

## Act 1 – Scene 2 – At Home with the Crusoe's

Continued from Scene 1.

**Oceania** Do not fear boys and girls, he's all smoke and screens, no wonder this year's budget is through the roof. Do not fear my friends, I Oceania the good Mermaid will protect you and all our other friends that you are about to meet. So please enjoy yourselves and remember whenever evil is near Oceania will not be far from hand. I mean to counter the evil, not that I'm the evil. Sorry, yes as I was saying it's time to meet our hero now, as we go to a tiny ramshackle hut, in the sand dunes near a little port where we see the home of our hero Robinson Crusoe, but where is Robinson? Shhhhhh listen what's that?

*Behind her the gauze lights up and we see Robinson's little cottage in the sand dunes. It's a pretty but dishevelled little home with a half door and a round porthole window on each side of it. A sign hangs from the wall and reads "Crusoe's Cruise's – Ship for Hire"*

*Snoring is heard and the curtains on the little cottage are moving in and out.*

**Oceania** Oh it seems brave Robinson is still in bed, kids these days! Will you help me wake Robinson and his brother Rupert.

*Audience Respond*

**Oceania** Oh good, now everyone shout, wakey, wakey boys.

*Audience respond, but nothing happens.*

**Oceania** Will we try again? A bit louder maybe. Wakey, wakey boys.

*Audience respond but nothing happens.*

**Oceania** Will we try once more? Wakey, wakey boys.

*Audience respond but nothing happens.*

Oh sod this everyone shout after me:  
GET UP OUT OF THAT BED, YOU LAZY SODS!

*Audience respond, Robinson sticks his head out one window and Rupert sticks his head out the other.*

**Oceania** That's better. Good morning Robinson, good morning Rupert.

*They wave.*

**Oceania** Are you happy?

*They nod.*

**Oceania** Would you like to sing us a song about it?

*They nod.*

**Oceania** See you all later my friends.

*She vanishes back into her rock as the music starts.*

**Musical Number – Happy.**

**Robinson** How you doing kids? I'm Robinson but you can call me Rob, Robbie, The Big R. Roberto, Ro Jo or Robin.

**Rupert** And I'm his brother Rupert. Just Rupert so don't call me anything else. Hey Roberto or Robbie or whatever your name is. What time is it?

**Robinson** Eh its eight AM bro. Wait a minute, eight in the morning!

**Rupert** There's an eight in the morning too? What the hell are we doing up at this ungodly hour of the day. Sod this I'm off back to bed.

**Robinson** Wait Rupert, what if a customer comes along.

*Pause*

*They both laugh loudly and head back inside the house to bed. As they leave a bell is heard as Dame Dolly enters wearing a placard advertising Crusoe's Cruises and ringing a large bell.*

**Dame Dolly** Hear ye, hear ye, special offers now on all cruises to the Caribbean, Barbados, The Maldives and Fishguard. Book now and receive a free kiss.

**Villager** Who from?

**Dame Dolly** From me of course, who do you think Kim Kardashian?

Villager leaves in disgust.

**Dame Dolly** No don't go, somebody please book something, my sons haven't worked in weeks, actually they have never worked but we haven't had a job in weeks. You head, want to charter a ship to go on a quest? You snotty, how about a cruise in search of tea, to Lidl or Aldi? You features, let us take you Mackerel fishing in the quay! Anyone, Anyone?????

*She takes off her placard and fires it on the ground, as the crowd disperses.*

Ah St Malachey have mercy! This is just brutal, brutal is what it is.

*(Seeing the audience)*

Oh hello there, I don't suppose any of you are buying? Cruises I mean, you dirty article you. Here sparky give me some lights there till I see what we got here. *(Lights come up on the audience)* Oh no nononono, just as I feared you're a stupid looking bunch. No insult meant of course, it's just I was hoping you might have been a clever bunch who could have given me a few ideas what to do. Maybe tomorrow eh? Oh there's a few choice characters here tonight alright, you, you and you, out! We don't need the likes of you here. The rest of you can stay.

Anyway, I am Dame Dolly, your traditional romantic lead. Only kidding I'm the Dame, Ah yes the panto dame, an honour not to be taken lightly. I don't take much lightly. Anyway, whenever I come on I'll say "Hello kids" and you all shout "Hello Dolly" which is the name of a 1960's musical film, so now you see the pun. So let's try it, hold on.

*She goes off stage and walks casually back on.*

Oh what a surprise! "Hello Kids"

*Audience replies*

Well that was pathetic. *(She looks in wing)* No you didn't even wake the mice. Let's try it again.

*She goes off stage and walks casually back in again.*

Oh my stars, people! "Hello kids"

*Audience replies*

Better, could be better but looking at you all I shouldn't hold out for miracles. Put the lights down Sparky I'm starting to feel nauseous. Now have any off you seen my two sons? Robinson and Rupert? They are meant to be manning the shop in case of an influx of customers. Well? Have you seen them?

*Audience replies*

What? They are in Fred! Who's Fred? Oh bed! *(Points to an audience member)* You boy! Speak clearer, you can't help being ugly but everyone can have good diction!

So there in bed eh?!? I'll knock seven shades of .... I swear it's been impossible to get those two out of bed since Sidetracks closed down. If this was four months ago I'd nominate those two eejets for the ice bucket challenge, but that's sooooo last August. How about I nominate them for the frying pan challenge.

*She takes a frying pan that has been hanging from her belt and heads over to the window on the right.*

Ohhhhhhh Robinson? Rupert? Are you there?

*Rupert pops his head out of the window on the left.*

**Rupert** Hello Mum!

**Dame Dolly** Rats!

*She rushes over to that window*

Ohhhhhhh Robinson? Rupert? Are you there?

*Robinson sticks his head out of the other window.*

**Robinson** Morning Mother!

**Dame Dolly** God damn it!

*She goes to the door and sneaks in.*

Ohhhhhh Robinson? Rupert? Are you there?

*Robinson sticks his head out one window and Rupert the other, they notice their Mother is not there and look at each other in panic.*

**Robinson & Rupert** Hello Mother! Eh?

*Suddenly they jump one after the other as she kicks them both in the bum.*

**Dame Dolly** Get out there you two no good layabouts!

*She fires them both out the door.*

Here's me lugging that placard all over town trying to drum up business and the two of you in the bed! Oh my life! I've had such a hard time raising these two ever since their father died in child birth....Don't ask.

**Robinson** No Mum I was trying to come up with new initiatives for our business plan, I feel our annual turnover could be doubled with some simple cost-cutting decisions.

**Dame Dolly** Really? Like what?

**Robinson** Sack Rupert.

**Dame Dolly** Not a bad idea.

**Rupert** Nooooooo way Mam, he was fast asleep in there.

**Robinson** I do all my best thinking when I'm sleeping.

**Rupert** Ya thinking of girls, I've heard you talking in your sleep. Oh Katie!

**Dame Dolly** Katie?

**Rupert** Ya Robbie is dying alive about Katie Taylor.

**Dame Dolly** Oh I can see why, tall, dark, handsome and with a fit body! Actually meself and Katie have a lot in common!

**Robinson** What! Your body is nothing like Katie Taylors!

**Dame Dolly** No but I can throw a mean right hook.

*She swings for him.*

No, come here the two of ya, we need to talk. These are the cold hard facts now. I've just been down to the bank and we're broke. We are officially pooooooooor.

**Robinson** Sure we've always been poor Mam. I mean I was fourteen before I realised people ate three meals a day.

**Rupert** Ya remember when we were in school and we couldn't afford shoes, so you used to paint our feet black and lace up our toes.

**Dame Dolly** Times were tough alright boys, remember those bad old days when we were so poor we had to watch TV by candlelight.

**Robinson** We've been in trouble before Mam but we've always pulled through.

**Rupert** Ya we'll come up with something, we could sell the Hoover it's only gathering dust.

**Dame Dolly** Ha haaaaaa gathering dust, the Hoover. You're a real comedian. No I'm afraid there is nothing else we can do boys, it's come down to this. Robinson you are going to have to take the cow to market and sell it.

**Robinson & Rupert** NOOOOO!

**Robinson** Wait a minute, we don't have a cow.

**Rupert** You've got the wrong panto Mam. You're thinking of Jack and the Beanstalk.

**Dame dolly** Rats!

**Rupert** Now you're thinking of last year, The Pied Piper.

**Dame Dolly** Ok how about this, one of you two idiots find this magical old lamp with a genie in it and...

**Robinson** That's Aladdin.

**Dame Dolly** Right then there's nothing else for it. I'll have to go to the Princes' ball, drop me glass slipper and wait for the proposals to role in.

**Rupert** We're doomed!

**Dame Dolly** Don't worry boys, I'll come up with something.

**Robinson** I know you will Mum you're a remarkable woman.

**Rupert** You could sing that, if you could sing.

**Dame Dolly** Don't mind if I do. Hit it!

***Musical Number – I'm a Woman***

**Robinson** Don't worry Mum, I had a beautiful dream last night that something magical is going to happen to us any day now.

**Rupert** I told you he was sleeping.

**Robinson** And you should always follow your dreams, except that one where you are naked at work.

**Dame Dolly** What are you talking about you daft boy? What dreams?

**Robinson** Well I dreamed that this beautiful girl came into my life.

*Enter Polly*

And she said....

**Polly** Hello I'm looking for Robinson Crusoe.

**Rupert** *(Looking at Robinson in amazement)* That's very good.

**Robinson** And then she said....

**Polly** Myself and my father would like to charter your boat to go on a quest for buried treasure, there will be a large payment in it for you.

**Dame Dolly** *(Looking in amazement at Robinson)* He should go into voice overs.

**Polly** Excuse me.

*They all jump.*

I was looking for Robinson Crusoe.

**Dame Dolly** Well I'll be a monkey's mother! Hellllllllloooo my dear please come in have a seat. Rupert get a seat quick!

*Rupert picks up an old bench but it falls apart, he kneels down instead for her to sit on.*

This is my son Robinson, the executive manager of Crusoe's Cruises, he'll be delighted to take your money, I mean cheque, I mean credit card, I mean order. Order that's what I meant. ROBINSON! Don't mess this up. Now we must have tea, give me one moment please.

*She runs into the house and as Robinson is about to talk she starts clattering pans and screaming in a manic why as she tries to make a pot of tea. She occasionally pops her head out the window and smiles.*

*Eventually there is silence.*

**Robinson** Hello I'm Robinson and your pretty.

**Polly** Polly.

**Robinson** Pretty Polly. I used to have a parrot named that.

**Rupert** But we ate it.

*She realises she's sitting on Rupert and jumps up, as Dame Dolly comes out of the house with a tray with a mug and tea bag in it but no water.*

**Dame Dolly** Now my dear.

*Polly gingerly takes it and lifts up the tea bag for the audience to see.*

**Polly** Eh? Thank you.

**Dame Dolly** Sorry we can't afford the water since the rates started. *(To Robinson)*  
Have you got any money out of her yet?

**Robinson** I'm sorry Polly, genuinely. You were saying?

**Polly** Oh yes, we have come to you looking to charter a boat. My father Major Montgomery Mountgeorge, an old adventurer, has been approached by a gentleman with a treasure map to go on a quest for buried treasure.

**Rupert** Major Montgomery Mountgeorge?!? Sounds ridiculous.

**Dame Dolly** Sounds rich! Where is he? Is he really a Major General?

**Polly** Yes, yes he is a major General.

**Rupert** Really?

**Polly** Yes, yes he is a Major General.

*Enter the Major*

**Major** Yes, yes I am a Major General.

### ***Musical Number – Modern Major General***

**Polly** Father please take it easy. Nurse Ninny will be furious if she sees you over exerting yourself again.

*Suddenly a cart laden with suitcases is pushed on stage by Blackbeard who is discussed as a Colonel and a young cabin boy / girl, Reg. Nurse Ninny sits atop of the cart.*

**Nurse Ninny** Hold it there possums. Oh what a journey, next time I'll take Wexford Bus, the great thing about that is you get to see every small village in Ireland before you get to the airport. Oh the hardship a nurse must go through for her duties, could be worse I suppose I could have to work for the health board. Hello boys and girls, I'm Nurse Ninny, personal nurse to the Major and also your friend the panto Dame and every time I come on stage I want you all to shout. Gooley Nursey! Shall we try it? One, two, three!

*Audience Respond*

**Dame Dolly** HOLD EVERYTHING! This is my audience, watch.

*She runs into the wing and walks back on*

Hello kids?

*And hopefully the audience say "Hello Dolly".*

**Nurse Ninny** One, two, three.

*Hopefully the audience respond with "Gooley Nursey"*

*This gag is repeated a few times until the two Dames are face to face centre stage.*

***Musical Cue – The good, the bad and the ugly.***

*They circle each other.*

- Dame Dolly** Listen “possum” there seems to be some sort of a mix up here. You see I am Dame Dolly, the panto dame. As is the tradition in Robinson Crusoe the Dame is Robinson’s Ma. A.K.A ME!
- Nurse Ninny** Oh no sweetie this is Wexford Panto we do things differently here. I think you’ll find I am the panto dame Nurse Ninny, the Major’s caring and horribly attractive young nurse. So sling your hook!
- Dame Dolly** I’ll sling something now in a minute. Listen what kind of an idiot writes two dames into one panto!
- Dolly & Ninny** Script copyright Thomas O’Leary irishpantoscripts.com 2014.
- Dame Dolly** I’m going to have to have a long hard talk with Mr. O’Leary.
- Nurse Ninny** He’ll be here Friday night no doubt, making speeches.
- Dame Dolly** As long as he doesn’t start jumping off the stage and proposing to people again.
- Dolly & Ninny** Ejjit!
- Robinson** Ladies settle please, remember this is my panto, Robinson Crusoe, and the love interest has just entered, so if you don’t mind.
- Dame Dolly** You’re right! MAJOR! It’s is an honour to make your acquaintance.

*She runs to him*

- Nurse Ninny** Not so fast Dippy or Duddy or whatever your name is.
- Dame Dolly** It’s Dolly!
- Nurse Ninny** Sure thing Dossey. You see the Major is with me sweetie, I have been cultivating a relationship with the Major for fourteen years now. Any day now he’s going to notice me. So back off.

*They surround the Major.*

- Dame Dolly** If you like it then you should have put a ring on it! Hello Major.
- Nurse ninny** My Major!
- Major** My word. This reminds me of the time I stood down a herd of charging rhinos in India.
- Polly** Father please, let’s get back to business and get on with the story.
- Major** Yes, of course. There I was in India with only one bullet left in my gun as these two gigantic beasts charged at me. I had to think fast so I put my knife in the ground, shot the bullet at the knife, it split in half and killed the two beasts stone dead.

**Polly** Not that story.

**Major** Ohhh you want to hear the one about the time I fought with Nelson at Trafalgar Square?

**Polly** No, let's focus on why we are here today.

**Major** Excellent idea Polly, now, why are we here again?

**Polly** Oh boy.

**Major** Oh yes the map, the adventure, the quest for treasure! Which one of you is Crusoe?

*The Dame, Rupert and Robinson put their hands up.*

**Dame Dolly, Rupert & Robinson** ME!

**Major** My god their multiplying.

**Robinson** I'm Robinson Crusoe sir and I will marry your daughter.

**Major** What?

**Polly** What?

**Robinson** What? I said I'm Robinson Crusoe sir Captain of The Saucy Sally, the finest second hand vessel ever to sail round the lake at Johnstown. I would be delighted to bring you on your quest.

**Major** Quest! Who said anything about a quest?

**Robinson** Why you did sir.

**Major** Yes bravo so I did, well Robinson, I should introduce my associate on this quest a fellow explorer who informs me that I sailed on many a quest with him before, even though I'll be damned if I remember any of them. Colonel Cornelius Custard.

*Blackbeard steps forward.*

**Blackbeard** Good day young man. A pleasure to meet another adventurer like myself and my good friend Monty!

**Major** That's what he calls me.

**Polly** Colonel Custard claims to be an old fellow adventurer of father's and he has a map to buried treasure so father is funding this quest.

**Blackbeard** Ah yes myself and Monty sailed the seven seas together. Do you remember Monty the time we fought at Yellow River in the Amazon?

**Major** Oh yes yesyes... No!

**Blackbeard** Always the joker. Good times, good times. Now enough fooling around we must get the ship loaded and stocked for sailing. What way does the tide go Captain Crusoe.

**Robinson** It goes in and out and up and down. Oh you mean is it right for sailing. Yes certainly we should set sail as soon as possible.

**Dame Dolly** Hold it business man of the year there. Have you agreed a price with the good Major?

**Blackbeard** Don't worry about payment, when we find this treasure we'll all be greatly rewarded.

**Rupert** *(Putting his arm around Blackbeard)* That's good enough for me Colonel.

**Blackbeard** Who the hell are you?

**Robinson** Sorry Colonel, this is my brother and first mate.

**Rupert** And best mate.

**Robinson** Rupert. My Mother Dolly Crusoe will also be sailing with us as the ship's cook.

**Dame Dolly** A finer cooker you won't meet, I'll rustle you up something special Major.

**Polly** And myself and Nurse Ninny will be sailing also, to make sure father doesn't overdo it.

**Major** Overdo it, I didn't overdo it when I fought down forty men at the battle of Big Horn.

**Dame Dolly** Oh Major! Tell me more about this battle of Big Horn?

**Blackbeard** My cabin boy Reg will be sailing too. Reg come out here and show yourself you rascalion you. He's a bit shy.

*Reg steps out from behind the cart. Rupert sees her and a magical romantic moment happens*

***Music Cue – Love Song***

*Robinson grabs Reg and moves forward.*

**Robinson** What do you think you're doing?

**Rupert** I I don't know something just came over me.

**Robinson** Point one, that's a bloke! And point two, if there is a love story to be had around here I'll be having it, sorry but the shows not called Rupert Crusoe it's called Robinson Crusoe. Now just get over there and help her, I mean him, with the luggage.

Now folks we've had all the introductions, I think it's time to get packed up and head down to the boat.

**Dame Dolly** But first I think we should all head inside for a quick drink to toast the voyage.

**Major** Ah now you're talking, a woman after my own heart.

**Dame Dolly** And I'll have it too before the day is out.

She leads him off into the house as Polly holds off a raging Nurse Ninny. Then they follow them in as Blackbeard and Robinson talk in the background. Rupert shyly approaches Reg.

**Rupert** Hello!

**Reg** Hello!

**Rupert** Rupert.

**Reg** Reg

**Rupert** You're the cabin boy?

**Reg** Yes.

**Rupert** You're pretty

**Reg** What?

**Rupert** Pretty manly, yes, manly like me, we're manly men!

**Reg** Indeed, I like sport and drinking ale and and....

**Rupert** Beautiful girls?

**Reg** Yes, can't get enough of them.

**Blackbeard** Go inside young Rupert and have a drink to the voyage.

**Rupert** Ya, ok, see you later Reg.

**Reg** See you later Rupert.

**Blackbeard** What the Dickens is all that about? Never mind, you just remember why we are here Reg, remember you work for me and our aim is to get as many of those horrible goodie two shoes souls down to the bottom of the sea to Neptune.

**Reg** Eye eye Blackbeard.

**Blackbeard** I must say I didn't think it would be this easy though, that fool of a Major doesn't have a clue who I am but he's too dithery to realise it. Soon we'll be sailing the deepest ocean and maybe we'll come across a big storm that will sink the ship, and you and me Reg we'll be away in the lifeboat while all those souls go straight down to Neptune. Getting me off the hook. Oh what a wonderful plan, Ha haahaaaahahahaha.

*Reg shakes her head as if to indicate she is unsure of her part in this.*

*Robinson leads the others back out of the house.*

**Robinson**                    We are all set then Colonel.

**Blackbeard**                Who? Oh yes that's me!

**Robinson**                    The wind seems to be freshening, the tide is with us, let us board The Saucy Sally and set sail for adventure.

**All**                            Hurrah!

***Musical Number – Sailing for Adventure***

**End of Scene 2.**