

Scene 1(B) – The Village Square – “A Chance Meeting”

A traditional village square, houses, villagers, carts selling fruit and veg.

Musical Number – Don’t Stop Believing

Buttons Hi Everyone I’m Buttons. It’s a very common name. All the Buttons in the house say HEEYY! (*Silence hopefully*) No it’s not that common is it. Actually my real name is Freddie but everyone calls me Buttons because of the big shiny buttons on my uniform. Yes my uniform. Nice isn’t it. (*To a lady in the audience*) Calm down madam it’s not that sort of a show. Oh the ladies love a man in uniform. Yes as you can tell I’m a fireman. No I’m not I’m a member of the Gardai. (*Country accent*) “Could you step out of the vehicle please sir, will you blow into this, actually don’t bother I’ll just say you did”

Haaa! No seriously I am Buttons and I’m a footman. (*To a man in the audience*) “I’m more of a breast man myself” says he. Ha. I know by looking at you (*Aside*) and your wife. Yes I’m footman to Lady Truncheon up at the big house. I work for her and her two daughters, horrible creatures they are I can tell you, they didn’t just fall out of the ugly tree, they hit every branch on the way down and then the ugly tree fell on them. “They may be ugly but they are beautiful on the inside” I hear you say! WRONG! These girls are ugly through and through and they treat their stepsister Ella terrible and she’s my best mate. Here she is now.

Enter Cinderella, she wears a cloak that covers her face.

Ella Buttons.

Buttons Ella what are you doing out of the house. Your Stepmother will be furious.

Ella If she finds out.

Buttons What you’re on the run?

Ella Oh Buttons you’re so dramatic. I’ve just snuck out for a little while I’ve done all my chores. I’ll be back before she even notices.

Buttons But what if you run into her?

Ella Oh no she never comes to the village on Tuesdays.

Thunder role, lightning flash and enter The Evil Stepmother.

Stepmother We never come to the village on Tuesdays!

Cinderella runs and leaves one of her shoes behind her.

Buttons Ella? Where did she go? (*Sees the shoe*) She’s left her shoe behind her, how clumsy.

Enter Griselda and Amnesia, Griselda is wheeling a shopping trolley.

Amnesia Yes but we had to come today Mummsie.

Stepmother Whys that?

Amnesia I can't remember.

Griselda We are here Mother because the sales start today and I am going to shop until I drop and drop anyone who gets in my way.

Amnesia Oh ya the sales.

Griselda Retail therapy.

Buttons Looking at the hump on your back you'd be better looking into physio therapy.

Griselda Well well look who it is: Butt head. I mean Buttons.

Amnesia Ha ha Butt head! I must remember that.

Buttons You won't.

Stepmother Why aren't you working?

Buttons I'm on my break.

Stepmother Speak back to me like that again and I'll break your arm.

Griselda Actually it's handy you're here. You can push the trolley.

She pushes the trolley at him.

Buttons What about my break.

Amnesia BREAK OVER! Do not pass go, do not collect two hundred pounds.

Stepmother *(Spotting the shoe in Buttons hand)* What's with the shoe boy?

Buttons Shoe boy! I'm a foot man I'll have you know!

Stepmother Idiot, why do you have a shoe in your hand?

Buttons Eh it's a spare. Eh in case I get a flat....soul.

Stepmother What?

Buttons Eh did someone say shopping!

Griselda Exactly we've wasted enough time.

She climbs into the shopping trolley, Amnesia jumps on the front.

Griselda To hell or to Shaws!

Buttons begins to push them off.

Stepmother Buttons.

He stops and looks around letting the shopping trolley roll off into the wing to the screams of the Ugly Sisters and a huge off stage crash.

S.F.X. - Crash.

Buttons Ouch I'm going to pay for that. *(To the evil stepmother)* Yes madam.

Stepmother You are up to something and when I find out what it is things will get ugly....

Buttonsier!

Stepmother What?

Buttons Uglier

She starts to leave.

Buttons *(To audience)* If things get much uglier we'll have to rate this panto eighteens.

Exit the Stepmother, enter Ella.

Buttons She is one B I T C... HHHHHHello Ella.

Ella Oh my, thanks for covering for me Buttons.

Buttons No worries Ella, I got your back.

Griselda BUTTONS!

Buttons Gots to go!

Exit Buttons one way and Ella the other.

Enter Dandini followed by Benjamin, Barny and Sid

Sid sounds the trumpet as they enter.

S.F.X. – Trumpet

Benjamin Will you knock it off with the trumpet already.

Sid Dude, as Royal Trumpeter it is my duty to sound the trumpet for royal entrances.

Barny That would be fine Sid if there was any royalty here.

Sid What! Dude where's the prince?

Dandini That's a very good question. You three were meant to be watching him, you are hired as the Prince's royal aides. To aid the Prince and stop him getting into trouble. Now that would be very difficult if none of you know where he is.

Benjamin Dandini, as advisor to the King this is out of your domain, so don't worry your fancy tights about it, me and the boys shall sort it.

Dandini Yes I am Royal advisor to the King and how happy do you think his majesty will be when I advise him that his son has absconded from the palace again.

Sid He's done what now?

Barny He's flown the coop.

Benjamin Ok ok let's calm down and look at the facts here. Yes the Prince is missing. And yes he may be in danger and yes heads are going to roll. The facts don't look so good.

Barny No but we got a plan right Benjamin?

Benjamin Of course we do.

Dandini Well that's just spiffing, might I ask what it is?

Benjamin A noble question sir, and I shall give you a straight answer. Sid please.

Sid sounds his trumpet

Benjamin The plan is..... we find the Prince!

Barny Genius.

Benjamin Let's go.

They exit followed by Dandini

Dandini When you pay peanuts you get monkeys.

Barny We get paid now?

Enter Prince Will Charming he wears a cloak that covers his face. Ella runs on from the opposite side and runs straight into the Prince.

Ella Oh I'm so sorry.

Will Are you ok?

Ella Yes I'm fine

They look into each other's eyes.

Romantic music fills the air.

Ella breaks away embarrassed.

Will You're sure I didn't hurt you?

Ella No honestly I'm fine. *(Pause)* Do I know you?

Will Me! No! I'm new in town.

Ella Oh well you are very welcome, it's a lovely place to live. The king and Queen are great and kind rulers.

Will So I believe. And what of their son the Prince.

Ella I here he is very handsome.

Will Really.

Ella Yes and brave.

Will Go on...

Ella They say he will be a great leader, if he ever finds a wife.

Will Really, he delays picking a wife?
Ella So I believe. Much to his parent's annoyance.
Will That's true.
Ella Sorry?
Will Nothing.
Ella I wonder what he is waiting for?
Will Love.
Ella Sorry?
Will I imagine he is waiting to fall in love? To one day randomly meet a beautiful young lady in the street and know the minute he sees her that she is the one.
Ella Sounds magical.

They have been drawn closer to each other during this and are now nearly face to face.

Enter the Evil Stepmother

Stepmother Cinderella!
Ella Stepmother!
Stepmother I knew that Buttons was covering up something.

Enter Buttons

Buttons Ella scatter your stepmother is.... *(Sees the Stepmother)* A lovely lady.
Stepmother I'll deal with you later. *(Turning to Cinderella)* As for you young lady, I am disgusted by your behaviour. You know you are not allowed to leave the house without my permission. How can I protect you as I promised your father on his death bed I would if you are out running about town talking to common peasants in the street?
Ella I am sorry Stepmother.
Stepmother You're always sorry Cinderella but you still disobey me.
Will Please madam it was my fault she was just on her way home when I delayed her.
Stepmother Away peasant.

Enter Griselda and Amnesia

Amnesia What's she doing here?
Griselda Cinderella if you're here who's ironing my socks!
Stepmother Cinderella was just leaving. *(To Cinderella)* And you haven't heard the end of this yet girl.
Will Please wait!

Amnesia Who's the head in the hood?

Stepmother Some young rogue who was trying to take advantage of Cinderella, she's lucky she has a Stepmother as kind and caring as me to protect her.

Griselda Beat it freak, before I set Buttons on ya, Buttons sort him.

Amnesia pushes Buttons forward.

Buttons Eh actually I'm more of a lover than a fighter, I'm a pacifist.

Amnesia How about you pass a fist into this jerks face.

Griselda Go on "Cinderella run from the fella", get your butt home, you're in so much trouble.

Will WAIT!

As Will throws back his hood Sid runs in and sounds the royal trumpet.

SFX – Trumpet

Sid Found the Prince

Enter Benjamin and Barny

Barny Nice one Sid.

Benjamin Alright your Maj

Griselda It's the bleedin Prince in it?

Amnesia And he is hooooooooot.

Will Please madam do not be too hard on your daughter we were only talking briefly and she has done no wrong.

Ella runs off embarrassed leaving her shoe again.

Will *(Picking up the shoe)* Please wait!

He goes to follow but the Stepmother steps into his path takes the shoe of him and throws it to Griselda who pegs it after Ella.

Stepmother Your Majesty an honour to meet you finally face to face.

Will Was she your daughter?

Stepmother Step daughter, these are my daughters.

Amnesia You're Majesty *(Silly laugh)*

Griselda fires her out of the way.

Griselda The pleasure is all mine I'm sure. *(Snorts in his face)*

Amnesia Oh your highness, how lovely to see you see you back in the kingdom, how were your adventures?

Will Oh you know, seen one dragon seen them all.

Barny He's certainly seen them all now.

Griselda Oh you are brave your highness.

Amnesia Brave and strong.

Griselda Brave and strong and sexy.

Will *(To his aides)* Help me.

Benjamin Alright Sid let them have it.

Sid sounds the trumpet

SFX – Trumpet

Benjamin Thank you ladies that will be all for today, his highness has a hospital wing or something to open.

Barny He does more openings a year than Lee Chin.

Stepmother Come along girls. Lovely to meet you your highness.

Will The pleasure was all mine.

Griselda Damn right.

Stepmother Girls! Come!

Exit the Stepmother followed by Griselda and Amnesia

Will Who would have guessed Dandini was right, it is dangerous out here.

Enter Dandini

Dandini I'm seldom wrong sir, now maybe you will listen to my warnings in future.

Will Seriously Dandini I think I had it in hand.

Barny I think you had your hands full.

Benjamin More than full.

Dandini Well your highness I do hope you will make your way back to the castle now. Your Father the King would like a word.

Sid blows the trumpet three times.

SFX – Duh Duh Duuuuuhhhhhh

Exit Dandini

Benjamin Cripes Willy boy your for it now.

Will I know. My father will be livid.

Barny Worse than that he'll be furious.

Sid And none too happy at that.

Will He's already on my back about getting married.

Barny You should introduce him to those two what we just meet. They're enough to put anyone off marriage.

Benjamin I wouldn't blame you if you never got married if they are the type of girls on offer.

Will As it happens I'm in love.

Sid Dude!?!

Will Not with those two? With their Stepsister. She's incredible.

Benjamin Excellent! A peasant girl with no father, your Dad and Dandini will love this.

Will I don't care what anyone thinks, she's the one for me. I'm in love.

Musical Number – Accidentally in Love

End of scene 1.