

ALADDIN BY THOMAS O'LEARY & PAUL WALSH

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Act 1 – Scene 3

The Widow Twanky's Laundrette

There is Laundry everywhere, big washing tubs an old fashioned dryer etc. There is a table and chairs on stage and two old laundry hampers and an old shaky house in the background. The Widow, Wishy and Washy are working away,

Musical number - "Working Nine to Five"

Widow: *(To audience)* Oh it's you lot, how are ye getting on? I said how are ye getting on. *(Audience respond)* Well, you picked a great day to visit me little laundrette today cause we have a special offer, Bras are half off and knickers are down. *(Laughs)* No but seriously though boys and girls we can't stop and talk, we have so much work to do. And we have to be finished be nine o'clock cause I'm not missing Desperate Housewives for nothing. I'm actually a bit like the one in that.... What's her name Terry Hatcher?

Wishy: Terry Hatchet would be more like it.

Widow: I'll hatchet you; I'll have you know I have won competitions for my beauty.

Washy: Ye Crufts!

Widow: Shut up ya pups! Ya know I married your father because I wanted beautiful children. Imagine my disappointment when you two came along. *(Catches them and dunks them in a basin)*

Wishy: Ah look it! I'm soaking wet.

Washy: I always new you were a drip.

Widow: Come on get back to work we have so much to do. Get them sheets folded.

Wishy and Washy get all tangled up folding the Sheets

Widow: Would ya look at the state of the two of you, how did ya end up like that?

Washy: Sorry Ma I let me mind wander.

Widow: Don't do that love, it's too small to go out on it's own. Go over there and start washing them jerseys for the Wexford hurling team.

Washy: Righto Ma.

Wishy: *(She holds up a jersey with number six on it. And turns it around and there is a big hole in the front)* What's happened to this.

Washy: Well, we always knew the Wexford defence had holes in it!

Wishy: *(Moves to another pile)* Hay Ma where are them musical pants George Lawlor *(Local Labour politician and singer)* left in to be cleaned?

Widow: Musical pants, what are you taking about?

Wishy: You know musical pants what's this there called ...cords! *(Laugh)*

Widow: Oh you're hilarious, seriously though speaking of the great Labour party *(All Bow)* where is that suit Brendan Howlin *(Politician who is short in stature)* left in to be washed?

Washy: Here it is Ma *(Holds up tiny suit)* ya know I don't think he'll ever be Taoiseach.

Widow: And why not?

Washy: Cause of his shortcomings. *(Laughs - Widow chases her around the stage)*

Widow: Enough of these pointless jokes, come on girls seriously if we don't get the laundry up to the palace today, the Sultan will have us evicted. Grab them sheets there and bring them up to the palace. I'll get started on the tea.

Exit Widow to house

Wishy puts a sheet over her head and scares Washy she runs off screaming Wishy strolls off laughing.

Lights go down on the two laundry baskets, and two heads pop out. Abanazar gets out gasping for air Abdul is fine.

Abanazar: AHHHH I thought those fools would never leave, I would end up in the basket from Meyler's fish shop.

Abdul: Mine was from the massage parlour at Sam Mc Cauley's oh those massage oils are so relaxing.

Abanazar: *(Grabs him)* I'll give you relaxing!

Abdul: Phaw you don't smell so good. But you look great. *(Fires him into a hamper his legs still hang out)*

Abanazar: I don't smell that bad.... Hold on I do actually, this disguise won't work if I smell like fish cuts, *(Looks in hamper)* lets see what they got here *(finds a tin of Lynx and sprays, two women run from the wing and cling onto him. Music clip of Lynx add.)* Get off me, not now. Anyway Abdul back to the plan.... Abdul, Abdul where are you. *(Sees him and lifts him out of hamper)* Back to the plan where is my wig?

Abdul hands Abanazar a Tom Jones type wig, he puts it on.

Abdul: Looking good!

Abanazar: Right now sod off you. *(Pushes him back in hamper)* Musical director it's time for my big number.

Musical director: Pity you can't sing!

Abanazar: I hate you.....Just hit it.

Music plays for "It's a Small World"

Abanazar: Stop it! Stop it! Aren't you the funny man? *(To audience)* Thinks he's the next big thing. We all know your just putting in time here till you break into Wexford Light Opera Society! Now play the blasted note. *(Plays Key)* not that blasted note the other blasted note.

Abanazar: Thank you! Now for my cunning plan.

Musical Number - "Good looking Woman"(Joe Dolan)

He goes and knocks on house door, then hides behind a sheet, when Widow enters he jumps out and comedy ensues during the song which finishes with the Widow getting him inside the house.)

Enter Aladdin

Al: *(Sad)* Hi Guys, Are you having fun? Good, cause I'm not. I've been racking my brains to come up with a plan to become a prince so I can finally marry Jasmine but I can't come up with anything. If it wasn't for that silly old law we could be together now. It's hopeless, it will never work out. And do you know what else boys and girls, I'm going to tell you

a secret. Between you and me, things are very bad here in the laundrette too. Business is terrible down this end of town ever since Tesco closed down. Even though Mum puts on a brave face, I'd say if things don't look up soon we're in real trouble.

Enter Wishy and Washy.

Wishy: What are you moping about for ya big fool.

Al: I was just thinking about how bad things are.

Washy plays an invisible violin and Wishy starts bawling.

Al: This business is going down the drain, I'd say they get more customers in Finnegan's Pub (*Local closed down business*) and that's been closed over a year now.

The girls get louder.

Al: My dog Stinky, he died in a strange accident involving you two, the tumble dryer and a tin of pedigree chum.

They stop and laugh, then go back to crying.

Al: We're so poor, we use to be able to afford alphabet spaghetti but now we're that poor we can only afford the O, so all we get is a spaghetti hoop.

The Girls cry louder.

Al: And of course my love life is in ruins.

Girls react with shock to the fact that Al has a love life.

W + W: WHAT!

Al: Oops.

Washy: What love life?

Wishy: Ya who's the unluckyI mean lucky girl?

Al: Oh no one.

Washy: Come on Al, tell us....

Wishy: Ya Al you can trust us....

Washy: Ya we're like your bestest friends in the world. In fact we're closer, we are family!

Music Cue clip of - "We Are Family"

Wishy: Come on Al, we've always been there for ya.

Washy: Ya remember the time you fell off the bridge?

Al: No, I remember the time you pushed me off the bridge.

Wishy: None of that matters now all that matters is you have a problem and we're the ones to help you solve it.

Washy: Ya there is that, plus if you don't tell us I'm going to put your head in the washing machine for half an hour.

Al: All right but if I tell you; you have to promise not to laugh.

W + W: We won't.

Al: Well for the past six months...

W+W: Yesssssssss

Al: I've been secretly dating...

W+W: Yessssssssssssssss

Al: Behind everybody's back....

W+W: Yessssssssssssssssssss

Al: Princess Jasmine

W+W Laugh loudly.

Washy: Get out of that garden Aladdin Twanky. If you're going out with a princess, I'm a lingerie model.

Wishy: Ya Al, if she was the last woman on earth and you were the last man on earth and she lost her sight, voice and hearing and her only way to avoid a deadly plague was to kiss you, she still wouldn't get with ya!

Al: What did you say sorry I wasn't listening, I still trying to get the picture of Washy in lingerie out of my head.

Washy: Why you(*Goes after him*)...come here till I...

W+W chase Al around the stage and off.

Enter Abanazar still in disguise. He is very shaken after his exploits with the Widow and staggers down stage Abdul pops out of a hamper.

Abdul: Well master I trust our cunning plan is going well.

Abanazar: (*catches him by the scruff*) If anyone at the annual baddies convention questions my dedication to evil. I want you to remind them of these past few horrific minutes!

Abdul: Yes I'm sure Lord Voldermort would be very proud of you.

Abanazar: That was one of the worst experiences of my life.

Abdul: Even worse than sitting through the Light Opera's version of the Gondoliers. (*Local Musical Society*)

Abanazar: I don't know, I was asleep by the second scene.

Abdul: Oh yes after the fourteenth song! What's the plan now master?

Abanazar: Quiet, she's coming. (*Slams basket and sits on it.*)

Enter the Widow very seductively.

Widow: Oh there you are my beautiful hunk of man, that was the best eighteen seconds of my life. I think I love you, but I don't even know your name.

Abanazar: (*Putting on a voice*) It's Chet, Chet Stevenson, international man of mystery.

Widow: And tell me Chet how did it feel to have your arms around a beautiful woman.

Abanazar: Where? Oh you...well I didn't get them all the way round...I mean it was an experience I'll never forget, and I mean never!

Widow: Oh Chet you bring out the romantic beast in me.

Abdul: Ya the fat cow!

Widow: What?

Abanazar: *(Slams the basket and sits on it.)* I said I could never leave you now.

Widow: Oh Chet

Abanazar: Oh Bridie

Abdul: Oh dear God!

They embrace

Widow: Oh I'm all aflush... it's time for my big musical number. *(Runs into house and returns with music sheets she gives to MD)* Now just like we practiced and don't stuff it up. *(To audience)* You just can't get good help nowadays.

Music starts and she goes to sing, "My heart will go on" Very loud and out of key Abanazar is in pain listening. Suddenly Al + Wishy + Washy run in and chaos ensues.

Widow: What in the name of... Why you little...

Everyone running around, Abanazar is standing centre.

Abanazar: Ahem

Everyone freezes mid fight. And looks at him.

Widow: Sorry about that Chet, children this is my new special friend,

Abanazar: Hi I'm Chet, Chet Stevenson international man of mystery.

Washy + Wishy run to him.

Washy: How are ya hon?

Wishy: You're beautiful, I'd eat chips off you.

Widow: That's enough out of you two, talking about eating get up there and get that breakfast ready. The full Irish breakfast for a full Irish man like Chet.

Girls move table and chairs down centre Widow gets food everyone busy Al sits at one end of table Abanazar at the other. Silence.

Abanazar: So.

Al: So.

Abanazar: So, hot weather we're having.

Al: We live in Arabia it's always hot.

Abanazar: We sure do. So Al what kind of work you in son?

Al: Street Urchin.

Abanazar: Nice, nice I used to be a vagabond myself.

Al: Really! Do you know toothless Joe?

Abanazar: Sure I do, I've never seen anyone dance for pennies like toothless Joe.

The Widow joins them at the table

Widow: Oh I see the two men in my life are getting on like a house on fire.

W+W join them with the food.

Washy: So Chet, it must be very exciting being an international man of mystery.

Abanazar: Sure it is.

Wishy: Ya and you must be loaded!

Widow: Don't be so rude you... are ya?

Abanazar: No it's alright, there is a funny story about that but I don't want to bore you.

Widow: It's alright Chet this is scene three (*Points to audience*) they are already well bored.

Abanazar: We'll it all began many, many years ago in a far away land.

Washy: Taghmon? (*Local small village*)

Wishy hits her

Abanazar: *(The lights change and a spot picks him up for his story)* When I was a young man, a young international man of mystery, my aged father gave me a lucky lamp. It was worthless, but to my family it brought great luck. I took it with me on all my missions and was the best international man of mystery in the business. Until one time I had to go to a place known as The Cave of Wonders a magic cave with a spell on it. I had to rescue a damsel in distress from within this cave. Everything was going according to plan and I rescued the fair maiden but when I came out my lamp was gone! I had left it in the cave, and there is a spell on the cave that only lets you enter once so I could not go back for it. If only I could find someone, someone young and strong and trustworthy to go into the magical Cave of Wonders and get that lamp for me I could retire happy, my old father could rest in peace and maybe I could settle down with the woman of my dreams.

Widow: Oh that's a terrible sad story; let me think now, so you're looking for someone young *(Stands and goes to Al)*

Wishy: And strong *(goes to Al)*

Washy: And trustworthy *(goes to Al)*

Al: What are you all looking at... Oh no!

Washy: Go on Al you're the man for the job.

Wishy: Course he will help you, won't you Al

Widow: Do it for your poor old aged mother this could be her last chance of happiness.

Al: Oh, I don't know, should I do it boys and girls... I'll have to do it for my Mam I suppose; Ok I'll do it, I'll do it for you Mam.

Abanazar: That's the boy, you know it makes sense. We'll simply slip off now to the Cave of Wonders and we'll have my old lamp back...
And then nothing can stop me...
Ha....haha.....hahahahahahahah(cough)hahhahhaahahahah.

All look at him

Abanazar: Excuse me, I mean we'll get that old lamp and be back in time for tea.

Washy: You know Al if you do this you'll be a hero, and that's bound to impress the Princess Jasmine.

Al: Really! You think so?

Wishy: Oh ya every woman is "Holding out for a hero".

Washy: That sounds like a cue for a song.

Widow: It sure is!

Musical Number - "Holding out for a hero"

End of Scene 3