Alice in Wonderland

Scene 1 – A Christmas Carroll

ALICE’s house. The living room with a CHRISTMAS TREE and PRESENTS and CANDLES and CHRISTMAS CHEER. FATHER, MOTHER, AUNT and UNCLE are scattered around the room, as well as JACK and ALICE. Costume permitting, JACK is dressed like an adorable elf. UNCLE is wearing a CAMERA around his neck because men like technology.

JACK: [singing to the tune of ‘Happy Birthday’] Happy Christmas to you! Happy Christmas to you!

ALICE: It’s “Happy Birthday”, stupid.

JACK: [continuing, to the tune of ‘Happy Birthday, dear PERSON’S NAME’] Happy Christmas - it’s Christmaaaas! Happy Christmas to you!

AUNT: That’s so clever, my little Jack-er-wobby!

ALICE: No it’s not. He got the lyrics wrong. He’s supposed to be singing happy birthday to me.

MOTHER: Alice, it isn’t just your birthday, you know. It’s also our Christmas party!

A BANNER drops down! It says “MERRY CHRISTMAS” and then underneath, in small lettering, “AND ALSO ALICE’S BIRTHDAY”.

AUNT: The attention can’t always be on you, dear. You should be proud of your cousin.

UNCLE: Only eight and such a mature little man!

ALICE: As if! He’s a little baby. I’m more manly than him.

JACK: Oh no you aren’t.

MOTHER: Alice, don’t be so uncouth in front of our guests! [Hey, she’s talking about the audience!]

ALICE: I don’t think they mind, mother. [Indicating JACK] Unlike some people, the audience know how to take a joke. Isn’t that right?

AUDIENCE should be encouraged to respond. ALICE may improvise in response by telling a joke to prove the point. Make ‘em laugh, AL.

MOTHER: Stop that silliness, all of you! There’ll be no cake if this childishness continues.

ALICE: I’m not childish! I’m eleven now!

JACK: [mimicking her] I’m not childish. I’m eleven now!

MOTHER, AUNT and UNCLE chuckle.

DAD: Exactly, you’re eleven. It’s high time you learnt how to treat your cousin more … nicely.

MOTHER: And that should be easy now that we got you this book. [Hands ALICE a PRESENT.]

ALICE: [Excited as she opens the PRESENT, then deflated as she reads the BOOK cover, which also says “by LEWIS CARROLL”] “Treating Your Cousin Nicely: How to Win Friends and Influence Adults”. [Fake gratitude] Thaaaaaaaanks.
UNCLE: We knew you’d like it! [To AUNT] Didn’t I tell you she’d like it?

JACK: [sadly] I wish I could read.

ALICE: Well you’ll never learn how because you’re stupid and it’s very difficult. D-I-F-F-I—

MOTHER: Now this is exactly why you need the rule book. [Snatches and reads from the BOOK. As she is reading it becomes increasingly apparent that they wrote it.] “Step 1: Always be nice to your cousin because he is younger than you and doesn’t really know any better.”

ALICE: [sceptically] I don’t think I trust this book. In fact, I’m starting to think it isn’t even a real b— [noticing MOTHER and AUNT] What are you doing?

MOTHER and AUNT are doing the roof-triangle-be-silent gesture.

AUNT: [Reading] “Step 2: If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.”

ALICE: [Scrambling for the BOOK] Where does it say that?

MOTHER: Oh never mind. [Throws the BOOK away] All you need to remember is that when somebody does this [silent gesture] it means that you need to be quiet.

ALICE: But I- [MOTHER does the gesture to cut her off.]

MOTHER: Do you get that, everyone? [When the AUDIENCE hopefully says “yes”, MOTHER can test them by using the gesture. Amazing.]

JACK: Let’s open Christmas presents now! [He picks up a PRESENT.]

ALICE: No, that’s one of my birthday presents! My name is on it.

JACK: I told you, I can’t read!

ALICE snatches the PRESENT. JACK snatches it back, etc. They get caught in a struggle.

UNCLE: Oh isn’t this adorable! [He holds up camera] Say “Christmas cuddles”, you two! [UNCLE takes a photo.] Perfect. Lorraine, Jeff, come look at this. I’m so glad I bought this new lens.

ADULTS crowd around UNCLE’s camera and coo over how great the photo is, i.e. “so clarity,” “such pixels”, “new cover photo” etc. Meanwhile in the struggle between JACK and ALICE, the PRESENT drops, opens and whatever gift that was inside falls out – broken!

ALICE: You idiot, you broke it! [Petulantly] You can have it now.

ALICE storms off by walking on the spot in an exaggerated way. The FAMILY moves off the stage, some props people take off the living room stuff only to replace with bedroom props. The MIRROR DOPPELGANGER is on stage. Maybe, to break up the following dialogue, ALICE kicks something and then says ow because she hurts her foot.

ALICE: I’m going to go somewhere where everybody thinks I’m great. And I have just the place in mind! Do you know where I’m going to go? That’s right! Wonderland! I’ll see all my old friends, have cool adventures, not have to share with my stupid cousin or deal with bossy parents. [Standing up, looking in the MIRROR, which is just a doppelganger of ALICE.] I’m going to go back to Wonderland! [She thinks for a moment] Well, last time I went down the rabbit hole. Perhaps this time I’ll go through the looking glass! [She does a mirror image hand thingy with her MIRROR DOPPELGANGER, grins at the audience and jumps through.]

JACK enters.
JACK: Alice? Mummy sent me to find you. Maybe later we could open your presents together. Alice? [To AUDIENCE] Where did she go?

AUDIENCE yells some things.

JACK: The mirror? But there’s nothing behind there. Are you sure you don’t mean… over here? [He checks.] No, not there. [AUDIENCE talks.] But there’s nothing behind the mirror! Oh hey, that’s me there! Hello me. High five, me! [He goes to high five himself and falls through the MIRROR and together they exit offstage.] Aaaaah!

SCENE 1 - 2 TRANSITION

Visual effects on stage to show that we are entering Wonderland. A couple of SPIRAL UMBRELLAS (painted red and black, or red and white?) at the back being spun around. ALICE is standing in the middle as other Wonderland characters come onstage and move around her in a spiral. This includes the WHITE RABBIT, the HATTER, numerous CARDS and basically anyone else who volunteers – visual versatility and colour is best. ALICE retreats to the back and JACK enters the circle as well. When everyone stops moving there is a silhouette of the QUEEN (puffy sleeves and a crown, perhaps). She leaves before lights up.

Scene 2 - Walkin’ in a Weird Wonderland

The scenery has changed dramatically from the previous scene – things are the wrong size and vibrant colours can be seen everywhere. ALICE enters. She takes a moment to survey the landscape. There are plenty of wacky items and set items for her to be fascinated by and possibly interact with the audience with (i.e. pool noodle TREES and other creative things from our props department, which we definitely have). There is a DOOR downstage on the opposite side to ALICE.

ALICE: It’s good to be back, Wonderland! Upside down clocks… ‘unwanted’ posters… the permanent smell of chocolate in the air! And no annoying Jack around. Nothing’s changed! Actually, that door over there might be new. [Whispers to the AUDIENCE] It’s a bit ugly.

DOOR: Do you think I can’t hear you?

ALICE: Where did that come from?

DOOR: Over here! You know, the ugly door.

ALICE: I was just stating a fact. Your colour isn’t very nice.

DOOR: It’s because I’m blushing! Do you think it’s fun being a door? To be knocked around and slammed all day like a bit of dead wood? It’s humiliating!

ALICE: I’m sorry that you’re sad but we all have our own problems. For example, my cousin is a butthead. Now would you stop being a butthead too and let me through, PLEASE?

DOOR: Nope, I don’t open for just anyone, and certainly not for mean little girls. If you want to get into Wonderland, you’ll have to try those.

ALICE walks over to the table, on which is a bottle and a plate of cookies, labelled with ‘drink me’ and ‘eat me’ respectively.
ALICE: ‘Drink me’? Ha! Not falling for that again! Last time I had that I grew three times my own size.

DOOR: That’s not my problem! You’ll have to find some other way out of here. Now if you’ll excuse me, this door is closed for business!

ALICE: I stand by what I said. I stand by what I said. And now I think you’re ugly AND rude. I guess I’ll just have to work it out on my own. FINE.

DOOR: FINE.

DOOR slams shut causing ALICE to fall over. WHITE RABBIT hops on stage. He hops over to ALICE and helps her up.

ALICE: [muttering under her breath] Stupid doorknob, more like boreknob – oh, thank you, Sir!

WHITE RABBIT: Alice!

ALICE: [recognising him] Rabbit!

They hug. Next line said while hugging.

ALICE: { HUGS!
WHITE RABBIT: { HUGS!

ALICE: The dream team, at last reunited in person... and rabbit. We’re going to have so many adventures together, just like the old times. First adventure: getting that squeaky old door to open. Do you have an axe with you by any chance?

WHITE RABBIT: [Has been distracted the entire time, sussing out his surroundings concernedly] Pardon? Oh, it is so lovely to see you, really! I can’t stress it enough. Except, well, actually, I’m not able to stay around very long... I have a thing.

ALICE: A thing? [Coyly] Oh Rabbit, is it a date?

RABBIT: I wouldn’t call it a date. [Checks POCKET WATCH.] Oh, and I’m running late!

ALICE: You just got here!

WHITE RABBIT: No, I’ve lived here all my life. And now I’m late!

ALICE: [impatiently] Don’t be stupid, you know what I mean!

WHITE RABBIT: Patience, Alice! [Points to the UPSIDE DOWN CLOCK.] OH MY GOSH IS THAT THE TIME I’M EVER LATER THAN I THOUGHT! I’m so late for my, uh, thing.

ALICE: If the clock is upside down then how can you tell?

WHITE RABBIT: This is Wonderland... it’s not the clock that’s upside down, you’re just not thinking right-side-up! I really must be leaving. If I haven’t already mentioned it, I’m very late!

ALICE: You’re going already?

WHITE RABBIT: It’s a very important date

ALICE: [She has caught him out!] A ha! Got you! But really, no time to say hello--?

WHITE RABBIT: Goodbye! [Running off.] I’m late! I’m late! I’m late!

WHITE RABBIT exits through the DOOR. ALICE tries to follow but the DOOR slams shut.

DOORKNOB: [fake sleep sounds, obnoxiously] Zzzzzz... Zzzzz....
ALICE: [pointedly, to DOOR] It was nice to be reminded that I have some friends here! Now if only I could get through this old door and visit them! [Can we get some kind of echo of that to play as an SFX?]

Somehow through sneaky stage magic the CHESHIRE CAT 1 appears, although maybe you can only see his head or something silly. When the CHESHIRE CATS have a line, ALICE should not be able to find them until the last second before they disappear, so she’s saying her lines to an empty stage. The CATS ideally should not be fully visible for very long at a time so it doesn’t ruin the STAGE MAGIC of having two cats.

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Visit whom, exactly?

ALICE, shocked by the CAT’s appearance, jumps and turns around but he is gone.

ALICE: What was that?

CHESHIRE CAT 2 appears on the other side of the stage.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: I just wouldn’t be so sure that everyone is your friend, my dear….

ALICE: What? What do you mean?

CAT 2 disappears. CAT 1 appears.

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Old grudges are not quickly forgotten, Alice…

ALICE: [She turns quickly and catches CAT 1 a split second before he disappears] Aha! You know what else isn’t quickly forgotten? You! I remember who you are, Cheshire Cat, with your unhelpful games and tricky riddles. You’re a pain in the neck!

CHESHIRE CAT 2: [appearing] You made the Queen of Hearts very mad last time you were here. She’s still looking for you… I’d be careful just wandering around….

ALICE: Rubbish! The Queen can’t still be THAT mad! Over such an old grudge? I can’t even remember what I did it was so long ago. I beat her in a game of croquet or something. [CAT 2 disappears] didn’t I?

CAT I comes right up behind to her to talk. It surprises ALICE.

ALICE: STOP DOING THAT.

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Doing what?

ALICE: I’m not scared of you, or the Queen! I’m going to go and find my real friends and have tea parties and lots of fun! [As ALICE is talking to CAT 1, she’s backing him back up against a TREE. They both end up walking behind the TREE but only ALICE comes out the other side. She stops, confused.]

CHESHIRE CAT 2: [Appearing behind another TREE and startling ALICE again] And how are you going to keep yourself from getting lost? The forest can be a dangerous place….

ALICE: Well, just you watch. I can figure this out on my own! I’ll leave a trail behind that will lead back here! Using… um… [ALICE goes through her pockets trying to find something that will make a good trail] these old lollies! [The LOLLIES get kind of stuck to her hands; it’s gross] Oh, yuck. [Disregarding it, proceeding courageously] I’m smarter than you think I am!

ALICE makes a defiant face at CHESHIRE CAT 2, who continues to grin. ALICE approaches the DOOR.

ALICE: Excuse me, Mr Door. I know we’ve seen things differently in the past but may I please go through? [No response from the DOOR.]
You can have a lolly as well? [ALICE puts a LOLLY on the floor. The DOOR opens and ALICE runs through. DOOR stays open.] Thank you [under her breath] boreknob.

As ALICE exits, CAT 2 also exits, stage right. JACK enters on the opposite side. He is followed by CAT 1. JACK is fascinated with the Wonderland scenery. He is more nervous than ALICE and is almost spooked out by everything around him.

JACK: Hello? Alice? Anybody? Where am I? [He looks down] Oh, here I am! Phew, that was a close one- [CAT 1 moves behind him] What was that?

There is some interplay between the CHESHIRE CAT 1 and JACK as CAT 1 sneaks up behind JACK before disappearing right before JACK turns around. The audience will get involved with ‘he’s behind you’ for a while before finally the CAT 1 allows JACK to back into him, scaring the daylights out of JACK in the process.

JACK: What the… who are you? What is this place?

CAT 1 disappears. CAT 2 comes out of the bio-box door. SURPRISE KIDS.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: [Leaning against a wall] You’re in Wonderland. [Starts walking to the stage.] And I’m a friend of Alice’s, you might say.

JACK: I’m her cousin, Jack. I came here through her mirror. It was kind of like [kid noises] and then [kid noises] and then [kid noises - he then spots the LOLLIES on the ground] -- hey, are they lollies?

JACK begins to follow the lolly trail, eating them as he goes. He exists through the DOOR and follows the trail offstage.

DOOR: Hey! One of those was for me!

The CAT 2 gives a crazy laugh before disappearing behind a TREE. CAT 1 sticks his head out and laughs again. End scene.

SCENE 2-3 TRANSITION

The CARDS (SPADE 7, DIAMOND 7, CLUB 7) are playing a very mundane game of snap with a lot of enthusiasm. SPADE 7 is on the ground. DIAMOND 7 suddenly lies on top of SPADE 7.

DIAMOND 7: SNAP!

SPADE 7: Again!

SPADE 7 and DIAMOND 7 get up, rubbing their backs.

DIAMOND 7: Maybe we should get some of the other numbers to join us?

CLUB 7: Nah. I’ll go next!

CLUB 7 lies down. SPADE 7 goes next.

ROYAL JACK walks in.

SPADE 7: SNAP!

ROYAL JACK: What is going on here? [The CARDS scramble up.] The Queen has recently outlawed people enjoying the things that they are doing!

CLUB 7: You mean like fun?

ROYAL JACK: SHHH! Don’t say it! Didn’t you hear what happened to the Ace of Hearts?
THE ACE OF HEARTS walks on stage, he’s bandaged up and on crutches. Everyone gasps in horror.

SPADE 7: What happened??

ACE OF HEARTS: It was awful. The queen caught me having you-know-what and she yelled at me so hard that she blew me right off stage!

DIAMOND 7: [making that noise people make in disbelief/surprise] Wheeew!

ACE OF HEARTS: It was more of a [wind noise] whoosh.

ROYAL JACK: Either way, I wouldn’t recommend disobeying her orders. The Queen’s temper is, pretty… stormy.

All the CARDS nod solemnly.

ROYAL JACK: So whatever you do, make sure you don’t enjoy it! Now back to work, everyone.

CLUB 7: How’s this? [He makes a pained/bored face and continues the game of snap.]

ROYAL JACK: Saadderrrr…! [The CARDS play snap while sobbing as the lights go down.] Perfect!

Scene 3 – Into the Woods

ALICE enters stage left (walking towards downstage right), dropping her LOLLIES. Let’s say she’s humming that ‘Which Way Shall You Go...’ song. There are some TREES and whatever to indicate that this is a forest.

ALICE: [looking behind her] Maybe that door sent me the wrong way after all. I wouldn’t put it past him. At least these lollies mean I won’t get too lost.

ALICE sees the WACKY SIGN (downstage left) and walks over to it.

ALICE: This sign could be useful, except it is curiously multidirectional. One Direction, Another Direction, Old Direction, New Direction. Which way should I go? [AUDIENCE interaction.] Well, One Direction sounds terrible. And those last two sound dangerous. Another Direction, it is!

ALICE turns away from the sign, dropping LOLLIES behind her. As she turns away, the WACKY SIGN turns around because it is wacky.

ALICE: Curiouser and curioser! Wasn’t it pointing the other way before? [Pointing and getting herself confused] That was “another direction” but now it’s a “new direction” which was the “old direction” WHEN ALL I WANT IS THE RIGHT DIRECTION

While ALICE tries to figure out what happened to the SIGN, JACK has entered from upstage left, picking up and eating one LOLLY at a time. Audience should be ‘HE’S BEHIND YOU!’ -ing, but ALICE can’t see JACK because he has just walked behind the on stage TREE.

ALICE: Who? Where? Behind the tree?

ALICE walks over behind the TREE, placing more LOLLIES as she goes. As she walks behind, JACK walks out in front, still following the LOLLIES. The treat-trail obviously goes back around behind the tree,
and as JACK goes behind (where he stays for a bit), ALICE comes back around, confused.

ALICE: [To AUDIENCE] There’s no-one there! Is this some kind of joke because I have to say it’s a bit childish. [ALICE goes back to the SIGN and looks really confused.] Okay, let’s try this again.

ALICE moves off stage left. JACK comes out from behind the bush as ALICE exits, and walks up to the SIGN.

JACK: Huh. That’s a lot of directions! Oh man I love One Direction! But which way did Alice go? [Audience interaction, maybe sign can change again, not that Jack notices.] Oh, I know! Alice is a big stinky-pants, so I’ll just follow my nose.

JACK goes cross-eyed to look at his nose, making a funny face, then he points to his nose, and ‘follows’ it off stage left. As JACK exits one side, ALICE enters from the other. She is obviously upset and lost, and she sits down to sulk.

ALICE: Oh, now I’m lost! [Sees the SIGN.] Wait a second, I’m just back in the same place! But if I retrace my steps… [She turns around] Where are my lollies? They’re all gone! This is hopeless. I’m lost, I’m tired and I’m thirsty. I guess I still have the drink me juice. Do you think it’s safe to drink?

AUDIENCE blabs for a bit, ALICE is unconvinced – she knows it’s bad for her.

ALICE: Hmm you’re right, this won’t help at all. Ugh! Why am I even carrying it?

ALICE throws the JUICE over to where the BUSH is. The BUSH begins to get bigger behind ALICE while she begins to have a mini tantrum.

ALICE: Stupid Wonderland! [Kicks the ground.] Stupid door! Stupid sign with its stupid directions! [Kicks a different BUSH and it hurts her] Stupid plant with its thorns that hurt my foot when I kick it…!

CATERPILLAR: Do you mean to say you don’t like the forest? That hurts my feelings.

It is the CATERPILLAR, who has emerged alongside three beautiful people-FLOWERS!

ALICE: [turning around] AAAAAAAH. [Recovering] Oh no! I made that flowerbed bigger with my “drink me” juice!

CATERPILLAR: Whooo are youuu?

ALICE: Oh, caterpillar! Mr Caterpillar! It’s me, Alice!

CATERPILLAR: No, no, Alice, I was being metaphysical.

ALICE: I’m not sure what that word means, but yesterday I was 10. And now I’m 11. But I think I’m still Alice. How about you?

CATERPILLAR: I’m a caterpillar, a poet, a midnight cowboy – in some places they even refer to me as “the gangster of love”. I was sitting in a garden bed, sucking my pipe, when a great downpour appeared and so here I am: twenty times bigger. It seems I also brought some friends. One may say that we are here one instant and gone the next.

FLOWER 3: I live in the dirt!

CATERPILLAR: [to the FLOWER] Yes, yes, for now, my friend.

ALICE: [Uneasy] Ha ha. I think it was me, who made you bigger. I was frustrated with Wonderland and I threw my “drink me” juice.
CATERPILLAR: Size does not matter, Alice. Littering, however, is a grave offence.

ALICE: [Sheepish] Oops… maybe I should be a bit more sensible. And nice…

CATERPILLAR: Do you know where you are going?

ALICE: I want to see all my old friends from Wonderland. I mean, this is a good start but I don’t know how to get to everyone else. I don’t seem to be getting much help from people and IT’S VERY FRUSTRATING.

CATERPILLAR: Ah the honey maker catches the most flies, as they say.

ALICE: What?

FLOWER 1: I’m a flowerrrrrrrr.

CATERPILLAR: [to the FLOWERS, either soothingly or like a reprimand] Descansar, flor. Usted tendrá su tiempo bajo el sol.

ALICE: Wait what d-

CATERPILLAR: Help comes to she who is worth helping. As we have had a perfectly nice exchange, I can tell you that the people you are looking for are that way, but what you want in life has been with you all along.

ALICE: Well that’s basically useless to me. But thanks for the directions, Caterpillar.

CATERPILLAR: Oh and beware of the Queen! She who is red of heart and fond of tart never forgets.

FLOWER 1: [horrified at the self-mutilation] YOU HAVE TO STOP.

FLOWER 2: Well I guess I love me not, then.

CATERPILLAR: [at the FLOWERS] Oh no, my dear.

ALICE: Well, uh, goodbye. [FLOWERS wave.]

ALICE rushes off. JACK enters and bumps into the CATERPILLAR.

JACK: Eugh! What are you?!

CATERPILLAR: ‘What’ or ‘whom’?

JACK: Who?

CATERPILLAR: Whom.

JACK: You!

CATERPILLAR: Me?

JACK: YES!

CATERPILLAR: I am a caterpillar. Obviously. Whom are you?

JACK: I’m Jack.

CATERPILLAR: Yes, but whom are you?

FLOWER 2: I’m a flower!

CATERPILLAR: Not you! You.

JACK: I’m Jack!
CATERPILLAR: Where are you going?

JACK: Well I was following my cousin, and I was using my nose because she stinks. [To the FLOWERS] You smell too.

FLOWER 1: That’s just our natural charm!

FLOWER 2: Some day one of us will be an expensive perfume!

FLOWER 3: Or a scientist!

JACK: Huh. Cool.

CATERPILLAR: Your cousin is the curious girl with the quick temper?

JACK: That sounds like her. Boy, she sure won’t be happy to see me!

CATERPILLAR: Go that way and you might even beat her to her destination.

Nods to a direction off stage. JACK exits.

CATERPILLAR: This should be interesting.

FLOWER 3: [to CATERPILLAR] Are you my Dad?

CATERPILLAR: We are all of us children of the revolution.

Scene 4 – The Tea Party (No Political Affiliation)

The tea party. There is a TABLE and a LARGE TEAPOT somewhere. Maybe some CUPCAKES and other goods. CHAIRS, too. There is BANNER that says “UN BIRTHDAY PARTY”. Beside the “UN” there is an outline/suggestion that there was an “F” there but it has been removed. The tea partiers talk quickly and in sing-song. The WHITE RABBIT enters amid the chaos.

Hey directors, wouldn’t it be cool if when A letter is said, some BACKGROUND TEA PARTIERS hold up BOARDS with the LETTERS on them. It will emphasise some of the word jokes and also perhaps make them more accessible to younger, more illiterate children.

MAD HATTER: CHANGE PLACES!

Everyone gets up and switches seats so the WHITE RABBIT can take a seat.

WHITE RABBIT: Sorry I’m late!

MAD HATTER: You’re perfectly on time! MORE TEA?

WHITE RABBIT: I haven’t had any yet so how could I have more?

MAD HATTER: You can always have more! More more!

DORMOUSE: MORE FUN!

The chaos stops.

EVERYONE: No! [They shush the DORMOUSE and try to cover him/her back up.]

WHITE RABBIT: What if the Queen heard? I’d like to keep my head on, thank you very much!
MAD HATTER: [To the RABBIT] Drink up, drink UP, DRINK UP.

MARCH HARE: MORE TEA!

JACK appears. He stumbles right into the middle of the tea party.

JACK: I love tea! My mummy thinks that’s very mature of me.

MAD HATTER: CHANGE PLACES! [Everyone gets up - RABBIT is unable to finish his TEA.] Sit down, sit DOWN, SIT DOWN young man and tell us your name!

JACK: [not listening, grabbing the FOOD] I’m hungry.

MARCH HARE: What a curious name!

JACK: My name is Jack and I’m feeling hungry.

MAD HATTER: They call me the mad hatter, though whoever knows why! [He laughs maniacally.]

MARCH HARE: I’m the March Hare!

JACK: But it’s December!

MARCH HARE: No no, in March I’m the December Hare, but in January I’m the April Hare, you see?

MAD HATTER: You seeee?

JACK: [Beginning to feel uncomfortable] Not really... Are you having a party?

WHITE RABBIT: Can’t you read the sign?

JACK: Nope! I haven’t learnt to read yet. I just came from a Christmas party but this one seems...

DORMOUSE: [Having just escaped from whatever thing it was trapped in before] MORE FUN!

Everyone jumps on the DORMOUSE again, shushing him.

JACK: Not exactly more fun...

MAD HATTER: [Panicked] AAAAAH no. No no no no no.

MAD HATTER extends one hand to cover JACK’s mouth.

DORMOUSE: NO FUN.

MAD HATTER extends another hand to cover the DORMOUSE’s mouth. The DORMOUTH. Both the DORMOUSE and JACK attempt to speak through his hand, creating loud mumbles. ALICE enters.

ALICE: Finally, somewhere familiar! I thought I’d be lost forever.

EVERYONE: Hi Alice!

JACK: [breaking free of the MAD HATTER] Hi Alice!

ALICE: JACK??!! [Annoyed] What are you doing here?

JACK: Having some tea!

ALICE: Did you follow me?!

MAD HATTER: Well, he got here first, so technically you are following him.

ALICE: That’s impossible! He’s too stupid to lead anyone anywhere!
JACK: Don’t be so grumpy Alice. We’re having a party!

ALICE: A party? [Noticing the SIGN] A birthday party! For me! Oh you shouldn’t have... [a pause] invited Jack here to ruin it.

MARCH HARE: Is it your un-birthday too?

ALICE: What?

MAD HATTER: What a coincidence! It’s also our un-birthdays!

JACK: What’s a un-birthday?

MARCH HARE: [like a maestro, continues to conduct erratically] A-one two three...

EVERYONE: It’s a [spelling] U-N-B-I-R-T--

ALICE: No, no, no, NO! [Everybody but JACK stops.]


ALICE: It’s actually my birthday!

Everyone makes that strangled awkward noise, like “eeeugh. ”

MARCH HARE: We can’t celebrate those in Wonderland anymore!

ALICE: Then what’s all this?

MAD HATTER: It’s like we just said. At first it was an F-U-N birthday party, to celebrate the fact that today is in fact not all of our birthdays!

MARCH HARE: And now it is our unbirthday because she outlawed F-U-N.

JACK: Ohhhh! F-U-N means FUN. I got it! I can spell! F-U-N, FUN, FUN FUN. A FUN BIRTHDAY PARTY INSTEAD OF AN UNBIRTHDAY PARTY! YOU JUST TAKE THE EFF OFF AND...!

Everyone is freaking out, tripping over each other to try to shut him up.

MAD HATTER: Sssssssshut up!

ALICE: Finally! I’m always telling him to shut up and nobody listens to me.

HATTER/HARE/RABBIT: Shhhhh!

DORMOUSE: [to AUDIENCE] Shhhhh. Sssssshe might hear us.
WHITE RABBIT: [hushed] Ssssssshh-e still wants to cut off your head!

ALICE: [also whispering] Still? That’s absurd!

MAD HATTER: [doing something crazy, like eating a wrapper or putting mustard on his face] It truly is insa--

Cutting the HATTER off, a bunch of the QUEEN’S CARDS enter in a “hup hup hup” formation. They are all of the HEARTS suit and their numbers correspond with their card numbers.

CARD 2: [makes a fake trumpet noise with an air trumpet]

CARD 6: It has been brought to the attention of her Royal Highness, the Queen that a law is being broken at this party!

CARD 9: Activities of the Frivolously and Unendingly Nice (aka F-U-N) variety are taking place here! The charge for these crimes is life imprisonment!

Everyone gasps.

CARD 2: To handle this offence, we present ... the honourable...

CARD 5: The beautiful...

CARD 2: The punctual... BUTSOMETIMESLATE...!

CARD 5: QUEEN OF HEARTS!

CARD 2: And [This line could be anything, including: baby birds, lungs, second-hand smoke, the underworld, solitaire, optometry, Mario Kart, gossip, etc.]

EVERYONE: THE QUEEN!

DORMOUSE: O-M-G!

The QUEEN enters.

QUEEN: My, my, my! A party? And I wasn’t invited. I’m so hurt! And it looks like such a FUN occasion. You all look like you’ve been having FUN. Which is FUNny, given that it is a FUNdamental rule that there is to be no more FUN in FUND… I mean, WONDERLAND. [To the HATTER] Especially no funny hats. OFF WITH YOUR HAT! [Flicks HAT off him, anti-climatically]

ALICE: [stepping forward] Personally I think it’s actually a very nice hat. I think it’s very FUNctional.

QUEEN: [maybe she suppresses a scream of sheer joy] Ah, Miss Alice, the guest of honour, I presume! Well I’m glad I wasn’t invited. I do so hate to share the attention. It could have been a bit awkward, too. [Perhaps said in that whispered, socially-delicate way, to the AUDIENCE] We have a bit of a history.

ALICE: Well your Queenness, while you’re here I was hoping we could put that behind us. You really were a bit of a snob. Actually, more than a snob, you were just downright rude when none of us really knew any better and you made us feel really, really bad!

QUEEN: How… nice. But perhaps first we can have a little chat and get to the bottom of just how you won that game of croquet if you did not, as you claimed, cheat. Jack, GET HER!

ALICE runs behind her friends who cover her by doing hilarious suspicious poses).

DORMOUSE: [in a voice intending mislead, popping up and pointing] She went that way!

The ROYAL JACK looks around, runs off to find her.
QUEEN: [waiting, looking at her watch, says awkwardly] This is a nice… table.

ROYAL JACK: [coming back on stage] I’m sorry, your queenness. We lost her.

QUEEN: WHAT? She was right there! You idiot, you incompetent moron [she’s getting increasingly agitated and everyone begins to look scared]. How could you DO such a thing! In MY KINGDOM. I’m the Queen! I’m the boss! YOU can’t follow a simple order? [Everyone is recognising this a typical Queen tantrum and they start to brace themselves on each other/props, except ROYAL JACK who is out in the open.] This is UNACCEPTABLE! I WILL NOT STAND FOR IT [She takes a deep breath and everyone flinches] OOFFFF WITH HIS HEEEEEEEAD!

All characters (except Royal Jack) are gripping onto something/someone and make a big deal out of holding on for dear life. ROYAL JACK is blown off the stage, arms flailing and screaming.

QUEEN: [recovering from her temper tantrum] Where did my Jack go?

CARD 2: You, ah… you blew him off, my Queen.

QUEEN: This is a mess! And it’s all Alice’s fault! She made me lose my temper, and now Jack is gone forever! We can add murder to her list of crimes, let it be known!

WHITE RABBIT: But Alice didn’t do anything!

QUEEN: Did you hear that everybody? Treason! Take him away. [CARDS take RABBIT away.] Now where in Wonderland am I going to find a new Jack of Hearts? To steal my tarts? And take them all away? [Calling forlornly] Oh Jack!

JACK: [accidentally volunteering] Hey, that’s me! I’m Jack. And I prefer Turkish Delight.

QUEEN: Wonderful! You are now my Jack.

JACK: I am Jack! [CARDS put the ROYAL JACK COSTUME on JACK.]

QUEEN: I know, I just told you. Now find me Alice and you can have all the Turkish Delight and tarts you want. [To the AUDIENCE, menacingly] Where did the little girl go?

The AUDIENCE will begin to tell the QUEEN where ALICE is. The QUEEN will deal with this. SIX and NINE walk on with TARTS and TURKISH DELIGHT. JACK stares, transfixed. Eventually, he interrupts:

JACK: Oh yeah, she’s over there. Found you, Alice!

QUEEN: AHA!

ALICE: Ugh Jack you are so DUMB.

QUEEN: Quick! One of you grab her.

CARD 6: One? I’m six!

CARD 9: And I’m nine!

QUEEN: For heaven’s sake.

CARD 5: Four! Where?! I thought she was sick today.

QUEEN: [screaming, people are blocking ears in response, etc.] GRAB HER!
CARD 9 grabs ALICE. There is general chaos.

QUEEN: Six, get the remaining letters from the sign!

While this is happening ALICE quickly pulls THREE HEARTS off of CARD 9 and puts them on CARD 6.

CARD 9: [Seeing CARD 6] But I’m nine…?

QUEEN: SIX!

QUEEN massages her head for stress relief. Turns to the audience and rubs her temples. Maybe she can pull faces at the children. CARD 6 and CARD 9 get confused about who is 6 and who is 9. ALICE runs off while the QUEEN looks on.

QUEEN: [furious] Where did Nine go?

CARD 6: No ma’am, that was six.

QUEEN: YOU are six! It says so right there [She has to point to the six rather than the hearts].

CARD 6: [amazed, looking down] So it does! Musta read it upside down.

QUEEN: Idiots! GET HER.

They run off, the Queen following them tempestuously. Phew. The lights stay up, but this is now the scene change.

SCENE 4 - 5 TRANSITION

The TEA PARTIERS are left behind as the general ruckus leaves the stage. They are watching them go.

MAD HATTER: [After an appropriately hilarious moment of silence] More teeeea?

MARCH HARE: Don’t mind if I do!

MAD HATTER: I say, that was a marvellous show, wasn’t it?

MARCH HARE: Much better than yesterday’s when they just stormed in here and ate our biscuits!

DORMOUSE: Biscuits!

MAD HATTER: BUTTERED WALRUS, look at the time! In all the commotion we forgot to CHANGE PLACES!

They change places and end up at the front of the stage/in the audience [so the scene change can take place in the background].

MARCH HARE: Crumpets! Hello there! Is anyone else having an unbirthday too?

Audience interaction! It’s everybody’s unbirthdays! Oh boy oh boy let’s have a singalong! The three crazies sing the song from the scene, or the song from the movie or a wacky mix of both. Picking out kids and pointing at them ‘a very merry unbirthday to YOU, not YOU, to me! To you!’ etc. It’s hilarious and wacky and there’s dancing and it finally ends when the scene change is finished.
Scene 5 - The Nabbin' in the Woods

Lights up on ALICE, leaning on tree stump, out of breath and panicked. She is in the forest.

ALICE: [calling behind her] Rabbit? Hatter? Jack? Oh that little brat. I’ll never get him back now that he’s working for the Queen. If something happens to him I’ll be so… I’ll be in so much trouble! Probably grounded for a month. [Calling out] Is anyone there? Great! I’m alone – again. I’m probably lost – again. And the Queen wants to kill me – again!

CHESHIRE CAT 1: [appearing briefly] You’re never quite alone in Wonderland.

ALICE: Cheshire cat?

CHESHIRE CAT 2: [appearing on the other side] It’s not a matter of my name but a question of who I am.

ALICE: I don’t have time for this anymore you flea-ridden cat!

CHESHIRE 1: Your words don’t hurt me, but they do hurt you.

ALICE: I’m sorry. I know. I’m trying to be a bit nicer when I get frustrated. Can you help me?

CHESHIRE 2: You have to learn to help yourself, Alice.

They disappear.

ALICE: [grumpy] Well thanks. FOR NOTHING. This whole place really tests your patience. If mother and father saw Wonderland I’m sure they’d be a bit mean too.

TWEEDLEDEE and TWEEDLEDUM enter on the other side of the stage. They sidle on stage right up close to each other. They are bickering.

DEE: No, I usually walk on the right!

DUM: You’re wrong, I’m right!

DEE: No, I’m right and you’re left!

ALICE: Wait, that sounds like two people arguing? It couldn’t be – could it? TWEEDLE DEE AND TWEEDLE DUM!

The TWEEDLES stop their bickering and notice ALICE.

DEE: { Hullo Alice!

DUM: { Hullo Alice!

ALICE runs over to hug them.

ALICE: Now remind me, which is which?

DEE: Well he’s Dum.

DUM: I may be Dum but I’m not dumb.

DEE: I’m Dee and he’s Dum.

DUM: [offended] What did you say?

DEE: I may be Dum but I’m not dumb.

DUM: I may be Dum but I’m not dumb.

DEE: I’m Dee and he’s Dum.

DUM: [offended] What did you say?

DEE: Well Alice asked which of us--

They begin to bicker unintelligibly.

ALICE: Enough of that! We should be celebrating our reunion! In fact, you arrived just in time. You see, I need you to help me. I’m tired and
lost and I’m hiding from the Queen, and it’s nearly Christmas and… I sort of want to go home. But first I have to get my cousin back. He’s with the Queen.

DUM: Ooh, the Queen of Hearts!

DEE: The Queen of Farts!

DUM: [nudging DEE] Of course we can help you!

Throughout the next lines their emphatic nodding/agreement turns into emphatic head shaking and disagreement.

DEE: Of course we can help you.

DUM: Of course we can.

DEE: We can't help you.

DUM: We can't.

DEE: No, we can't.

DUM: Can't help.

ALICE: What! Why ever not?

DUM: We’re stuck.

DEE: Stuck.

ALICE: So am I! Stuck in this forest.

DUM: We’re tied.

DEE: Tied together.

ALICE: Then just untie yourselves, really, and stop behaving like little babies.

DUM: We tried!

DEE: But we’re tied.

DUM: { He did it
DEE: { He did it
DUM: { Did not
DEE: { Did not
DUM: { Did too
DEE: { Did too

They begin to bicker unintelligibly. ALICE starts laughing.

DUM: Laughing at us isn’t very nice!

DEE: Indeed

DUM: Indumd!

ALICE: I’m sorry, it’s just that you remind me of me and my cousin, Jack. He’s pretty young and stupid but we argue like that all the time. Actually, I’ve started to realise that maybe everything would be a bit easier if I were just nicer to him. And to everyone, really! [Bucking up] So what’s the problem exactly?

DUM: We can’t untie ourselves.

DEE: Look what happens when we try!
DUM and DEE attempt to untie themselves. It quickly devolves into a series of pained “ouches” and bickering and hitting and moving awkwardly and maybe even ends in them falling over.

ALICE: Let me try. [They scooch over to her. Scooch scooch. ALICE unties their shoelaces. She then reties them.] I did them in double knots so they probably won’t become untied again. I’d also suggest learning how to untie knots or something similar, to avoid this happening again.

DUM: It’s hard to learn new things.

DEE: But we could work together!

ALICE: That’s a great idea. After all, if you don’t learn new things then you’ll always be the same person. And if you’re not a very nice person…

DEE: Ohhhh, I get it.

DUM: No, you don’t, you’re dumb.

DEE: No, we’ve been over this. You’re Dum.

ALICE: Now now, don’t argue! Will you help me get out of here?

DEE: { That way!
DUM: { That way!

They are pointing in the same direction!

ALICE: Well it’s nice that you’re pointing the same way but I’m not sure I trust you…

The Queen’s CARDS (HEARTS and all 7s) and entourage (incl. JACK) slowly start to come on stage creep up on ALICE from different directions. The AUDIENCE will hopefully alert her to this and tell her to run away from them. ALICE finally sees them, and when she turns around, the QUEEN appears in the middle.

QUEEN: [friendly] Oh, Alice! How have you been? It’s been such a long time since we last saw each other. [She starts laughing] That was a joke, I saw you in the last scene. We’re going to catch you now!

A chase happens featuring lots of characters. It’s a classic Scooby Doo-style chase, with people running out of one wing and into the opposite one. There is CHESHIRE CAT goofiness. There is CATERPILLAR goofiness (he is very slow and perhaps just spend the whole chase crawling from one side to the other). Lines can go to any character and may include ‘Seize her!’ and ‘Get them!’ Maybe the MAD HATTER appears every now and then and is wearing a different HAT each time. Don’t forget to the TWEEDLES hup-hup-hupping. And the FLOWERS because they’re the real stars of this show. Eventually ALICE is captured and a few people (including FLOWERS) are lying about from injury or whatever.

QUEEN: Hah! I’ve got you now!

CLUB 7: Oh snap!

CLUB 7 and DIAMOND 7 snap.
QUEEN: It’s amazing, you can be the Queen and winning will STILL make you feel good.

ALICE: If you let me go I’ll leave Wonderland. I’m ready to go home.

JACK: Can I come too Alice? I don’t like being the royal Jack anymore, I’m hungry.

ALICE: Of course you can come. I won’t go back without you. [Quickly adding] But you still smell.

QUEEN: Uh uh uh, nobody is going anywhere! Besides, you’re my Jack now. I need you to maintain my royal flush [she touches her cheeks]. Now, take Alice to the courts! We must give her a chance to be guilty until proven innocent.

ALICE: That isn’t how it works!

QUEEN: Shush now. Anything you say is already being held against you in a court of law.

ALICE protests as she is taken away.

FLOWER 1: Justice is a myth!

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Scene 6 - The Trial, or The Metamorphosis

Scene opens in a courtroom. There is a JUDGE in a BOOTH that is centre stage. The WHITE RABBIT is on trial. There is a JURY composed of Alice’s peers, i.e. characters she has met throughout the course of the play (as many as we can fit on stage!) The Queen’s CARD GUARDS (CUARDS) (HEARTS) are also present.

JUDGE: Ms Rabbit, how do you plead?

RABBIT: Very embarrassingly, Sir. I’d rather not beg because it gives me gas.

JUDGE: Right. I see no reason for this case to continue given that the defendant is clearly insane—[the QUEEN stands up and runs her hand across her throat, intimidating the judge.] Uh,– insanely guilty of treason against the Queen! I sentence you to twelve months of hard labor in the vegetable-eating factory. Greens only.

RABBIT: No! You can’t do this to me! I prefer carrots!

MAD HATTER: [standing up] This is an outrage!

FLOWER 2: He’s a political prisoner!

MARCH HARE: [standing up] He’s my friend!

QUEEN: Off with his hare!

JUDGE: [banging his GAVEL] Take the rabbit away.

Some CUARDS take the RABBIT away, who protests his innocence.

JUDGE: Next, we call Alice to the stand.

The CUARDS move ALICE to the defendant’s BOX.
ALICE: Before we begin I’d just like you and everyone in Wonderland to know that I am not guilty of any crimes. I am innocent!

MAD MATTER: INNOCENT!

MARCH HARE: [spelling] I- N- C- N-
MAD HATTER: [spelling, alternating] N- O- E-

DORMOUSE: TEA! [Appears with TEA, which distracts the HARE and HATTER. There is a hubbub.]

JUDGE: Order! Order! [The room goes silent.] Order! Order! Won’t somebody come and take my order? [Waves around a piece of PAPER.] I’ve been saying it all day!

CARD 9: [Dressed as a waiter] Right here, Sir. [Takes the PAPER away.]

JUDGE: Alice, you are accused of killing the Royal Jack, hand servant to our beloved Queen. Oh, and apparently you cheated at a game of croquet a long time ago? We don’t seem to have all of the facts in front of us.

ALICE: I am innoce--

JUDGE: [interrupting] Wait, wait, what’s that got to do with anything? I’m just talking here.

CARD 6: First witness to the stand: Mr Caterpillar of The Flower Bed in the Forest.

There is a pause as the CATERPILLAR is nowhere to be seen. Suddenly we hear a voice.

CATERPILLAR: Wait! I’m here.

The crowd parts to reveal the CATERPILLAR crawling on the floor. He struggles for a while.

JUDGE: Someone assist him, please. It’s like watching a man trapped inside a sleeping bag struggle on the floor.

The CUARDS move the CATERPILLAR to the witness stand.

JUDGE: The Queen claims that the defendant came to you and expressed her intention to kill the deceased Jack. Is this true?

CATERPILLAR: [exhausted] I have nothing to say. A fool is only a man who speaks. [Puffs on his DRUGS PIPE.]

A MIME, who has been sitting down, stands up.

MIME: YESSSS

MIME, realising that he has just undid all of his life’s work, sits back down in defeat, never to be seen again. Compulsory character.

QUEEN: [Threatening] Speak, Mr Caterpillar, or you die. [Less threatening] I will at the very least say something very mean about you in a public setting.

CATERPILLAR: That is true enough, my Queen. All dead men are fools.

QUEEN: He is making FUN of me! As I have outlawed fun I believe this man is a criminal. Put him on trial!

CARD 2: Ah, but he already is on trial.

The CUARDS talk about whether or not they should get him and seem physically caught, taking one step closer, one step further back, etc.
CATERPILLAR: Well, there’s no time like the present. Although I suppose the past is a lot like the present. [The CATERPILLAR transforms into a beautiful BUTTERFLY, removing his SLEEPING BAG to reveal WINGS.] Goodbye, Alice. Remember that a butterfly in the ointment is worth two in the bush. [He flies away, i.e. flaps his WINGS and moves off stage.]

ALICE: I thought I had a right to a fair trial. This is all just a campaign against me!

MAD HATTER: A sham!

MARCH HARE: A shame!

DORMOUSE: CHAMPAGNE! [Pops up with CHAMPAGNE. They are once more distracted.]

QUEEN: Will you please be quiet back there? There are very important legal proceedings happening here! Oh why do I bother? I’m the Queen, I don’t need to wait for justice! She’s guilty!

JUDGE: Yes, I think in light of all the evidence we’ve heard—

ALICE: What evidence!?!

JUDGE: -- From her Majesty, the Queen, I think it is only right to get this dangerous criminal off the streets and inside our jails.

ALICE: [pointing at the Queen] She’s the criminal!

JUDGE: Alice, I hereby find you – [The JUDGE breaks off as a CLOCK CHIME is heard.] Well, would you look at the time! It’s my birthday.

The JUDGE puts on a BIRTHDAY HAT and a KAZOO STREAMER thing.

ALICE: NO, IT’S MY BIRTHDAY.

JUDGE: Time for my retirement. See you all at the beach.

The JUDGE stands up, revealing that all along he’s been wearing BATHERS or a FLOATIE RING.

CARD 5: In the event that a judge retires during a trial, we must follow clause 15(b), “the Santa clause”. Please welcome, our new judge…!

Enter SANTA, who sits in the judge’s spot.

EVERYONE: SANTA!

SANTA: [As he bangs the GAVEL] Ho, ho, ho! In honour of this Christmas Day, I will now find the defendant, Alice, either naughty or nice.

ALICE: Oh no… When I’ve been so impatient and mean to everyone! Maybe in Wonderland that means the opposite? Hopefully? [She crosses her fingers]

SANTA: Elves, unravel the list of names.

Some ELVES unravel a really long SHEET OF PAPER and inspect it.

ELF 1: Oh boy a sneak peek! Hey that’s my name! Naughty? WHAT?

ELF 2: [interrupting] Here’s Alice, Mr Santa, Sir. The defendant, on all charges, is found to be… NICE.

The crowd gasps audibly.

ALICE: What? Really? Are you sure?
SANTA: Yes, Miss Alice. We have a clear account of numerous good deeds that you have performed in the last twelve hours. One: you watered the luscious gardens of Wonderland and grew the flowers big and strong…

ALICE: Uhhhhh… Yes. Yes, I guess you could say that.

FLOWER 1: We wouldn’t be here without Alice!

FLOWER 2: Or photosynthesis!

FLOWER 3: I’m a flowwerrrrrrrrrr!

One of the FLOWERS needs to be wearing a #1 novelty HAND GLOVE THING.

SANTA: Two: you displayed patience while helping Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum to fix their admittedly basic and immature problem…

The TWEEDLES grin and give her a thumbs up.

SANTA: And you embarked on a heroic quest to save your cousin even though it led to your capture. I’d say that on the whole you have behaved as a much nicer person than you were before. You are free to go.

EVERYONE: [except the QUEEN] HOORAAA—[The QUEEN stands up and glares at EVERYONE, who then even more halfheartedly begin to boo until it trails off.]

QUEEN: I’m the Queen. I can’t be found naughty—I’m royalty! Any weakness I have is just proof of my humanity! Somebody get Santa! Off with his head! Or his beard! TAKE SOMETHING.

CARD 9: [ Unsure] We don’t want to hurt Santa!

SANTA: As a result, this year you will receive NO PRESENTS until you have once more learnt how to be a nice, benevolent ruler again.

The QUEEN basically begins to have a tantrum, which culminates in her on the ground, kicking the floor.

QUEEN: No, not my presents! I love presents. I was hopin’ for a new crown this year. I’ll go into my palace and I won’t come out. This isn’t fair! Santa, you’ve ruined Christmas!

ALICE: Santa, I think the Queen needs a taste of her own medicine.

QUEEN: Wait, what’s that supposed to mean?

ACE OF HEARTS: [Standing up dramatically, still on crutches] Everybody, on the count of three, let’s all yell OFF WITH HER HEAD as loud as we can! Ready? 1…2…3…!
AUDIENCE yells “off with her head”, everyone braces themselves and the QUEEN tries valiantly to hold onto things but is eventually swept off the stage, screeching all the while. Everyone cheers and crowds around ALICE.

ALICE: Oh, thank you Santa! And thank you, everyone, for supporting me.

TWEEDLE DEE: It was the least we could do.

TWEEDLE DUM: [to DEE] No, it was the most! [They bicker.]

ALICE: Santa, do you think that if I left Wonderland with you I would still make it home in time for Christmas?

MARCH HARE: But Alice, we thought you would stay in Wonderland forever!

MAD HATTER: We would hold a fun birthday party just for you!


ALICE: That’s very sweet of you all but I think I’m going to go home. Everyone might be a little bit nicer to me if I’m just a little bit nicer to them. I’m sure I’ll come back though! I’m almost a teenager, after all.

JACK coughs nervously in the background.

JACK: Uh, excuse me, Alice?

ALICE: Oh, Jack! There you are! [She grabs him in a hug.]

JACK: I was wondering if I could come home with you. If you would let me. Because I didn’t know that the Queen wasn’t a nice person until now, because she just went away without giving me any of the tarts or Turkish Delights that she promised! And I think that maybe I haven’t been a nice person either.

ALICE: I’m sorry for being mean as well, Jack. Let’s go. I want to open our presents. We can do it together.

SANTA: Say your goodbyes, everyone. It’s time to leave Wonderland.

End scene. Everyone spirals around ALICE, SANTA and JACK, mirroring the transition at the start.
Scene 7 – I’ll Be Home For Christmas

SANTA, ALICE and JACK enter on the opposite side that they left in the previous scene. Everyone is stage whispering.

JACK: Do you think our parents have noticed that we’re gone?

SANTA: It’s still Christmas Eve out there, Jack. Time works very strangely in Wonderland. [Echoing himself, with weird hand gestures and retreating back offstage as he says it] Verrrrry strangely....

ALICE: Time isn’t the only thing that’s strange about Wonderland.

JACK: Haha! Yeah! You’re right, Alice. Hey Santa, do you want to hear my favourite joke? There’s a chicken and a road and —

SANTA: [handing smaller PRESENT to ALICE] This one is from your mother and me. It’s for your birthday. We figured we couldn’t just get you a book. And then Jack broke your other present, so... here you are.

ALICE: Ohhh, thank you! It’s so big and bright.

ALICE opens the PRESENT. It is something GREAT.

ALICE: We have to share? Really? [It seems like she’s going to be unhappy but she deals with it.] ... Well, I guess that could be fun.

JACK: It says “FROM S-A-N-T-A”, Santa!

UNCLE: Very good, Jack! You’re getting better.

ALICE: Let’s open it together.

They open the PRESENT together, but the audience can’t see what’s inside.

ALICE: Wow! Thanks everyone! And Merry Christmas, Jack!

JACK: Happy birthday, Alice.

FLOWER 1: MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERY ONE!

End.