1st H. But you was too smart to quit while you was ahead ...

(Enter the Genies whose approach is unheard ... monkey wrench,
etc. ...)

1st Hood You coulda had real class, Shamus....
2nd Hood Real class.... (BLOWS HIS NOSE....)
1st Hood But now there ain't no other way...! This is where you
get yours Weisenheimer...!

(GENIE OF LAMP HAS ENTERED...)

G of L What's all this then...? Bother...?
(TO 2ND HOOD....) E You remind me of somebody...
Never mind... Whats the game, eh..?

1st Hood Lay a finger on him and I'll give you an extra belly-
button, big boy..!

G of L You don't know who you're talking to. I'll tear you along
the dotted line round your toupe...!

2nd Hood The Mandarin'll deal with you..!

G of L That freak...? O.K. Number One son. You tell Charlie
Chan to watch his step or I'll have his foot off...

2nd Hood You're out numbered aintcher...? Eh..? Ah ha ha ha...!
(EXIT 2ND HOOD..)

G of L At this moment yes. But not for*long. Shaking down our
oppo'll get you maimed.

1st Hood We'll be back and when we do it'll be the Big Sleep for
you and your twn buddies...!

G of L If I see you round here again...! E(RAISES FINGER....
THUNDER....) (TO ALAD.) Why don't you give the ring a
rub....? (ALAD DOES...)
If I see you round here again you'll get yourselfs nailed
on the Madarins frontdoor. He can take you in with the
milk.... You got that...? Eh..?
(ENTER G of R....) Where have you been..

G of R I had a little trouble getting here, if you know what I
mean... But now I am here...! Here (TO IST HOOD...)
Wheres the other one...?

G of L Hiding round the back. Go and fetch him out... eh...?

Goof R No, that could be tricky.
I'll go and sort him out. You deal with this one.
(G OF R RUNS ROUND THE BACK. PUNCH UP OFF.
G OF L GIVES IST HOOD THE NUTTERS LEAD AWAY OFF. SOUNDS
OF PUNCH UP....)
(GENIES RE ENTER BRUSHING THEM SELFS OFF.

G of L You got to remember your technique. Straight from the shoulder follow through BUT keep your weight on both feet. THUS. THUS. THUS...! Nice loose action.

G OF R Well....I'm out of practise aren't I...

G of L What kind of an excuse is that...? Practise is of the essence (FINGER....THUNDER...) You got to practise, right...? EE Well...?

G of R Well...?

G of L Well.... Practise....

G of R All right...all right...

(G OF R TRIES THE THUNDER TRICK. ONCE. TWICE. NOTHING... THIRD TIME...FALL OF SNOW...).

G of L That's not a lot of use, is it...?

G of R They could have slipped nprimmis over in it...

G of L You're not at Stalingrad now, you know...!

(G OF L...FINGER THUNDER....) See...? There...

be
G of R (To ALAD) They went back in a hurry
ALAD They said they'd get me...
G of R They'll think twice before they try that old nonsense
again. Specially the fella with the curly hair, eh..?
G of L We got to be about our business
G of R You'll never walk alone...eh...?

ALAD But what if they do come back..?

G of R If you need me....just whisle... You know how to whisle
don't you....?

(THEY MOVE TO EXIT AND STOP. THE MANDARIN HAS ENTERED....)

MAND Ah, gentlemen...! No further demonstrations of your admirable
technique shall be necessary. Mr Twanky, I have made one of
my rare errors of judgement with you.....
Since our first conversation I learn that you run an organis-
ation gathering to you much wealth and power..... Power....
Mr Twanky.... The art of survival lies in pragmatism.

(THE GENIES ARE EXCHANGING UNEASY GLANCES..)

Therefore, I naturally no longer find it politic to
object to a liason between you and my dear child, Lotus Blossom.
Perhaps this small gesture on my part may lead to a further
co-operation between us in the future.

Please let there be no recriminations over my hasty and ~~mean~~
unworthy treatment of you...

Perhaps You would ~~would~~ care to join my daughter and me for
dinner one evening soon....very soon.....?

My dear Mr Twanky in future please treat my humble residence
as your own.

I must leave you now. But please remember I now look upon you
as almost one of the family. Good day....
Gentlemen....

(MANDARIN MOVES TO EXIT.) On second thoughts,
Mr Twanky, perhaps you would care to accompany me on my
promenade. I have one or two propositions that might be of
interest to you.

ALAD You'd have no objections if my two associates join us in our..
perambulations...?

MAND Ah ha...! A man after my own heart...! Come my young friend..

ALAD (TO GENIES) Follow ~~with~~ us... (ASIDE TO THEM.) But don't
get too far behind.....

(MANDARIN AND ALADIN EXIT.)

G of R I don't like the look of this.

G of L Monkey business...?

G of R Better keep an eye on things.....

(THEY FOLLOW OFF.

END OF SCENE.....)

(LOTUS BLOSSOM IS ALONE ON STAGE. SHE IS WAITING. ENTER ALADIN.
GOLD BRAIN ON HAT. MEDALS.)

ALAD Ah..! There you are..! I hope you haven't been waiting too long.

LOTUS Oh no...not at all...

ALAD Good....good... You father has informed you of the outcome of our most recent conversation...?

LOTUS Yes, he did... I came at once.... To see you...

ALAD A martini, perhaps...? Dry...?

LOTUS I beg your pardon...?

ALAD A martini...!?

LOTUS Where...?

ALAD Here....!

LOTUS What....?

ALAD A drink...! Dry...!?

LOTUS For the time of year. Isn't it..?

ALAD I never ^{yet} met a dame that didn't understand a smackin the mouth..!

(COCKTAIL SHAKER...) A propitious alliance. Advantageous to all.
To us in particular. ~~Warranted~~

Old Stirling Moss there is a man who realises that ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ both men and circumstances change... a man
wise enough to accommodate those changing patterns....
Your Martini... (POURS. SAND GAG....)

LOTUS Thank you...

ALAD A cigarette..?

LOTUS No thank you...

ALAD Very wise. Very wise. I'm smoking far too much as it is. My dear, to us...

LOTUS My father seems very impressed by your methods...

ALAD So he should be... He's a man of the world.....

LOTUS I more than most am aware of that.

ALAD You are your father's daughter of course... He sent you to me..? To find out, what...?

LOTUS How can you say such a thing...?

ALAD So you deny it..?

LOTUS I've never been so insulted in all my life..!

ALAD You simply don't get around enough.

(ENETR GENIE OF RING... IN HELMET.)

ALAD WHAT DO YOU WANT...?

G OP R I only came in for the empties... No I have to where this on me here

ALAD Well get them and get out..! (G OP R DOES SO. MIMES BEHIND ALAD'S
And yes you do have to wear it! BACK. THUMP THUMP..)

LOTUS Surely you don't need all that barbed wire round this horrible place

ALAD Not really. But one can't be too safe. (WHISPERS) I have enemies
you know.

LOTUS Oh surely not... I find that hard to believe.

ALAD Yes. And they'll stop at nothing to get what they want...

LOTUS What do they want...?

ALAD There, I knew it..! I knew it..! You've been sent here to spy on me
Well now we know where we stand..! Admit it...!!

LOTUS You're out of your head..! I'll admit no such thing..! It's not true

ALAD. (LIGHTS CIGARETTE IN HOLDER.) Ah well..! I forgive you... See how you
can twist me round your little finger. Did you like the wink...?

LOTUS The armpits were a little lumpy until I ~~got~~ unpicked the micro-
phones....

ALAD Ah ha...ah yes.... Just my little joke... What can I say...?

LOTUS Not a lot.

ALAD (CHANGING SUBJECT.) Your father is a most remarkable man.

LOTUS How can you say that after what he tried to do to you..?

ALAD That was nothing. In his position I would have done the same. You
look suprised..? It was the only course open to him. Remarkable man,
in his time.....yes indeed...for his time....

I'm afraid you'll have to excuse me. I must attend to the arrangements
for this afternoon's rally. You will be there of course with us. Your
Father and myself.

LOTUS To tell you the truth I'd rather not...

ALAD 'To tell you the truth' that's out of the question. You will be there!

LOTUS But I... I....

ALAD You will be there and that's all there is to it...!

LOTUS I don't want to go..!

ALAD. I don't care whether you want to go or not ... you will be there and you will be seen to be there ... When your father and I arrive to be greeted by the masses, you will be in the line-up with us and you will be ... smiling and waving ... smiling and waving ... Do you understand ...???

LOTUS Yes, I understand ...

ALAD. Very well ... It's settled then ... You'll enjoy yourself ... I know you will ... You'll see, I was ... right ... In the meantime, leave me please, I have many things to attend to ...

LOTUS I may be there ... You and my father can see to that ... But you can't make me enjoy this ... buffoonery of yours ...

ALAD. Buffoonery, is it ...? We'll see about that ...! Get out ...!

LOTUS Don't worry ... I'm going ... but you can do all the smiling and waving ... Mr. Egg Mouth ...! And you can stick that in your 'I Ching' and set light to it ...!

(Exit LOTUS ELOESON in high dudgeon ...)

ALAD. What's got into her, I wonder ...? Genies, where are you ...? I've got enough to do as it is ... without all these histrionics ... Genies, are you there ...? Where are you ...?

(Exit)

(Enter ABANAZAR creeping like a villain he is....ssssss...)
(He begins to search about...)

ABAN. Where is it...? I want my lamp...! Where....Where...?
I will find it.....I will have it....!

(He continues to look for it.....)

They shan't thwart me.....Its here somewhere....I know it is...
And I shall find it....then they'll be sorry for wasting my
time.... I'll teach them all.....

(He searches furtively... As he digs around BARNACLE BILL enters silently and watches him... then begins to creep up on ABANAZAR.....) Before he gets to him ABANAZAR hears him and spins round.)

BARN. Well, well, well....What are you doing here, you creeping villain....?

ABAN. That's none of your business....!

BARN. Oh yes...? You don't think so, eh...? Well I happen to think it is....and I've got a little something to talk over with you, Laughing Boy..... A little score to settle.....

ABAN. Are you threatening me....?

BARN. As a matter of fact I am.....

ABAN. Inca you should be vory, /very careful....very careful indeed...

PARR. Oh yes...?

ABAN. Indeed you should.....

BARN. We'll see about that.....

(Moves towards him)

ABAN. I don't understand why you're taking this attitude.... You might at least be polite.... I do so dislike unpleasantness.....

BARN. Then you're really gonna dislike this...! This is really gonna be unpleasant..... You realize you're just about as welcome round here as Long John Silver on 'Come Dancing'...

ABAN. Keep your distance or you'll be sorry...!

BARN. I've got a good mind to do you up...!

ABAN. If you so much as lay a finger on me.....

BARN. Which bit do you want broken first....?

ABAN. Be warned....! You'll rue the day you cross Abanazar....

BARN. We'll have to see about that, won't we...? I mean we'll just have to see.... He and my parrot, we'll just have to see...

ABAN. I am a tolerant man...but one more step and you'll regret it...!

BARN. Not as much as you're gonna regret it when I've finished with you.....I'll pull your head off...!

ABAN. You're out of your depth... I am no bar-room brawler...I am becoming a trifle bored... You, my friend are beneath my contempt. I have decided to teach you a lesson.....

BARN. You what.....??

(Blackout.....BARN...!!! Lights up BARNACLE BILL alone, no parrot....)

Here.....Where...? Come back here...! Where's my parrot ...You can't do that...! What have you done with my parrot?? I'll break your neck for you.....

(Echo laughter off....)

I'll make you everso ugly, Abanazar... I'm going to have to break all your limbs....

(Enter man-sized parrot...)

PARR. I coulda told you something like this would happen...You and your big mouth...!!

BARN. Well thats charming, that is.....

PARR. What am I gonna do...??

BARN. Do...?

FARR. Do...?

BARN. What...?

PARR. Am I...?

BARN. Are you...?

PARR. Going to do...?

BARN. Do...?

PARR. What...?

BARN. What...?

PARR. What am I gonna do...?

BARN. Do.... I don't know, do I..?

PARR. I mean...I'm going to have to earn me living now, aren't I..?

BARN. Are you...?

PARR. Yeh, well...I can't live on chicken feed, you know....

BARN. Well...I don't know (Parrot: Scratch....scratch..)
I Hadn't looked at it like that....Yeh, come to think of it
that could be a bit of a problem I'll admit but.....
(Scratch.....scratch...) Look at me when I'm talking to you...

PARR. All right....

BARN. Now what ~~could~~ you could do....(scratch....scratch..) Pay
attention.....willyou....

PARR. I am....

BARN. And stop scratching about, its undignified...

PARR. I want to scratch...!

BARN. Behave yourself...!!

PARR. I want to have a scratch...!!

BARN. Peck it in....Willyou..!

PARR. Its only natural.....

BARN. But you don't see me scratching about like that, do you....?

PARR. I don't want to discuss it no further....

BARN. Oh, you don't want to discuss it no further, don't you...?

PARR. No I don't.....

BARN. Well with your... ..

PARR. I will...

(Pause)

BARN. Look...why don't you go into... ..?

PARR. No....?

BARN. Yes, you.....

PARR. I couldn't.....

BARN. Yes you could....you play the piano don't you...?

PARR. That's true....

BARN. And you are very good....

PARR. I am...??

BARN. There was a fella listening to you the other night, he said you were very versatile....

PARR. Is that what he said...?

BARN. Well his exact words were... 'There must be something else he can do....'

PARR. Well, there is...

BARN. Whats that, son...?

PARR. I can bark 'Rudolph the Rednose Reindeer...'

BARN. You what...???

PARR. I can bark 'Rudolph the Rednose Reindeer...'

BARN. You don't....?

PARR. I do....I'll show you...

BARN. Well...I've got an open mind...

PARR. I will...

BARN. When you're ready....

PARR. Right

BARN. Go on then....

PARR. Just a minute.....Woof-woof woof-woof woof-woof woof..etc...

BARN. Down boy...that's enough.....

PARR. Woof wooff Woofffff...woof..woof-woof...

BARN. That's enough...

PARR. Woof-woof woof-woof.....woof-woof...

BARN. Will you get down..!

PARR. Woof-woof...! Woof-woof....woooooffff woooooffffff...!!

BARN. Get off...!! Down...! Heel boyHEEL!!

PARR. Woof-woof

BARN. Down....(chop, chop..)

PARR. I come over all dizzy....what happened....? Did I get the job..?

BARN. They said leave your address....and they'd call you...

PARR. That's not good, is it...?

BARN. I know you haven't worked since they made the Birdman of Alcatraz....but we could try and get you in at Hammer Films..

PARR. Would I be the monster..?

BARN. Yes.....

PARR. And frighten people...?

BARN. Yes.....

PARR. And could I wear a mask...?

BARN. Yes....You don't want to over do it.... Come on lets find the Genie.....

PARR. You've insulted me now....

BARN. Now come on....don't get broody....

PARR. That's it, you've done it now.....

BARN. Oh come on, the Genie'll straighten you out.....

(Exit Parrot)

(Enter GENIE OF THE LAMP)

BARN. (to G.of L.) Have you seen this....This'll make you laugh... If it wasn't so funny it'd be sad....

G of L. What...?

BARN. Oi....Come out...

PARR. No....

BARN. Come on.....

PARR. No.....

(Enter PARRON)

BARN: Can you change him back...?

G of L: No trouble at all....Where's no tape measure....?
(Measures PARRON)

BARN: Can you sort it out...?

G of L: It was that Abanagar, was it...?

PARR: That's right...

G of L: It'll be alright...I'll just fetch the blow-lamp....

PARR: I'm not having the blow-lamp.....

BARN: Be quiet.....

G of L: (off) How sure his inside leg, will you...?

BARN: Do it yourself.....

G of L: Well bring him over here then.....

BARN: Come on....its your only chance....

PARR: I suppose you're right...It won't hurt, will it..?

BARN: You won't feel a thing...at first.....

(Exeunt)

(Enter two GENIES followed by ALADDIN)

ALAD: Ah gentlemen, good day.... (GENIES exchange glances) Now its about these commemorative medals...its just not the standard I've come to expect from you... But I'll return to that later. First of all I want to run through todays itinerary with you and give you your orders....

G of R: Before you go any further, the photographer's waiting outside..

G of L: Yeh, he's waiting...

G of R:to photograph you....

G of L: He's waiting outside...

ALAD: Ah ha..! The photographer..! Why didn't you say so..? Why didn't you say at once..? Don't just stand there...Show him in...No wait a moment... The mirror..! Fetch my cloak....
(Fixes clothes in front of mirror) That's better...Now tell him to come in.....

Noise
No. There's no time. Tell him to go to the rally. — He can photograph me there.

ALAD So... my friends to my instructions for today...

G of B Right then.

G of B Dont you think youre overdoing it a bit..?

ALAD What was that..? What did you say..?

G of R Nothing... He didn't say anything,did you...? (ASIDE TO G (LAMP.)
Keep your trap shut...! We down want any trouble...!

(ALoud.) You didn't say anything did you..?

G of L No... I didn't say anything...

G of R No. He didn't say anything....

ALAD Good. I'll tolerate no insolence. From either of you. No one is indepensible. Is that understood...?
I'd better have some spending money for today...!

G of R How much..?

ALAD Lets say five thousand pounds....

G of L. Right then... (produces bundle of notes) here you are.

ALAD. And of course there'll be the reception in the evening at Aladin house. You'll fix that up... and don't forget to materialise a couple of dozen dancing girls... you know what these diplomats are like. And make sure there's a fountain of wine... the fools are impressed with that sort of thing...

G of L. Still or effervescent?

ALAD. I don't care as long as it's got bubbles in it. Now, for myself, I want a gold plated Rolls Royce and a new set of diamond cuff links... and re-do those medallions in platinum! By tonight.

G of L. All this stuff.. It's doing you no good, you know that don't you?

ALAD. I want a golden palace.. a casket of jewels... and a flying horse...

G of R. Look a sonny... don't get difficult...

ALAD. No ! You look... You're my slave... You're all my slaves. You have to do as I say ! I want a golden palace and an elephant.. and a colour T.V. and a box of diamonds... emeralds and amethysts that will blaze out like the first rays of the sun striking the pagodas of my golden Dragon palace...

G of L. Is that all...

(Enter Barn Bill who watches)

ALAD. No, that is not all... and may I remind you.. you had better watch your P's and Q's or you may not be coming out of that lamp again in a hurry... No that is not all....

G of R. But....

ALAD. Hold your tongue...

BARN. What d'you think your playing at.. ?

ALAD. Be quiet... you are all my servants... Now where was I... Ah yes... (Lights a cigarette) I want a neapolitan ice-cream... a subscription to Playboy... A clock of invisibility.. and a block of General Motor Shares... I want a day at the races... a night at the opera.. and a weekend in Casablanca for two....

G of L. Is that all

ALAD. No it isn't...

G of R. What else...?

ALAD. I want an eighteen foot golden statue of myself for the palace gardens. A Ford Cortina G.T. and don't stand behind me when I'm acting...

BARN. That's the way you want it is it ?

ALAD. Yes it is. I can tell you there's going to be some changes round here I can tell you...

BARN. Oh yes ? And what are they might I ask ?

ALAD. First of all I shall have a little respect from you in particular...

BARN. I see..and what else ?

ALAD. The rest is no concern to you.

BARN. And what if I don't like it ?

ALAD. I don't hear you complaining so far...some of my good fortune has rubbed of on you I'll be bound...you eat for nothing...and I dare say you'll have had time to line your own pocket at my expence...So if you don't like the way I decide to do things I think the best you could do would be to pack your bags and get out..!

BARN. So it's come to that, has it..?

ALAD. I no longer feel that our association can continue on quite the same footing as it did before....I don't feel that there is any suitable place for you in my new scheme of things....Your presence and appearance are incompatible with my new status...and you will hardly be acceptable to the people I shall find myself associating with from now on....

BARN. I see...all right then...O.K....yes...Right..Well there's nothing more to be said, is there.?

ALAD. I think I have adequately expressed my views, don't you?

BARN. Oh yes..you've done that all right...

ALAD. And you appreciate my position..of course...old chap...

BARN. Of course...oh yes...I appreciate your position all right old chap...

ALAD. Ah good...I'm so glad...

BARN. I'm just plain redundant...that's it isn't it...

ALAD. In a nut shell...

BARN. A nut shell.(Aside)I'll give you bloody nutshell...

ALAD. If there's anything I can do...

BARN. Do...?Do...? don't you think you've done enough already?What dja mean.Do...

ALAD. Finincially....

BARN. Listen,flash...I may be redundant...but golden handshakes I do not need. No hand outs,thank you...no thank you..?

ALAD. Very well then...we'll say goodbye now...

BARN. Well (Extends hand.A does not take it)I'll go and pack me stuff then...

ALAD. Yes...goodbye...

BARN. Er....yes.... (Exits)

ALAD. Now where was I...? HMMM..?

G of L. What did you do that for...What did you have to go and do that for...?

ALAD. Mind your own business....

G of R I...Now just watch out. Thats all.

G of L Everytime...

G of R Everytime... ~~EMER~~ S. O. S...!

G of L S. O. S....?

G of R Same old scene.... son.

ALAD Enough of this ~~idle~~ chit-chat...! Telephone...!

(G OF LAMP HAS RECEIVER IN POCKET ON WIRE. HE HANDS IT TO ALAD

Hello...! HELLO...! Ah...! (LOOKS AT WATCH.) Buy aluminium.

Now...! (TO G of L.) You...! Get me a table at the Copacabana for tonight...! (TO G of R.) You...! ~~arrange~~ Organise

The details of my triumphal arrival at the Upton Park Rally

Polish my staff car and lay out my new uniform...! (WATCH

INTO PHONE.) Sell aluminium...Now...! Ahha...!

(RE ENTER G OF R.) Have you attended to that..?

G OF R Yes. It's all fixed up. The motorcycle outriders arrive at 1300 hours and the cavalcade leaves for the Rally at 1335 hours to arrive at the stadium just as the sun breaks through the clouds...!

ALAD Nice one, Chunky my boy... Both of you, come with me now... Ah... The music... I can't decide whether to have... (WAGNER ..or on the other hand... () Mere details... ~~but important if~~ but important if one is to create the right impression.... Don't you agree.

(THEY ALL EXIT.... END OF SCENE.....)

(ENTER BARNACLE ~~ME~~ BILL WITH KIT BAG.....)

BARR Right then... off we go then.

(Enter Abanazar. Creeps up again with coin)

~~Abanazar~~
PARR. Ah hahahaha Told you so... (Grab, flip.)

BARN. I need a drink, I'll tell you that for nothing.
(Barnacle Bill Takes out the flask, takes a swig. Aban hits him on the head. Barn falls to the ground. Aban searches. Hears someone coming and Exits as Barn comes round...)

BARN. (Sniffs flask) I'ma gonna have to leave it alone, you know...
(Enter Lotus Blossom)

LOTUS B. Hello Bill...

BARN. Hello, flower...

LOTUS. Bill ..? What's all this ... where are you going ..? What's happened...

BARN. What's happened ..? What's happened ..? I'll tell you what's happened ...

LOTUS Tell me what's happened ...

BARN. I'll tell you what's happened ...
I've got the boot, that's what's happened ...

LOTUS What ...

BARN. It's all very well saying what ... I've been chucked out, that's what ...

LOTUS Not by Aladdin ..? I don't believe it ...

BARN. Well ... believe it or not, that's what happened ...

LOTUS What are you going to do ..?

BARN. Well, I'm off, aren't I ..? I mean to say, I'm not hanging about now ...

LOTUS But you can't do that ... you can't disappear and ... just like that ... you can't ...

BARN. That's where you're wrong ...

LOTUS But you can't ... not now ...

BARN. Yes, I can ... and I will ...!

LOTUS But you've got to stay ...

BARN. I can't ... Don't you see that ..?

LOTUS You can't ... walk out on us ... just like that ...!

BARN. I ain't walking out ... I've been kicked out ... There is a difference ...!

LOTUS Now look at me when I'm talking to you. If you shove off and drop him in it you'll never look yourself in the face again and neither will anybody else. Every day he's getting more like my father the Madarin... horrid, 'issy spells, or mps. You know what that means and so do I.

You were the one who said 'something is bound to turn up'...! You said you'd help us out...! I'll never forgive you if you walk off, and leave him. He'll be sitting duck for Abanar, won't he...? eh. Won't he...?

BB I...I...

LOTUS It's no use standing there fidgeting and looking shifty...! You've got to do something...! Well...?

BB Neg...neg...! Neg...neg...! All right, all right...! But I'm getting out just the same. If you want me I shall be down the road at the Admiral Benbow, right...?

LOTUS I've got to go to this stupid rally with King Kong and my father. While we're gone can't you have a word with the Genies ~~man~~ something? Oh surely there's something you can do...?

BB I'll have to think about it. Don't upset yourself. I'll get something together... Ere... That sounds like him now...! I'll fix something up.... If I don't see you through the week I'll see you through the window...!

(EXIT BARNACLE BILL.....)

(ENTER ALADIN PUSHING THE MANDARIN.....)

(SCENE BETWEEN ALADIN...LOTUS BLOSSOM AND MANDARIN....)

ALAD And so, my dear Mandarin, as you no doubt realise...after all man ~~with~~ your political acumen could hardly do otherwise...t old order gives way to the new. Time does not stand still..... Why so quiet...?

MAND Quiet...? No...not quiet.... I was thinking....

ALAD Of what...?

MAND "Reflecting. My butterfly collection... My orchids.....I..I...

LOTUS Don't say anything... You're tired....father, you must rest...

MAND Rest...? I have spent my life in the exerceice of power. Now the evening is come. Yes, perhaps it is time to rest. Silence.

LOTUS (TO ALAD) How are your headaches...?

ALAD I don't get head aches...! If I've told you once I've told you a thousand times...don't fuss...! I don't get...aahh...!
(ALADIN CLAPS HIS HAND TO HIS HEAD...)

Now look what you've done...! Get away from me...! Get away over there....! We men have something of import to discuss...! We must arrive at an understanding....very soon....

LOTUS Please....Let him rest... He's ill.

ALAD I told you to get away from me...! (ALAD HOLDS HEAD...)
Are you trying to poison me...?

LOTUS Poison you...!? If there is one person in the world you can trust, it's me....

ALAD Trust...! Trust...!? Thats a very bourgeois concept, my dear.. If you know what I mean...

Phlebitis or no phlebitis your father and I must settle our differences, one way or another. We both know that only one man can hold the reins of power. And that man is me....! (AND WHEELS THE MANDARIN TOWARDS EXIT....)

(LOTUS BLOSSOM SINGS...)

I was handed the world on a Willow Pattern Plate
 And supplied with a silver spoon....
 But oh dear, it's sad to relate
 I'm so disillusioned with the big blue Yangtze Moon....
 I've been driven to the very edge would
 I have been happier living on Wodgewood...?

Willow Pattern blue, blue, blue...
 Willow Pattern world
 Beautiful and cold, so cold, willow pattern world
 Is just a prison for a Willow Pattern girl.....
 And everything is blue
 From the blue birds up in the sky
 To the China geese
 On the China water
 And bluest of all is the Mandarin daughter...!
 If only I'd knowned
 I'd have settled for Spode....

Oh I've got a itsy-bitsy-ritzy little waterfall
 In a world behind an ornamental ~~garden~~ garden wall -
 I've even got a bright blue monkey-puzzle-tree...
 But the only thing that's puzzling me...is this...

Willow Pattern blue, blue, blue
 Willow Pattern world
 Beautiful and cold, so cold, willow pattern world
 Is just a prison for a Willow Pattern girl.....

Until one day she hears a different song
 From the shanties high on the hillside,
 And she finds her heart is singing along
 And then that melody suddenly dies.....away.....

And everything is blue maxims
 Blue birds up in the sky
 Blue, blue flowers and trees
 And the bluest, bluest, truest of all is me....
 Our bridges all are crossed
 What have we lost
 My simple boy and me.....
 I'm so Willow Pattern, how'd it happen...blue.....

(ON THE END OF SCENE ALADIN IS HEARD PUSHING THE MARDIAN FOLLOWED BY THE TWO GENIES(....))

ALAD. Ah ha..! Lotus Blossom, my dear.... The crowd is waiting. Whats the matter..? Is your Girdle killing you...?

LOTUS I'm quite ready...

MAND Lotus Blossom my child.... youre not your usual self... What ails you, my dear....?

LOTUS Hello papa..... I'm perfectly well thank you.

ALAD Come on. Come on..! The limousines are waiting. The motorcycle engines are thundering..! The bands are playing..! Feet are marching..! Flags flying...! ~~ammmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm~~ Ten thousand blue-birds fill the sky over Upton Park..! Destiny calls....! We must obey and follow...!

26

ALAD. or the time-table will be disrupted ...

HAND. Very well ... Come, Lotus Blossom ...

(MANDARIN and LOTUS BLOSSOM move to exit ...)

ALAD. (to GENIE OF RING and GENIE OF LAMP) You two ...! Stay here and prepare some refreshment for us on our return ... do you hear ...? Well ...?

G OF R. Whatever you say ...

ALAD. Yes, that's right ... isn't it ... Whatever I say ...

(ALADDIN exits)

G OF R. What'll we do, then ...? Coming for a beer ...?

G OF L. Well ... I'd like to ... but I can't make it, see ...? Cos Alberto da Tonka's playing at the Albert Hall tonight ...

G OF R. I didn't know you was interested in classical music ...

G OF L. No, no ... When Alberto da Tonka's playing at the Albert Hall, I nip round and see his missus ...

(Enter BARNACLE BILL ...)

G OF L. Hello, sailor ...

BARN. Have they gone ...?

G OF R. Yeh ... they're on their way ...

BARN. Don't you reckon this has gone far enough ...?

G OF R. ~~Isn't~~ So he went through with it, did he ...? Threw you out ...?

BARN. You saw the state he's got hisself into, didn't you ...?

G OF L. It happens everytime, doesn't it ...?

G OF R. Every time ...

G OF L. Happened to Julius Caesar ...

G OF R. Happened to Gengis Khan ...

G OF L. Happened to Alexander ... happened to Faustus ...

G OF R. Happened to Napoleon ...

G OF L. Yes, it did ...

G OF R. That's a well known fact ...

BARN. What are you going to do about it ...?

G OF L. What d'you mean ..? Do about it ...

G OF R. It's not our problem, is it ..?

BARN. Well, that's a matter of opinion, isn't it ..? You're responsible, you know ...

G OF L. But we can't do anything. I mean, what can we do ..?

BARN. What can you do ..? And look at me when I'm talking to you ... look, ~~dangerous~~ you do all this juggling with palaces and elephants and flying horses with no trouble at all, don't you ..?

G OF R. Yes, that's right. Sure we do ... You've seen us, you know ...

BARN. Hell, then ... use your initiative. I mean think about it ...

G OF L. What ..?

BARN. Well ... you do all the hard graft, right ..?

G OF L. That's true ...

BARN. And Aladdin gets all the gravy ... right ...? And it's ruining him ...!

G OF R. That's true ... too ...!

BARN. Well ... I mean to say ... use yer head ... It's not on, is it ..?

G OF L. But I'm just a slave, aren't I ..? Him, too ...! Both of us .

BARN. You what ..?

G OF L. We only obey orders ... That's all we can do ...!

BARN. What sort of an answer is that ..?! Only obeying orders ...! Look what it's doing to Aladdin, that bloody lamp ...! Look at him ...! Strutting about like a yellow Adolph Hitler ... His mother's right off her tripe and the parrot hasn't said a civil word since it got changed back ...

PARR. Shut yer face ...!

BARN. Who said that ..?

PARR. I did ... I did ...! Shut yer face ...! Ah hahahaha ...!

BARN. Now you don't want the muzzle, do you, eh ..?

PARR. No, I don't ...

BARN. So are you gonna be a good parrot ..?

PARR. Yes, I am ...

BARN Now belt up. Where was I...? Ah yes. I mean, you got to get somethi together. You sn' the lads, right..?

G OF R Like what...? What d'you mean..?

BARN Well, come over here... A word in your shell-like, bruvver. A word in your ear....

(THEY EXIT..... END OF SCENE.....)

(ALADIN IS ALONE ON STAGE. MAPS. BLOCKS ETC. HE LIGHTS A CIGAR. THE SOUND OF THE WIND RUSHING..... THE VOICE OF ABANAZAR IN HEA

ABAN Aladin.... Aladin....

ALAD Who's that...? Who's there...?

ABAN Listen to me...! Aladin.... Listen...! (ENTER ABANAZAR.)

ALAD So its you Abanazar...! (ALADIN DRAVS PISTOL)

ABAN That wont be nesecery.

ALAD So what do you want...? Make it quick..!

ABAN Aladin... Together you and I could rule the world. It woul' be our for the taking. The nations of the East and West would fall beneath our feet...there would be no power like ours in the past or future. Together we would be the monarchs of Light and Darkness and the Masters of Time itself...! The universe would be ours...Infinite! We woul' stand outside of Time and Space...! Aladin...such power as has never been imagined. Power beyond the grasp of the feeble minded philosophers of Dictatorship....

BEFORE US THE GALAXIES WOULD TREMBLE...! THE NEBULAE AND CONSTELLATIONS STAND AMAZED IN THEIR ORBITS...!!

They would be ours and everything in them... Everything...Aladin... Everything...!

ALAD I don't think you can be trusted, Abanazar....

ABAN I dont ask your trust... Think on my words and how close they lie to your desires and dreams. Think off your dreams.....

ALAD And what do you have to offer me..? Now that I alone hold the power of which you have so great a need..? You offer me only that which I already possess. Abanazar, you are the dust beneath my feet. How well I understand you now. How transparent are all your intrigues and machinations..!

ABAN Ah, Aladin...all that you say is true. But you are inexperienced in the abuse of power and the manipulation of civilisations. You have need of me to advise you in these matters.

ALAD I shall consider all you have said and how you may be of use to me. But for the moment I desire nothing more from you than that you should leave me in peace to meditate on the glorious future that

awaits the world with myself as its lord. Leave me. I wish to be alone.... Leave me.....

ABAN Sir, you are a gentleman and a scholar...

ALAD Leave me...

ABAN To hear is to obey.....

(SOUND OF SIGHING WIND. ABANAZAR IS GONE.....)

ALAD Now have I felt within this hand ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
 The cut of powers rein about my wrist
 As pegasus did when wheeling from the caves of night
 To wake the world in turning night to day,
 Darkness to light with shafts of gold imperial.
 Or when did Alexander upon his bold Bucephalus
 Before the hordes of Persia turn his steed ~~xxxx~~
 Into the serried ranks and to the right and left
 Scatter such a dew of death that did the world astound.
 Such a rage and savage joy as Alexander felt
 This day have I, and now the world that once
 Contained me, do I contain and hold
 Within a hand once flesh and blood, now cast
 In adamantine marble and in gold...!

(ALADIN STRIKES POSE. ENTER THE GENIES.....)

G OF L Have you got a moment..? We've got something to talk over with y

G OF R That's right squire, we have....

ALAD I see.... I don't have time for your tittle tattle at present.
 I'm working on my five year plan....my grand strategy. When I
 have time to see you I shall send for you through the usual
 channels..... Until that time.... Good Day...!

G OF L. I'm afraid that just about covers the ground ... It's not that simple ...

ALAD. What do you mean by that ...?

G OF L. What d'you mean, what do I mean ...?

G OF R. You ... What d'you mean, what does he mean ...?

ALAD. What d'you mean, what do I mean, what does he mean, what do I mean ...?

G OF R. What d'you ...

G OF L. (cuts in) Leave it to me, son ...

ALAD. I told you ...

G OF L. And I told you it wasn't that easy ... You've got something to say and you're going to listen ...

G OF R. And if you don't like it ...

G OF L. ... you can lump it ... and that's ...

G OF R. ... a well known fact ...

G OF L. So pin your ears back, Little Caesar ...

ALAD. Well ... What is it you wish to discuss with me ...?

G OF L. We're not here to discuss ... I have been given no mandate for negotiation.

G OF R. And he can't talk it over, either ...

ALAD. What is it you want, then ...? I don't have all day ... Hurry up and state your business ...

G OF L. What I have to say won't take long ... It's quite succinct and precise ...

G OF R. And what's more, it's short, too ...

ALAD. Well ... To the matter, gentlemen ... (aside) Indeed, 'tis too obvious that to reason ...

G OF S. (clears throat) Well it is my unfortunate duty, Bruvver Aladdin, my duty to inform you, Bruvver, of the decision of the Executive Council of the International Industrial Workers and Co-operative of Ring and Loop Operatives ... It is my duty, acting on their instructions or inform you of this decision of the Executive Council and the work and file of the A.P.C.E.L.C. Committee ... and that being, Bruvver Aladdin, that the said Council and Members feel there is no alternative open to them than, as of this date, Bruvver Aladdin to send you to Coventry, Bruvver Aladdin ... and, hereby, withdraw their labour ...

G OF R. In other words ...

ALAD. have you found the pair of you ... You may rest assured of that ...
No one catches me and gets away with it ...

G OF L. Don't you threaten me ...?

ALAD. No threats, you understand ... a statement of fact ... I'm not even
bargaining ...

G OF L. So ...?

ALAD. So ...? I'll just make you and an offer you can't refuse ...

G OF R. You're on very thin ice ...

G OF L. You must see ... one false move and you're done for ...

ALAD. What do you mean ...?

G OF L. You're into some kind of deal with Abenazar, is that right ...?

G OF R. He'd steal the ^{right} hump/off your back ...

G OF L. He'll (thumb across throat) you and no mistake ...

ALAD. Lock ... I have Abenazar just where I want him ...

G OF L. That's just where you're wrong ...!

ALAD. He's in the palm of my hand ...

G OF R. No ... no ... He's got your number alright ... If you tie in with
Jumping Jack Flash there ... you're in dead stock ... He'll take
you over ...

G OF L. Blow you out in bubbles ...

G OF R. Cut you up in slices ...

G OF L. Strip you to the bone ...

G OF R. Tie you up in knots ...

G OF L. Rot you to the core ...

G OF R. Shoot you full of holes ...

G OF L. Put you through the mincer ...

G OF R. Keep you in the dark ...

G OF L. Blind you with science ...

G OF R. And then ... Rub you out ...!

G OF L. That's it in a nutshell ...! He'll make you that offer ...

G OF R. You can't refuse ...

ALAD. You've heard what I have to say ... I'll fix you ... you're finished ...
I'll deal with you when I have time ... now get out ... Get out ...
Get out !!!

G OF L. Don't say we didn't warn you ...

G OF R. That's right ... we told you ...!

(Exeunt)

ALAD. Bolshevik trash ...!

(GENIES reappear ...)

G OF R. Get knotted ...! (GENIE OF LAMP -- the 'V' sign)

ALAD. And good riddance ...! Ah ha ...! I don't need them ... see if
I care ...! (looks round ...) But ... Ahh ... er, I'd better get
home just to be on the safe side ...

BRIDGE

END OF SCENE.

(Voice from the street outside ...)

VOICE Adolph Hitler ... (ding dong) ... Adolph Hitler ... (ding dong) ...
Adolph Hitler ... (ding dong) ... Adolph Hitler ... (ding dong) ...
Joseph Stalin ... (ding dong) ... Adolph Hitler ... (ding dong) ...

TWANK. What's that terrible row ...? What's going on ...? Go and have
a look ...!

SERV. I'm not going out there ... not in this filthy weather ... It ain't
fit for man nor beast ...!

(Ding dong and voice throughout ... Adolph Hitler ... Adolph Hitler ...
(ding dong) ...)

TWANK. I don't care if it is snowing ... Go and see what's going on ...

SERV. (putting on coat ...) I'm not going out there ...

TWANK. Yes, you are ...

SERV. (puts another coat on ... and a scarf ...) I'd rather not ... it
ain't fit for ...

TWANK. Got out there ...

(SERVANT puts on another coat ... JK hat ... and another scarf ...
Exits)

(The VOICE stops ... for a few moments ... then starts again ...
SERVANT comes back in ...)

TWANK. Well ... what was it ..?

SERV. It's the rag and bone man ... (taking off coats, etc. as he talks)

TWANK. The rag and bone man ..?

SERV. Yes, the rag and bone man ...

TWANK. And what is he shouting Adolph Hitler for ..?

SERV. I asked him that ...

TWANK. What did he say ..?

SERV. He said who'd be daft enough to come out on a day like this if I
was shouting Rag and Bone ..?

TWANK. What did he want ..?

SERV. Oh, any old rubbish, he said ... metal ... like, old brass bedsteads ...
or spittoons ... or lamps ...

TWANK. Tell him we've got nothing for him ... Tell him to clear off ...

(SERVANT starts to put all his coats and etc. on ...)

Oh, don't bother ... I'll tell him myself ... This was such a nice
area before the English started moving in ... (at window) ... Go on
get out of it ...! Clear off ...!

(WIDOW TWANKY hovers)

(ABANAZAR, in disguise ...)

ABAN. New lamps for old ... New lamps for old ... As featured on Police
Five ... new lamps for old ... Few lamps for old ...!

TWANK. What's that out in the street ..? You ... go and see what all the
noise is about ... (Serv. exit)
New lamps for old indeed, I've never heard of such a thing ...

ABAN. New lamps for old ... as featured on Police Five ... you know me,
I'm here every week ... Come on, ladies, the chance of a life-time ...
here and now ... New lamps for old ...

(SERVANT enters)

SERV. It's a fella giving new lamps for old ... He said have you got any ..?

TWANK. Tell him, no, we haven't ...

SERV. Mrs. Ackroyd got one off him ...

TWANK. Did she ..? Well, it wouldn't be the first time ...

SERV. Big and shiny, it was ...

TWANK. It was the last time ...

SERV. And it works ...

TWANK. Well .. if she's got one, I don't see why I shouldn't ... Have a look, see if you can find anything ...

ABAN. New lamps for old ... three channels and colour Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays ... two hundred miles to the gallon ... only a few left ...

TWANK. Hurry up ... get a move on ...

SERV. I am ... I've got me head stuck in the pan ... 'ere ... what's this ...?

TWANK. What ...?

SERV. It's a filthy old lamp stuck behind the cistern ...

TWANK. Bring it 'ere, quick ...!

(crash, flush ...)

ABAN. New lamps for old ... by appointment ... New lamps for old ... with free plastic self-igniting Richard Nixon doll ... New lamps for ... old ...

TWANK. Give it to me ... and get that bloke up here ...

(Exit SERVANT)

My lucky day ... ha ha ... Something for nothing ...

ABAN. New lamps for old ... twin-tub new lamps ... F.O. ... with free false teeth as advertised by Edward Heath on News at Ten ... how can his teeth be so straight when the rest of him's so crooked ..? Now you know ... New lamps for old ...

(Enter ABANAZAR)

TWANK. Good day, my good man ... tell me, what's all this 'ere ...

ABAN. Ah ... it's not often I have the pleasure of meeting a policeman's wife ...

TWANK. I don't know what you mean ...

ABAN. Don't worry dear, they missed it too ...

TWANK. No individual laughing, please ... altogether or not at all ... I thank you ... What do you have to offer, my good man ...

ABAN. New lamps for old madam ...

THANK. What do you mean ... New lamps for old Kodan ... I'd have you know this is a respectable house ...

ABAN. No, no ... you misunderstand me ... New lamps for old, Kodan ...

THANK. New lamps for old ...?

ABAN. That's right ... madam ... have you got an old useless lamp by any chance ... madam ...? Does madam have one ...?

THANK. As a matter of fact, she does ...

ABAN. And she'd like a new lamp for it, is that right ...?

THANK. As a matter of fact, she would ...

ABAN. Isn't that remarkable, ladies and gentlemen ... As a matter of fact, she would ...? That is the right answer ... Well, here you are, my dear ... You've made an old man very happy ... God bless you ...

THANK. You're welcome, I'm sure ...

(They exchange lamps)

ABAN. My pleasure, Mrs. T., it's been a pleasure to do business with you ...

(Edging to the door ...)

THANK. Thank you ... very much ...

ABAN. No, thank you very much ...

THANK. Not at all, on the contrary ... thank you ...

ABAN. You're more than welcome ...

THANK. My pleasure ... Thanks ever so ...

ABAN. It was the least I could do ... Thank you ...

THANK. You're very welcome ...

ABAN. It's been a pleasure ...

THANK. Likewise, I'm sure ...

(ABANAZAR exits ...)

What a nice man ... one of nature's gentlemen ... Aladdin will be pleased ... Something for nothing in a ~~xxx~~ world where the poor get poorer and the rich get richer ... that's not bad, is it ...? I must find Aladdin and tell him ...

(WIDOW THANKY exits)

(Sound of maniacal laughter ... thunder, etc. ...)
(Enter Aladdin, stripped of all his braid and medals, etc. running ... the ~~xxx~~ voice of ABANAZAR ... off ... electric amp)

ADAM. There is no escape, Aladdin ... you are doomed, not to die ... no ... have no fear of that ... Allah's hatching ... your fate is life, you, to live as I, Abanazar, who have stripped you of everything, shall command it ... in a vengeance without end. That I condemn you to ... alone ... never to gaze upon another human face ... and I shall protect your life, Aladdin ... no wild beast, nor predatory bird ... nor venomous snake shall harm thee ... neither shalt thou die of grief nor poison ... nor by thine own hand ... thou shalt eat scorpions and drink the sap of cactii ... thou shalt live out thine life to its full measure and longer in a desert that doth freeze by night and broil by day ... and thou shalt live in hunger and in thirst, and grief shall be your only bed ... To this, I, Abanazar, do thee condemn ...
 To serve as warning to all men ...

(Thunder, lightning and a high wind, laughter, etc.)
 (black out ...)
 (ALADDIN alone in the desert ...)

ALAD. I have had such strange dreams here at night when the distant stars hang like fire above the rim of the world ... And in the burning light of day, there have been strange words and animals traced in the rock by men long-since departed - who dressed here, perhaps, as I have done ... I know it is not Abanazar who has condemned me here ... but myself ... in my arrogance and self-love ... As the moon crosses the night sky, I have thought on these things and as the night wind sings across the desert wastes, dreamt of them ... In waking and sleeping, the faces of my friends pass before my eyes and I have thought my heart would break ... Strange, on the night breeze, I seem to hear the sound of distant singing ... my senses desert me ... A strange unearthly melody ... death is coming to me ...

(By degrees, the strains of 'On Mother Kelly's Doorstep' become audible)

I'm not ready ... not ready ... wait, wait ... It's the tinkling music of death come to claim ... no, it isn't ...

(Enter GENIE OF LAMP and GENIE OF RING singing it ...)

G OF L. (to GENIE OF RING) I told you, didn't I ..?

G OF R. You told me ...

G OF L. ... he'd be here ...

G OF R. (to ALADDIN) Get packed ...

ALAD. Why ..? Aren't you working for Abanazar ..?

G OF L. If we ain't going to work for you ...

G OF R. ... we certainly ain't going to work for him, either ... this is just a little favour for a friend ...

G OF L. So, come on ...

(Exeunt ...)

(Enter BARNACLE BILL ...)

BARN. What I want to know is where's that Aladdin ..? I haven't seen him all afternoon ...

(Enter ALADDIN ...)

Where have you been all afternoon ..?

ALADDIN All afternoon ..? I've been in the desert for months ...

BARN. We won't go into that now ... It's just a trick of the trade ... that's all ...

ALAD. Well, what's happened ...

BARN. Abanazar's got the lamp ...

ALAD. That's bad ...

BARN. No, that's good ... The Genie ... he's ... or ... been ... subverted ...

ALAD. That's good ...

BARN. No ... that's bad ... He's got the horse, as well ...

ALAD. That's bad ...

BARN. No ... that's good ... We can follow it's trail ...

ALAD. That's good ...

BARN. No, that's bad ... Have you seen it's trail ..?

ALAD. That's bad ...

BARN. No, that's good ... I can put it on no rubarb ...

ALAD. That's good ...

BARN. No, as a matter of fact ... that's bad. I prefer custard ...

ALAD. That's good ...

BARN. No, that's bad ... It gives me the gip something rotten ...

ALAD. That's bad ...

BARN. It certainly is ...
(Enter WINDY THANE at the gallop ...)

THANK. He's got Lotus Blossom ...

ALAD. That's bad ...

BARN. No, that's good ...!

ALAD. But that's bad ...!

BARN. No, that's good ... It'll slow the horse down ... got it tired ...

ALAD. That's good ...

BARN. No ... that's bad ... It'll freak out and crash in the sea ...

ALAD. That's bad ...!

BARN. No, that's good ... we can pick them up in the boat ...

ALAD. That's good ...

BARN. That's what I said, didn't I ...

ALAD. Well, what are we waiting for ...?

THANK. I can't go anywhere looking like this ...!

BARN. That's true ...

THANK. I've got to put my curlers in ...

BARN. You won't need curlers where you're going ...

THANK. Was that you or the parrot ...?

(BARNACLE BILL and the PARROT look at each other ...)

ALAD. Come on ... come on ... Let's get down to the boat ... he's getting away ... I'm going to stop him once and for all ...

(Exeunt ...)

(Re-enter on the ship and cross the stage by degrees to the other side ...) (They land ...)

ALAD. Abanazar ... Abanazar ... Where are you ...?

(Thunder ... lightning ... the works ...)

Your tricks don't scare me ... ~~_____~~

(Thunder ... howling ... screaming ...)

ALAD. Show yourself. ~~Abanazar.~~

(ABANAZAR appears on the balcony in hideous aspect ... masked ...)

Who are you ..?

ABAN. I am Abanazar ...

(Another figure appears ... same costume/mask ...)

ALAD. Who are you ..?

FIG 2 I am Abanazar ...

(ALADDIN fights FIGURE 2 ... as the FIGURE 2 is defeated ... enter FIGURE 3 ...)

(As ALADDIN battles with FIGURE 3 ... ABANAZAR disappears from the balcony ... ALADDIN destroys FIGURE 3 ... ABANAZAR enters ... stilts, etc. ... they fight under strobe lighting ... trick effects ... bats shrieking, etc. ...)

(Eventually, ABANAZAR is cut down ... the effects return to normal ...)
(Enter LOTUS BLOSSOM! ...)

LOTUS Aladdin ... *Are you feeling better now?*

ALAD. I'm tired ... I want to go home ...

BARN. Come on, then ... let's go ...

(They get into the ship and disappear ...)

WAR. Gentleness brings victory to him who attacks and safety when he defends ...
The best soldiers are not warlike ...
The best fighters do not lose their tempers ...
The greatest conquerors are those who overcome their enemies without strife ...
The greatest directors of mankind are those who yield place to others ...
There are three things to hold fast above all ...
The first is gentleness ...
The second, frugality ...
The third, humility ...
Be gentle and you can be bold ...
Be frugal and you can be generous ...
Avoid putting yourself before others and they will give you a place among them ...
But, in the present day, men cast off gentleness and take pride in the arts of violence ...
They spurn frugality and live only for extravagance ...
They forget humility and climb to pre-eminence upon their brothers' backs ... and take pleasure to degrade and exploit them ...
Therefore, they shall surely perish ...

THE END.