

# Spotlight Publications

# Aladdin

By Dave Buchanan



# Aladdin

CAST (in order of appearance)

**Abanazar**, a magician

**Nitty Poo**, his assistant

**Aladdin**, Widow Twankey's son

**Wishy Washy**

**Widow Twankey**, a washerwoman

**Grand Vizier**

**Princess Ting-Ling**

**So-Long**, the Princess's maid

**Empress of China**

**Pride**, a sprite

**Malice**, a sprite

**Jeanie Of The Lamp**

**Chorus of Townspeople, Courtiers and Sprites**

Place - Shang-Lo, China

Time - whenever

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

1. Dragon Dance (Dancers)
2. "River of Dreams" (Billy Joel) (Aladdin)
3. "I Feel Pretty" (Leonard Bernstein) (Princess)
4. Processional Dance (Chorus)
5. Oriental Dance (Dancers)
6. "Thriller" (Michael Jackson) (Skeleton dancers)
7. "Money" (Jules Styne) (Abanazar)
8. "Hall of the Mountain King" (Peer Gynt) (Sprites)

ACT 2

9. "How Long Will I Love You?" (Ellie Goulding) (Princess)
10. "Red Red Wine" (UB40) (Widow & Wishy)
11. Oriental Dance (Dancers)
12. Belly Dance (Princess)
13. "(I Can Be A) Hero" (Enrique Iglesias) (Aladdin & Princess)
14. Community Song (Widow & Wishy)
15. "Celebration" (Kool & the Gang) (Chorus)

## ACT I

## Scene 1

*The Street of the Seven Drips in Shang-Lo, China. A number of shop fronts are visible, including L, one bearing the legend: "W. Twankey, laundromat by appointment"*

*A Chinese dragon appears offstage, proceeds onstage and dances, watched by a crowd of townspeople*

## Song 1

*After number, exit dancers and Chorus*

*Then enter UR, Abanazar the magician and his apprentice Nitty Poo, who is carrying an enormous box on his shoulders. The box is brightly decorated with oriental and magic symbols*

**Abanazar** (*motioning DL*) Put it down there. Come on, what do you think I'm paying you for?

**Nitty** (*putting down box*) But, Boss, you haven't paid me for three weeks.

**Abanazar** Never mind that. Anyway, today will see a change in our fortunes, Poo. Today is our Day of Days.

**Nitty** Have you won the Lottery, Boss?

**Abanazar** No.

**Nitty** The (*local club*) Xmas Raffle?

**Abanazar** You'll find out later. Meanwhile, let's earn our bread and butter.

**Nitty** I don't like bread and butter -

**Abanazar** It's a manner of speaking, you dim-witted dolt!

**Nitty** Sorry, Boss. But I still don't like bread and butter.

**Abanazar** As I was saying, Poo, this is it. This is the place.

**Nitty** Yes, Boss. The Street of the Six Drops.

**Abanazar** The Seven Drips, you dipstick! Can't you read? Don't answer that. Today we are going to make a killing.

**Nitty** Well count me out. I'm not killing nobody.

**Abanazar** You mean you're not killing *anybody*.

**Nitty** That's just what I said, Boss.

**Abanazar** Never mind - and don't call me Boss!

**Nitty** Yes, Boss. I mean, no, Boss.

**Abanazar** Call me Master, you twit!

**Nitty** All right, Master, you twit!

**Abanazar** (*grabbing Nitty by the ear*) Come over here. Now listen, you clown. Have you got the system off pat?

**Nitty** No, I got it off you, Boss -er Master!

**Abanazar** One more time, let me hear it.

**Nitty** Aw, Boss, do I have to? I know it backwards.

**Abanazar** I don't want you to do it backwards! Come on, spit it out!

*Nitty spits out*

What was that?

**Nitty** My bubblegum, Boss!

**Abanazar** (*grabbing him by the collar*) Repeat the system!

**Nitty** All right, Boss. One's a watch, two's a purse, four's a comb, eight's a coin, and ten's a hanky.

**Abanazar** Good. Now don't forget it. If you do, I'll have your garts for gutters. I mean, grunts for girdles. Never mind! Let's get this show on the road! Go and get the tumblers!

**Nitty** Yes, Boss.

*He fetches glass tumblers from the box*

**Abanazar** Not these, you numskull! The girls! (*He kicks Nitty off R*) Now then, let's see what my little box of tricks can do. (*He fiddles with his phone*)

*There is the noise of a siren*

*A crowd comes running*

**Abanazar** Ha ha! Never fails.

*He addresses the crowd*

Revered citizens -  
*(aside)* - peasants -  
 of this noble city -  
*(aside)* - this dump -  
 I have come here in all humility -  
*(aside)* - that's a laugh -  
 to entertain you for a modest fee.  
*(aside)* - to fleece you.  
 My assistants will pass amongst you. The cost: a mere fifty.

*Two assistants take around money boxes*

And now - the entertainment!

*He claps his hands. A banner is brought on, which reads: "Abanazar & Co, Entertainment Unlimited"*

*The tumblers entertain, and are applauded*

Now to demonstrate the ancient art of telepathy - the transferring of thoughts from mind to mind. Using a spectator chosen completely at random. You, sir. (*He points to Nitty*) Come over here. (*Nitty does so*) Now, sir, we have never met before, have we?

**Nitty** No, Master.

*Laughter*

**Abanazar** *(aside)* Imbecile! Of course, I am known to everyone locally as The Master. Now he will be blindfolded. (*This is done*) My assistant will collect various items - again, completely at random.

*The assistant collects items, including a comb, a watch and a hanky. Abanazar holds up a watch*

**Abanazar** Now concentrate. Are you concentrating?

**Nitty** Yes, Master.

**Abanazar** What's this one?

**Nitty** Eh?

**Abanazar** *Once* again. What's this *one*?

**Nitty** A watch!

**Abanazar** Correct!

*Applause*

**Abanazar** (*holding up a comb*) Now think. What's this item for?

**Nitty** Eh?

**Abanazar** What's it *for*?

**Nitty** Combing your hair?

**Abanazar** Correct!

*Applause*

**Abanazar** (*holding up a hanky*) Think again. We use this item *of-ten*. We *tend* to use it when we're *tense*.

**Nitty** It's an aspirin!

**Abanazar** No! Ten you idiot! Ten!

**Nitty** A hanky!

**Abanazar** Correct!

*More applause as Aladdin enters L*

**Aladdin** Excuse me.

**Abanazar** Yes, young man?

**Aladdin** Can he mindread anything?

**Abanazar** Within reason.

**Aladdin** How about this? *(He holds up a candle)*

**Abanazar** Well -er no, not really.

**Aladdin** Why not?

**Abanazar** Well, some things don't telepathise.

**Aladdin** I don't think he can do it.

**Abanazar** Yes he can! We'll show you. *(To Nitty)* Now, sir, are you concentrating?

**Nitty** Yes, Master.

**Abanazar** *Can* you think of this object?

**Nitty** No.

**Abanazar** Yes you *can*!

**Nitty** I know. It's a canary!

**Abanazar** No, come on. You *can* deliver the goods.

**Nitty** I've got it I've got it I've got it!

**Abanazar** Allah be praised!

**Nitty** It's a beer can!

**Abanazar** No!

**Nitty** It's a can of baked beans!

**Abanazar** No!

**Nitty** I can't do it, Boss!

**Abanazar** Oh yes you can!

**Crowd** Oh no he can't!

**Aladdin** It's a fraud! He's no more a mind-reader than I am, folks!

**Bystander** We want our money back!

**Crowd** Yes!

**Abanazar** I've just remembered we have an engagement on the far side of town.

**Crowd** Crook! Swindler! Get the police!

*Abanazar and Nitty exit L in haste, pursued by the crowd*

*Enter R Wishy Washy*

**Wishy** Hello, folks! I'm Wishy Washy. Have you met Widow Twankey yet? No? Well, you soon will. I met her on the Pleasure Beach at Blackpool. She was standing in for the Freak Show - all of them! The Fat Lady and the Incredible Hulk - she could do both of them at the same time! Last summer she got a job towing caravans, but she had to give it up - she kept losing her teeth! She's a laundress now, but she still makes a bit on the side - hiring out her knickers to a hang-gliding club! Here she comes now

*Enter Widow Twankey, R*

**Widow** Hello, Wishy. *(To audience)* Hello, everybody. Has he been saying rude things about me?

*Wishy shakes his head and mimes "No" to the audience*

Has he?

**Audience** Yes!

**Wishy** Oh no he hasn't!

**Audience** Oh yes he has! *Etc.*

**Widow** Never mind. I'll forget about it this time. Because I'm so excited.

*Wishy remains impassive*

Don't you want to know why I'm excited, Wishy?

**Wishy** I expect you'll tell me anyway.

**Widow** Yes! I'm excited cos the Princess Ting-Ling is coming here.

**Wishy** Ting-Ling?

**Widow** Ting-Ling.

**Wishy** That rings a bell!

**Widow** She's due here any minute. Oh I'm all of a tiswas!

*Enter R the Grand Vizier*

*The Chorus drifts back on*

**Grand Vizier** Down! Down on your knees, you riff-raff!

**Wishy** Oy-oy, who have we got here?

**Grand Vizier** The Grand Vizier.

**Wishy** Hello, Grand Vizier! I'm Wishy Washy.

**Grand Vizier** On your knees, microbe!

**Wishy** Are we going to do exercises?

**Grand Vizier** Grovel in the gravel!

**Widow** I'm not grovelling or gravelling for anyone!

**Grand Vizier** You, woman!

**Widow** Who, me?

**Grand Vizier** Yes. Prostrate yourself this minute!

**Widow** Certainly not. I'm a respectable girl. And decent. My deputation's pure and unstained.

**Grand Vizier** Show deference, insect!

**Widow** Difference? What's the difference?

**Grand Vizier** The Princess Ting-Ling, her Serene and Radiant Highness, deigns you with her presence. Bow in the presence of majesty. Bow! Bow!

**Wishy** Bow-wow! Woof woof!

*There is a fanfare offstage*

*Princess Ting-Ling enters R, with her maid, So-Long*

*All bow down, and stay down*

**So-Long** How rong you think they stay rike that, Princess?

**Princess** I haven't the foggiest, So-Long. Maybe for hours! (*Pointing to WT's laundry*) What a quaint old house!

**So-Long** And quaint ord woman outside. Why we here, Princess?

**Princess** My mother said I had to press flesh.

**So-Long** Why you press fresh?

**Princess** You know, shake hands. Meet people.

**Widow** Oh! Oh!

**So-Long** Ord woman in pain.

**Princess** Please get up.

**Grand Vizier** Get up, you dogs!

**Widow** Who's he calling a dog?

**Princess** Are you in pain?

**Widow** It's my aromatics, dear.

**Grand Vizier** Call her Your Imperial Highness, you old bat!

**Wishy** Here, moosh, you've no right to call the old bat an old bat!

**Widow** Of course, it could be the prangles.

**Princess** Prangles?

**Widow** Yes, I've got perforated prangles. It's very rare.

**Princess** I can imagine.

**So-Long** No sound nice at all.

**Widow** Yes, I've got aches all over.

**Princess** You poor thing!

**Widow** Every day it's the same. Take this week. On Monday I got a toothache, on Tuesday I got a headache, on Wednesday I got a stomachache, on Thursday I got a backache, Friday I got a fruit cake -

**Princess** Fruit cake?

**Widow** Yes, from my niece in Peking!  
**Princess** That must have cheered you up no end.  
**Widow** You're right, dear. Would you like a bit?  
**Princess** Perhaps some other time.  
**Widow** Of course, I work for your mother.  
**Princess** In what capacity?  
**Wishy** She doesn't work in a capacity. She works in a laundry!  
**Widow** I work by appointment.  
**So-Long** She royal raundress! Rook! On sign! (*Pointing*) Rook!  
**Wishy** What rook?  
**Widow** That's right. I wash your mum's undies. On Sundays.  
**Wishy** Sunday's undies day!  
**Grand Vizier** Woman, desist! Your Highness, it is nigh on noon.  
**So-Long** He right. Time go to Parace.  
**Wishy** You're going to Paris?  
**Princess** No, no. Palace. Time for din-dins. Well goodbye Mrs -  
**Widow** Twankey. Winifred Twankey Esq. M.O.T.  
**Princess** Goodbye, Mrs Twankey. Nice meeting you.  
**Widow** Likewise, I'm sure. Hasta la vista banana.  
**Wishy** So long!  
**So-Long** Yes?  
**Wishy** Pardon?  
**So-Long** You call my name?  
**Wishy** No. I said, so long.  
**So-Long** That my name. So-Long.  
**Wishy** Oh well, so long, So-Long!  
**Grand Vizier** Bow down!  
**Widow** Not again!

*Princess exits R, followed by So-Long and Grand Vizier*

*Then enter L Aladdin*

**Aladdin** Was that the Princess I saw you with, mother?  
**Widow** As a matter of fact, yes.  
**Aladdin** What were you talking about?  
**Widow** Oh the world situation. She said the peasants in the south were revolting, and I said I quite agree!  
**Aladdin** I think she's smashing.  
**Wishy** She's not for you, Aladdin.  
**Aladdin** I'm going to marry her someday.  
**Wishy** You what?  
**Aladdin** I'm going to marry her. You mark my words.  
**Widow** Aladdin, how can you marry her?  
**Aladdin** Why not?  
**Wishy** Simple. She's rich. You're poor.  
**Widow** She's a princess. You're a peasant.  
**Aladdin** Thank you both for these kind words.  
**Widow** You're a day-dreamer, Aladdin. Come on, Wishy.  
**Wishy** Coming, flower.

*Widow and Wishy exit L*

## **Aladdin**

Aladdin is tricked by wheeler-dealer/magician Abanazar into retrieving the magic lamp from a cave in the hills. The lamp enables him to pay court to Princess Ting-Ling, but Abanazar gets it back and usurps the throne of China. However a combination of luck and youthful ingenuity restores the *status quo* and all ends happily.

The plot fairly cracks along with a mixture of comic set pieces and spectacular FX.

Running time: approx. 2 hours.

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