

Spotlight Publications



**A pantomime by
Brian Luff**

Aladdin & The Pirates

CAST (in order of appearance)

Aladdin, hero & Principal Boy

Widow Twankey, Dame & Aladdin's widowed mother

Wishee Washee, Widow Twankey's assistant

Captain Abanazer, evil pirate & villain

Boney Malone, Abanazer's sidekick

Princess Eugenie, Principal Girl

Emperor of Peking, the Princess's father

Beth, Eugenie's best friend

Inspector Plunk, Chief Inspector, Peking Police

PC Plonk, constable, Peking Police

Monty, Wishee Washee's pet penguin

The Gene Genie, the genie of the lamp

Genie of the Ring

Chorus of Townspeople, Courtiers and Pirates

Place - the royal Palace in Peking, a laundry, a cave, and a dungeon

Time - whenever

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

A C T 1

Prologue - Captain Abanazer's ship

Scene 1 - The market

Scene 2 - The Palace

Scene 3 - Widow Twankey's dry-cleaning shop

Scene 4 - The Palace dungeon

Scene 5 - A cave on Pirate Island

A C T 2

Scene 1 - Aladdin's Palace

Scene 2 - The market

Scene 3 - Pirate Island

Scene 4 - A scary tomb on Pirate Island

Scene 5 - The market

Scene 6 - Aladdin's Palace

Scene 7 - Walk-down & Finale

ACT I

Scene 1

Single spotlight on Captain Abanazer in front of tabs. He is wearing a buccaneer's hat and steering the wheel of a ship. Thunder and lightning

Captain Abanazer *(to audience)* Ha ha ha ha ha! I am Abanazer! Evil pirate Captain Abanazer, scourge of the High Seas and fully card-carrying member of the Amalgamated Federation of Evil Panto Villains. Ha ha ha ha ha! What's that? You're booing already, we haven't even started yet! Silence, you dogs! Show some respect. Some of you might recall that I used to be an evil magician, but evil magicians aren't quite as fashionable these days, so now I am a evil pirate. Well you have to put bums on seats, don't you? There's no use booing me boys and girls, because the more you boo me, the more evil and powerful I become. And one day, dare I say it, I shall rule the world! Ha ha ha ha ha! But of course, to rule the world you need a lot of very clever gadgets, and the one thing I am missing is a magical lamp. When I own that magical lamp, I shall have all the riches, wealth and power I desire. I shall be invincible, unprincipled, and unsinkable! And it's not easy to say that. But where shall I find this magical lamp, I hear you ask? I'll look it up

He produces an iPad and talks to it

OK Google. *(Sfx pling)* Where can I find "a magical lamp"?

Female Siri Voice *(off)* According to Wikipedia, a magical lamp is located in a dark, dank cave in a place called Pirate Island, in the middle of the Caribbean Sea.

Captain Abanazer The Caribbean Sea?

Female Siri Voice *(off)* But to find the lamp, you will need help from a young boy called Aladdin ... for some reason.

Captain Abanazer Aladdin? Aladdin? OK Google, *(sfx pling)* who is Aladdin?

Female Siri Voice *(off)* Aladdin. Title role and principal boy. Aladdin is the only son of a poor laundry owner called Widow Twankey who lives in Peking in China.

Captain Abanazer China?

Female Siri Voice *(off)* Aladdin hopes to make his fortune and marry a princess.

Captain Abanazer Mmm. Well good luck with that. *(To audience)* Right, I shall sail to China and search for this boy Aladdin! Ha ha ha ha ha!

Female Siri Voice *(off)* Would you like to know about Rockhopper Penguins?

Captain Abanazer Begone!

Thunder and lightning. Abanazer exits. Tabs open on the market place in Peking for the opening number with chorus and dancers

Song 1

After the song all exit. Enter Widow Twankey

Widow Twankey Oooh, I do love that song! I must download it and stick it on me smartphone. *(To audience)* Hello, everyone! Hello, boys and girls! I'm Widow Twankey. I'm a poor old widow. I *said* I'm a poor old widow.

Encourages audience to say "Aaaah"

It's sadder than that. I'm a poor old widow.

Encourages audience to say "Aaaah" again

Thank you for your sympathy, boys and girls. And so spontaneous. Do you like my dress? *(Does a twirl)* It's a Vivienne Westwood original. As worn by Kate Moss on the catwalks of Paris. Or was it worn by a cat on the mosswalks of Paris? I can't remember. I'm very forgetful, actually. Sometimes I can't even remember my own name. So whenever you see me can you help jog my memory by shouting "Howdy, Twankey!" Shall we have a little practice, boys and girls? I'll go off and come on again.

Twankey re-enters and practices with the audience a couple of times

Howdy, kids!

Audience Howdy, Twankey!

Widow Twankey Anyway, I can't stand around here chatting all day when there's dry cleaning to be done for the Palace. Where's my lazy assistant Wishee Washee?

Enter Wishee Washee

Wishee Washee I'm here, Mrs Twankey!

Widow Twankey That's "Ms", if you don't mind.

Wishee Washee I'm sorry I'm a bit late for work. I was just playing my new Xbox game.

Widow Twankey Xbox game?

Wishee Washee It's absolutely brilliant. You have to drive around Old Peking stealing people's washing while being chased by gangsters. It's called "Grand Theft Laundry".

Widow Twankey Well you should be helping me to do the Emperor's dry cleaning. And have you remembered to feed your new pet today?

Wishee Washee I can't feed him. He's run off again!! Isn't that sad, boys and girls. (*Encourages audience to say "Aaaah"*) It's sadder than that. (*Encourages audience to say "Aaaah" again*)

Widow Twankey Oh shut up, we're not doing that again.

Wishee Washee (*disappointed*) Oh.

Widow Twankey Run off? Run off? How can you lose a five foot-tall penguin in the middle of Peking?

Wishee Washee I don't know. One minute he was here, and the next he was gone. Have you seen him, boys and girls?

Monty the Penguin appears upstage behind them. He gives a wave to the audience, then disappears again. Audience scream "behind you!"

I've looked everywhere, (*counts on his fingers*) I looked in the bath, I looked in the hearth, I looked in the shrubs, I looked in the pubs, I looked in the shops, I looked in the docks, I looked in the shed, I looked under the bed.

Enter Monty upstage again. He hops around, then disappears. Audience scream "behind you!"

Widow Twankey Oh dear. Are you sure you looked in the bath?

Wishee Washee Yes! I told you! I looked in the bath, I looked in the hearth, I looked in the shrubs, I looked in the pubs, I looked in the shops, I looked in the docks, I looked in the shed. I looked under the bed.

Enter Monty again. He break-dances, then disappears. Audience scream "behind you!"

Widow Twankey Are you sure you definitely (*faster*) looked in the bath, looked in the hearth, looked in the shrubs, looked in the pubs, looked in the shops, looked in the docks, looked in the shed and looked under the bed?

Wishee Washee Yes!

Widow Twankey One for luck ...

Both (*faster and with a little jogging dance*) Looked in the bath, looked in the hearth, looked in the shrubs, looked in the pubs, looked in the shops, looked in the docks, looked in the shed, looked under the bed.

Enter Monty one last time. He runs towards Wishee Washey

Wishee Washee Monty! There you are! Where were you hiding? (*Wishee hugs Monty the Penguin*)

Widow Twankey Did you see Monty, boys and girls? (*Audience scream "yes!"*) Well why didn't you tell us? Now where's that son of mine Aladdin?

Enter Aladdin

Aladdin Here I am, Mother!

He runs around waving at the audience. Then takes a little bow

Hello! Hello, boys and girls!

Widow Twankey (*aside to Aladdin*) Alright, don't milk it. (*To audience*) This is my son Aladdin, everyone. (*To Aladdin*) Have you come to give me a hand with the dry cleaning?

Aladdin I haven't got time, Mother. I'm on the run. I'm being pursued by the Peking Police.

Widow Twankey Pursued by the Peking Police?

Aladdin Pursued by the Peking Police.

Widow Twankey The Paramilitary Peking Police or the Plain-Clothed Peking Police?

Aladdin Neither.

Widow Twankey Oh?

Aladdin The Palace Patrol of the Peking Police.

Widow Twankey You're being pursued by the Palace Patrol of the Peking Police? Why?

Aladdin Well, I was passing by the Palace ...

Widow Twankey Don't tell me ... you climbed the Palace wall, to try and see Princess Eugenie again.

Aladdin I'm sorry, Mother.

Widow Twankey Oh, Aladdin, you've been warned about stalking celebrities before.

Aladdin I know.

Widow Twankey Look at all the trouble we got into when you were found hiding in Taylor Swift's wardrobe.

Aladdin This is different, Mother. This is the real thing. This is love.

Widow Twankey But Aladdin, anyone caught looking at Princess Eugenie gets thrown into the Palace dungeons. And three points on their driving licence.

Aladdin I'll hide in here. Cover for me.

Aladdin jumps into a big laundry basket

Police siren offstage. Enter Inspector Plunk and PC Plunk

Widow Twankey Can I help you gentlemen?

Inspector Plunk You are Widow Twankey?

Widow Twankey Charmed, I'm sure.

Inspector Plunk I am Inspector Plunk.

PC Plunk Plunk.

Inspector Plunk Of the Palace Patrol of the Peking Police.

Widow Twankey Can I see some ID?

Inspector Plunk (*handing it over*) Here.

Widow Twankey (*reads*) Three pairs of knickers, two shirts. ..

Inspector Plunk Sorry, that's my laundry list. (*Snatches document back. Hands over another one*). Here.

Widow Twankey (*reads*) Three pairs of knickers, two shirts ...

Inspector Plunk Sorry, I gave you my laundry list again for some reason. (*Hands over a different document*) Here.

Widow Twankey (*reads*) It says you're Inspector Plunk of the Palace Patrol of the Peking Police.

Inspector Plunk That's what I said.

Widow Twankey And who is this fine looking gentleman?

Inspector Plunk This is PC Plunk.

Widow Twankey So you are Inspector Plunk and PC Plunk.

Inspector Plunk Yes.

Widow Twankey Plunk and Plunk.

Inspector Plunk Yes.

Widow Twankey What are the chances? May I introduce my assistant Wishee Washee ... and his bafflingly oversized pet penguin Monty.

Inspector Plunk Well forgive me for saying this, but that is irrelevant.

Widow Twankey No, it's not an elephant. It's a penguin.

Wishee Washee I can't believe you did that old joke.

Widow Twankey Cut me some slack, I'm still warming up.

PC Plunk We are looking for a boy named Aladdin. He was spotted gazing upon the face of the Princess Eugenie.

Inspector Plunk Without due care and attention.

Widow Twankey Well, I'm sorry but I haven't seen Aladdin for ages.

There's a loud sneeze from inside the basket

PC Plunk Bless you.

Beat

Wait a minute. Did that washing basket just sneeze?

Wishee Washee It ... It ... was the penguin. He's got a bit of a cold today. Haven't you, Monty?

The Penguin sneezes

Inspector Plunk Mmm. There's something fishy around here.

Widow Twankey You're absolutely right, Inspector Plunk. There is something fishy.

Inspector Plunk And what, may I ask, is it?

Widow Twankey produces a huge fish from under her skirt

Widow Twankey Here, Monty, catch.

She chucks the fish to the penguin who catches it and runs off

Widow Twankey (*aside to audience*) He dropped it last night.

Inspector Plunk I shall choose to ignore that slightly surreal moment. Widow Twankey, if Aladdin should put in an appearance at this address, you must inform me immediately.

PC Plunk Immediately.

Inspector Plunk Without delay, on pain of death.

PC Plunk Death.

Widow Twankey You have my word, Inspector Plunk.

Inspector Plunk Now, we must go back on patrol at the Palace and help make Peking a safer place for good, honest, decent people.

Widow Twankey (*saluting*) Be careful out there.

Inspector Plunk and PC Plunk exit

Sfx police siren

Wishee Washee Phew! They're gone.

Widow Twankey Quick, get Aladdin out of the basket.

Wishee Washee rummages around in the basket and pulls out a few bits of dirty washing

Wishee Washee He's gone!

Widow Twankey What?

Wishee Washee Oh no, wait, here's here.

Aladdin gets out of the basket, holding his nose

Aladdin Phewww.

Widow Twankey Well it looks like that's another fine mess you've got your poor old widowed mother into. Why can't you be more like our neighbour's son Jack? He found some magic beans, climbed a beanstalk and killed a giant.

Aladdin Yes mother, but nobody likes a smarty pants. Whatever you say, nothing can stop me from trying to see Princess Eugenie. I'm going to marry her one day.

Widow Twankey Marry? Are you sure? You could choose to snog or avoid.

Wishee Washee Aladdin, members of the Royal Family do not marry the sons of poor shop owners.

Widow Twankey At least not unless they've been on Big Brother and made a few quid.

Aladdin I'll prove you wrong, Mother. I'll prove you wrong.

Twankey and Wishee Washee exit. Aladdin sings a love song to the Princess

Song 2

At the end of the song Princess Eugenie's young friend Beth runs on

Aladdin Hello, Beth.

Beth Aladdin! Aladdin! I have an important message for you.

Aladdin Simon Cowell liked my song?

Beth No. It's from the Palace.

Aladdin The Palace?

Beth From Princess Eugenie.

Aladdin Wow! A message from the Princess.

Beth Hurry up and read it, Aladdin. I think I was followed here by PC Plonk of the Palace Patrol of the Peking Police.

Aladdin (*reads the message*) "Dear Aladdin, there's a party at the Palace tonight, but you must stay away or you'll be arrested. Love, Princess Eugenie." (*To Beth*) Tell the Princess I'll be there, Beth. I simply have to see her.

Beth But Aladdin! Plunk and Plonk will be at the party at the Palace.

Aladdin Don't worry, Beth. I'll go to the party at the Palace in disguise.

Aladdin and Beth exit. Curtain. Enter Captain Abanazer front of tabs. Audience boo

Captain Abanazer Ha ha ha ha ha! Ah shut up! If you boo me you just make me nastier. So this is Old Peking. What a dump. It's all full of Starbucks and charity shops full of smelly old shoes. But my evil plans are now under way. Here, I'll show you. Boney, bring me my "Big Book of Evil Plans".

Enter Boney Malone, a scruffy-looking man in a pirate hat. He is carrying a huge book

Boney Malone Here it is, Captain Abanazer. "The Big Book of Evil Plans".

Captain Abanazer Thank you, Boney. This is Boney Malone, by the way. He's the roughest, toughest pirate in the China Seas. He also got to the semi-finals of The Great Chinese Bake-Off.

Boney Malone I make a lovely cream sponge.

Captain Abanazer Open the book, Boney. Aladdin's not far from here, so I must find a way to flush him out. (*Reads*) "I shall get an invitation to the party at the Palace, and somehow wheedle my way into the affections of the Royal Family."

Boney Malone How will you do that, Captain?

Captain Abanazer Minor plot detail, Boney, minor plot detail. (*Reads*) "Then I shall ask for the hand of the Emperor's beautiful daughter Princess Eugenie."

Boney Malone But why should the Princess marry an evil old pirate like you, Captain?

Captain Abanazer Because, my friend, I am, dare I say it, going to rule the world! Ha ha ha ha ha!

Captain Abanazer exits

Blackout