

SCENE SIX | THE ENCHANTED GARDEN

MUSIC CUE: 'MORNING' – EDVARD GRIEG

THE FLOWERS DANCE A BALLET. ALICE ENTERS.

ALICE: What a beautiful garden! So many lovely flowers! [*Pointing at audience members:*] There's a sunflower...and a dandelion...and look, a weed! But still no sign of The White Rabbit. I'll never be able to catch him being just three inches tall!

CATERPILLAR(OFF): Who are you?

THE CATERPILLAR IS REVEALED ON HIS MUSHROOM WITH A PIPE.

ALICE: Now I *know* I'm dreaming. If I didn't know better I'd say you were a talking caterpillar, blowing bubbles on a toadstool!

CATERPILLAR: You don't know better, I'm *the* talking caterpillar and you're in *my* garden.

ALICE: I'm sorry! I'm looking for the White Rabbit.

CATERPILLAR: Floppy ears?

ALICE: Yes!

CATERPILLAR: White fur?

ALICE: Yes!

CATERPILLAR: Wears a waistcoat with a pocket watch yet somehow has terrible timekeeping?

ALICE: Yes, yes and yes! Have you seen him?

CATERPILLAR: Never heard of him. Who...are...you?

ALICE: I hardly know sir. At least I knew who I *was* when I got up this morning but I think I must have changed several times since then.

CATERPILLAR: Explain yourself!

ALICE: I can't explain myself because I'm not myself!

CATERPILLAR: You should always be yourself! It must be very tiring trying to be someone else. I'd invite you to sit with me but there's not 'mushroom'! Who...are...you?

ALICE: I'm Alice.

CATERPILLAR: That's better! I have a little saying that always cheers me up when I'm as blue as you.

ALICE: What is it?

SONG CUE: CATERPILLAR SONG

THE FLOWERS ENTER AS BACKING SINGERS. AFTER THE SONG:

CATERPILLAR: Better?

ALICE: That was so much fun! But I would like to be a little taller. Three inches is such a wretched height to be...

CATERPILLAR: Nothing wrong with three inches! Here's a tip from me: one side will make you taller, the other side will make you smaller.

ALICE: One side of what?

CATERPILLAR: The mushroom of course!

ALICE: You seem to know a lot about mushrooms.

CATERPILLAR: That's because I'm a 'fungi'! Are you going to the Queen's Un-Birthday Party?

ALICE: I'd love to go but I don't have an invitation.

CATERPILLAR: Use your imagination to make an invitation! Now, I'd love to stay and chat but I'm going out for a meal with the moths. I'm going to eat apples and pears, plums, strawberries, oranges, chocolate cake with ice cream, pickles, Swiss cheese, salami, a lollypop, cherry pie, sausages, a cupcake and a slice of watermelon. I'm a very hungry caterpillar!

THE CATERPILLAR EXITS: **MUSIC CUE: 'COCOON-A MATATA' PLAY OFF**

ALICE: "One side will make you taller, the other side will make you smaller" Shall I eat it? It's worth a try I suppose!

ALICE TAKES A BITE OF THE MUSHROOM: **MUSIC CUE: ALICE GROWING**

ALICE IS TALL AGAIN. TWEEDLE DUM AND TWEEDLE DEE ENTER AND STAND BEHIND ALICE STATUESQUE.

ALICE: It worked! It's a good thing my dress grew and shrank with me otherwise this would have been really embarrassing! [*Noticing the Tweedles:*] Oh! I don't remember these statues. Were they here before? Curious!

ALICE MOVES AND THE TWEEDLES FOLLOW. SHE LOOKS BACK AND THEY FREEZE.

ALICE: Did they just move? Must be my imagination. [*To the audience:*] Will you let me know if they move again? Thank you!

ALICE TURNS HER BACK AND THE TWEEDLES MAKE SILLY GESTURES.

ALICE: You're all teasing me! Statues can't move!

DUM: If you think we're wax-works, you ought to pay you know!

DEE: Contrariwise, if you think we're alive you ought to speak to us!

BOTH: That's logic!

ALICE: Oh! I'm sorry!

DUM: Nice to meet you, Sorry!

DEE: That's a silly name!

ALICE: No! I'm not 'sorry', I'm *sorry*!

BOTH: We know!

ALICE: Who are you?

DUM: We're Tweedle Dum...

DEE: ...and Dee! The first one's him.

DUM: The second's he!

ALICE: I'm sorry?

BOTH: We know that!

DUM: I'm Tweedle Dee!

DEE: No, I'm Tweedle Dee!

DUM: So, I'm Tweedle Dum?

DEE: Yes!

DUM: I'm sorry!

DEE: You don't say! So is *she*!

ALICE: I have to go! Bye!

DUM: You're doing it backwards! You should say...

DEE: How do you do?

BOTH: ...and shake hands!

THEY LAUNCH INTO A LONG, RIDICULOUS HANDSHAKE: **MUSIC CUE: TA DAH!**

ALICE: It's been lovely meeting you but I really must be getting on my way!

DUM: Your way?

DEE: The only way is...

BOTH: ...the Queen's way!

DUM: What's the matter?

ALICE: I need to imagine an invitation.

DEE: Then you'd better see the Mad Hatter!

ALICE: The Mad Hatter? Where does he live?

DUM: He lives...

BOTH: ...that way!

THEY CROSS ARMS POINTING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS.

BOTH: At Wit's End!

ALICE: I'm at my wit's end! Won't you help me?

DUM: What's in it for me and Dee?

ALICE: If you tell me where I can find the Mad Hatter you can keep...this rattle!

SHE FINDS A RATTLE ON THE GROUND AND GIVES IT TO TWEEDLE DEE.

DEE: Oooh!

DUM: I want it!

DEE: No! You'll break it!

DUM: Oh no I won't!

DEE: Oh yes you will!

DUM: That's it! I challenge you to a rattle battle!

MUSIC CUE: EYE OF THE TIGER

THE TWEEDLES GET DRESSED IN ARMOUR – BAKING TRAYS, POTS AND PANS ETC. THEY HAVE A RIDICULOUS FIGHT. IT ENDS WITH THEM BOTH THINKING THEY HAVE WON.

BOTH: I WON! Hooray!

DUM: I won!

DEE: No, I won Dum!