

## Scene 2 – We Meet the Prince and Dandini

*(Enter Anna in front of curtain with a broom)*

**Anna:** I've been trying to fly this blooming thing for 3 centuries and I've never even been able to start it yet! Just one more try. *(sits on broom, pretends to kick start it to sound effects, once twice, three times and it starts, she flies into the wing and there is the sound of tyres screeching and a crash, then an explosion, accompanied by a flash of red light)* [SOUND](#)

*(Enter fairy in front of curtain looks into wing where Anna exited, grimaces a bit. Shakes head).*

**Fairy Godmother:** *(Comic pause, shrug of shoulders)*... Anyway!.... I'd like you to meet the other half of our (hopefully soon to be) romantic duo. His name is Prince Charming. He's been a bit of a silly young man up until now. You know, having pre-drinks, going to ale bars, staying out until the candles burn down to nothing - sometimes later than 8 o'clock! *(Shaking head in disbelief)* All too often he's missed the last carriage home and had to crash at a mate's palace. His butler and best friend is Dandini, who's supposed to have kept the Prince out of trouble all these years, but he hasn't done a very good job of it! Luckily the Prince has finally realised that he can't just keep going to raves all the time. He needs to find a wife and settle down. Oh yes, we had raves in our time! At his age I used to party all night, I was a proper insomniac. *(Fairy does sedate baroque style dance then 90s rave moves and back to baroque dance movements)*

[Insomnia \(Faithless\)/Baroque mashup](#)

**Fairy Godmother:** *(Smoothing down outfit and hair)* Right, on with our story, Dandini and the Prince! *(Exit Fairy Godmother)*

*(Prince enters, he stops centre stage, stands tapping his foot impatiently. Dandini comes in slightly out of breath).*

**Dandini:** Sorry your highness, I didn't mean to keep you waiting.

**Prince Charming:** Dandini where have you been?

**Dandini:** Sorry sire, my 'positive thinking' course over-ran. *(slight pause)* It was rubbish anyway, and it was half empty.

**Prince Charming:** That's a poor excuse, Dandini and while we're at it I didn't see you at Camouflage Training with the castle guards this morning.

**Dandini:** *(Salutes)* Thank you sire, very kind of you to say so, sire! *(thumbs up)*

**Prince Charming: (Looking at him doubtfully):** Okaaay, will I see you there next week?

**Dandini:** At camouflage training? I hope not, Your Majesty!

**Prince Charming:** What?! Oh never mind! Listen, I've been thinking. Enough with all this galivanting about, it's about time I (**emphasising each one**) grew up, settled down and got married.

**Dandini: (Taken aback, turns aside a little choked up)** But Your Majesty, this is so sudden, I know we've been friends since childhood, and I've always admired how well you wear a doublet and breeches....**(makes as if to hug Prince but the Prince ducks and runs off, avoiding Dandini's grasp)**

**Prince Charming:** NOT YOU DANDINI! For goodness sake, I was hoping to choose a bride from the ladies of this kingdom by inviting them to a ball (**to audience**) which is the old fashioned name for (**Jazz hands. In the style of Bill and Ted**) PAAAAAR....TAY!

**Dandini:** Of course, your majesty! (**Aside, sniffles a little**) I can't say I'm not a little hurt though! (**Appeals to audience for 'aahs', poor reaction at first**) I'm more hurt than that! (**Audience reacts better. Pulls himself together. To Prince**) I shall of course make my best effort to support you in any way that I can.

**Prince Charming:** That's good, Dandini, because I want you to send out invitations to every suitable unmarried woman in the kingdom.

**Dandini:** But sire that could take weeks!

**Prince Charming:** Better get a move on then (**To audience, casts eyes up and tuts, looks sideways at Dandini**) especially as we've only got 45 minutes till the interval!

**Dandini: (Half nods, half bows)** Of course, sire.

**(Dandini gestures for Prince to go first, Prince exits followed by Dandini).**

### **Scene 3 - Baroness and the Sisters**

**(In the Kitchen of Hardup Hall. Enter Baroness to her baddy theme)**

**Baroness:** Where is that useless husband of mine? He's always hanging about in here with that wishy washy daughter of his. (**Notices audience**) Oh, hello peasants.

Have you lot seen him? (*Disdainfully*) No, I don't suppose you have. You don't look as if you'd notice if a rhino walked in front of you! (*Boos from audience*) Oh don't let it worry you, most of the village folk here are the same, they don't have a *clue* what's happening right under their noses, so you lot should fit in perfectly here! (*Boos from audience*) Yes, most of them don't know (*Baron walks in, sees her, smartly does a u-turn then starts to walk off again*) their elbow from their (*Baroness sees him*) AAH! There you are!

**Baron:** (*Pretending to notice her for the first time*) Oh hello dear, what a (*looks at audience*) *pleasant* surprise, and where are your two *charming* daughters?

**Baroness:** How should I know, they're not like your offspring, Cinderella, always messing about in the kitchen!

**Baron:** Well, in fairness dear that's because you give her so many chores. Perhaps if you asked your daughters to help out a bit.....

**Baroness:** WHAT!?! How dare you? My daughters are far too delicate and refined to do lowly cleaning and cooking work. They have to save themselves for when the right rich gentleman comes along to marry them. How would it seem if they had broken fingernails and dirty dresses?

**Baron:** (*Slightly sarcastically*) Oh yes dear, you're right, of course. It wouldn't be at all fitting for such sweet little things as they to be doing menial work, would it?

**Baroness:** No, it would NOT! (*Looking around*) Where on earth could they be? (*Shouting in a very coarse way*) HARPIC! DETTOL!

(*Enter Harpic and Dettol, Harpic is carrying a loo roll and Dettol has a giant cotton bud*).

**Harpic:** What do you want? I hope it's important, I was on the bog!

**Dettol:** And I was cleaning out my ears. A girl has to have a proper beauty regime, you know.

**Harpic:** And it's vital to have a proper *bathroom* routine as well or it can cause all sorts of problems (*holds tummy, grimaces and farts*).

**Dettol:** How dare you do a trump in front of me?

**Harpic:** (*Sarcastically*) Oh, sorry! I didn't realise it was your turn! (*They start to do that weak slapping at each other that children do when they're fighting but not really*)

**Baroness:** Girls, girls STOP IT! I have some news, wonderful news in fact.

**Dettol:** Has Harry Styles binned his missus and he's looking for a new wife?

**Harpic:** Has Baby Shark stopped being an internet sensation and no-one cares about it any more?

*(They do a verse of 'Baby Shark' encourage audience to join in)*

**Harpic and Dettol:**

Baby Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Baby Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Baby Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Baby Shark

*(They pause. The Baroness thinks they've finished)*

**Baroness:** Very well, moving on...

**Harpic and Dettol:** *(Interrupting her)*

Mommy Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Mommy Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Mommy Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Mommy Shark

*(They pause. Again, the Baroness thinks they've finished)*

**Baroness:** If we could please concentrate for a minute....

**Harpic and Dettol:** *(Interrupting her)*

Daddy Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Daddy Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Daddy Shark, doo-doo, doo-doo, doo-doo

Daddy Shark

**Baroness:** *(snatching cotton bud and beating them with it in time with her words and shouting VERY loud)* WILL...YOU...SHUT...UP!!!! *(Breathing heavily)*

**Harpic and Dettol:** Sorry Mother *(Hanging their heads)*

**Baroness:** Thank you! Right, IF you'd care to listen! My news is that there's going to be a Royal Ball at the palace.

**Harpic:** And why would we be bothered about that?

**Baroness:** Because, SILLY GIRL, the Prince has invited all the single ladies in the kingdom....

**Harpic and Dettol:** *(Give each other a look. Interrupting her and singing)* All the single ladies, all the single ladies. All the single ladies, all the single ladies. If you like it then you should-a put a ring on it...

**Baroness:** QUIEEEEEEET!!!!!! *(They shut up immediately, Baroness is menacingly calm)* As I was saying, the Prince has invited all the single ladies *(glares and points at them challengingly)* in the kingdom to the Royal Ball and I suspect he is going to choose one of them as his bride!

**Dettol:** *(With dawning realisation)* And when he claps eyes on us...

**Baron:** *(To the audience)* He'll probably regret making that decision in the first place....

**Baroness:** What?!!!

**Baron:** *(Back-pedalling)* Sorry dear, I mean he'll realise that all the other girls have wasted their time, and he should just have invited your two lovely daughters. *(False smile, which he drops as soon as she looks away)*

**Baroness:** *(Looking at him suspiciously)* Oh I see, yes. *(To the step-daughters)* Now listen! You two have to prepare for this, you'll only have one shot so make it count, makeup, hair, clothes... and for goodness sake, Harpic, use that industrial strength foot deodorant I bought for you, *(Baron looks at Harpic's feet and wags hand in front of face)* and Dettol?

**Dettol:** Yes mother?

**Baroness:** Suck a breath mint! Honestly, I thought the drains were blocked again! Right off you go, lots to do. You too, Harpic I don't want you hanging around cluttering the place up! *(They all exit except her. She addresses the audience).* And YOU lot, just remember this, when the Prince marries one of my daughters, I will be the mother of a royal Princess! And anyone who upsets me had better watch out! I will have money, and power and a REALLY...HORRID...ATTITUDE! And you will all be top of my list! *(Boos from audience).* Oh yes you will! *(Oh no we won't)* Oh yes you will! *(Oh no we won't)* Oh yes you will! *(Oh no we won't)* OH, GROW UP!! *(Baroness exits. Blackout)*