ALADDIN

A magical Pantomime by Daniel O'Brien

Music and Lyrics by Peter White

> © Daniel O'Brien October 2006 72 High Street Ashwell Baldock Herts SG7 5NS

CAST OF CHARACTERS

PRINCIPAL MEN

ALADDIN A Young Man

ABANAZAR His Wicked Uncle, a Sorcerer

* DJINN The Genie of the Lamp

DOUBLE CHINN The Emperor

* HANKY PANKY The Chief of Police WIDOW TWANKEY Aladdin's Mother

¥ PRINCE BAI LIU NING A Prince from a Neighbouring Country

PRINCIPAL WOMEN

WISHEE WASHEE Works in Widow Twankey's Laundry

PRINCESS JASMINE The Emperor's Daughter

¥ DJINNIE The Slave of the Ring

OTHERS [all played by Chorus of Singers, Dancers and Acrobats]

¥ LUNG The Fire Dragon and Djinn's familiar

CHINESE CITIZENS.

SOLDIERS

The casting is 6 men, 3 women and Chorus. Where parts are marked with either * or ¥, this denotes doubling

The play is set in Peking, the Himalayas and the far away desert.

The time is any time you imagine it to be.

ACT ONE

Scene 1 A Street Market in Peking

The sun rises over the mountains of the Himalayas.

WELCOME TO PEKING

Full Company

Welcome to Peking,
Where the dragons and lions parade in the street,
Welcome to Peking,
Where the sun burns down with it's white hot heat.
Welcome to Peking
The home of the Ming, the Tang and the Ching
Welcome to Peking-where fire is king!

A land of great mountains, the tallest on earth A land where Confucius was given his birth On the roof of the world my homeland lies Where great Mount Everest touches the skies Welcome all, welcome to Peking; welcome to Peking!

[Instrumental section - The street begins to fill with spectacular performers who walk on stilts and do other impressive circus based things! A rope snake appears out of a basket followed by an artist who climbs the rope and does a brief acrobatic routine tot the pleasure and approval of all.

A land of great mountains, the tallest on earth A land where Confucius was given his birth On the roof of the world my homeland lies Where great Mount Everest touches the skies Welcome all, welcome to Peking; welcome to Peking!

The number finishes in tableau and, as if by magic which indeed it is, everyone disappears.

As soon as the stage is empty WISHEE appears. She is running at great speed and shouting at the top of her voice

WISHEE Aladdin! Aladdin!

There is no answer. She moves to another part of the tent and shouts again.

Aladdin! Aladdin!

Still no answer

Oh where is he? I'll never find him at this rate.

She suddenly spots the audience.

Oh hallo. I didn't see you there. Hallo! Or as we say in China, 'Ni Hao, Ni Hoa, Ni Hoa'! Shall we try saying hallo to each other in Chinese? My name's Wishee Washee by the way, but you can call me Wishee. So if you want to say hallo to me you just shout out 'Ni hao Wishee'. Shall we give it a go? [Yes] OK! Ni hao kids. [Ni hao Wishee] Well that wasn't very good was it? Let's try it again. Ni hao kids. [Ni hao Wishee] It's getting better, but it's still not quite loud enough. Last time. Ni hao kids. [Ni hao Wishee] Now that's more like it. Will you shout that out every time I see you? Will you? [Yes] Great. Now where was I? Oh yes I remember. I'm looking for Aladdin.

She runs to a different tent exit and shouts once more

Aladdin! Aladdin! Have you seen him? [No] Do you know what he looks like? [No] Ah well. He's a bit phwoarrr!! You know what I mean? About this high and kind of cute! Oh and he has a long pigtail that swings in the breeze and makes him look like a cross between Orlando Bloom and Jackie Chan. Yes well never mind that now! His Mum's looking for him and she's a bit cross because he hasn't done his morning chores yet. Perhaps you could help me find

him. If we all shouted together maybe he'd hear. Will you help me? [Yes] Great, just shout Aladdin! Aladdin! after I count three. One, two, three...Aladdin! Aladdin!

There is the sound of swords slicing through the air and ALADDIN appears as if by magic. WISHEE meets him and if they can contrive to do something rather spectacularly gymnastic at the same time, so much the better.

ALADDIN Ni hao Wishee!

WISHEE Ni hao Aladdin!

ALADDIN Ni hoa Kids!

WISHEE encourages the audience to respond with a Ni Hao Aladdin!

What you doing Wishee?

WISHEE Looking for you. Your Ma wants you to finish your chores.

ALADDIN I haven't got time to waste on that. I'm trying to find a way to see

Princess Jasmine, the most beautiful Princess in the whole of China.

Wishee!

WISHEE Oh Aladdin you're such a dreamer! She's the Emperor's daughter and you're so low-born you'll never be good enough to even be allowed to see her!

ALADDIN There's no law against trying though is there?

WISHEE You know there is. Anyway you should stick to someone of your own class.

ALADDIN And who might that be?

WISHEE Oh forget it!

ALADDIN Could it be.....

WISHEE Leave it!

ALADDIN Could it be.....

WISHEE I said leave it!

ALADDIN It couldn't possibly be you Wishee, now could it?

WISHEE I don't see why not.

ALADDIN 'Cos you'd forget me as soon as I was out of your sight.

WISHEE I wouldn't.

ALADDIN Bet you I can prove it

WISHEE Bet you can't

ALADDIN OK then. Will you remember me in a month?

WISHEE Course

ALADDIN Will you remember me in a week?

WISHEE Course

ALADDIN Will you remember me in a day?

WISHEE Course

ALADDIN Will you remember me in an hour?

WISHEE Course

ALADDIN Will you remember me in a minute?

WISHEE Course

ALADDIN Will you remember me in a second?

WISHEE Course

ALADDIN Knock, Knock

WISHEE Who's there?

ALADDIN See you've forgotten me already!

A trumpet sounds

The Royal trumpet!

He makes to leave

WISHEE Oh Aladdin! Whatever you do, don't look at her face.

ALADDIN Why not?

WISHEE It is written. If a commoner should look on the face of a Princess, he

must lose his head.

She makes a head chopping off gesture and the appropriate sound to go with it.

ALADDIN Not...

He makes the same head chopping off gesture and the appropriate sound to go with it.

WISHEE Yes.

ALADDIN [laughing] Yeah whatever.

And off he runs

WISHEE But Aladdin your Ma.....

But he has gone.

Oh now what am I going to do. He's so going to get into trouble. I don't know why I bother with him. Aladdin! Aladdin!

She exits the way ALADDIN has departed. At which point ABANAZAR enters through another entrance. The lights turn green and there is ominous music. The audience should boo him.

ABANAZAR A delightful welcome I must say. I have only just arrived and you all boo me. For all you know I might be very nice. I might be very kind. I might be very generous. I'm certainly very handsome. Oh yes I am! [Oh no you're not] Oh yes I am! [Oh no you're not] Oh yes I am! [Oh no you're not] Oh that's very clever shouting back, very clever indeed. I've got more brains than all of you put together...I keep them in jars! Ha, ha ha! The name's Abanazar. I am the greatest magician in the civilised world and I have travelled far. I seek a

certain boy named Aladdin, whom it has been prophesied, must come with me to the far mountains of the Himalayas to gather some great treasure. With his help I will become the most powerful sorcerer in the universe.

He spots WISHEE who appears on the roof of the set [having harnessed herself up!]

You, girl! Are you a native of this city?

WISHEE turns to look at him.

WISHEE Who are you calling Girl?

ABANAZAR You are a girl are you not?

WISHEE Yes more's the pity.

ABANAZAR Then I must call you Girl as we have not been introduced.

WISHEE The name's Wishee Washee, under-laundress at Twankey's laundry, otherwise known as Suds-u-Like.

ABANAZAR Well prithee, Wishee Washee of Twankee's Landree, maybe yee can bee of help too mee. I seek a certain boy named Aladdin. He is my long lost nephew and I must find him.

WISHEE Aladdin? Why do you want him?

ABANAZAR So many questions! My name is Abanazar...

WISHEE Have a banana?

ABANAZAR Abanazar! Aladdin is the son of my poor dead brother. I am here to

make him the richest man in the civilised world.

WISHEE Oh yeah pull the other one!

She starts laughing

ABANAZAR No no, don't laugh.

WISHEE Aladdin the richest man in the world? Do us a favour!

She continues laughing

ABANAZAR Silence!

With a bit of magic he freezes her in mid laugh

Watch my lips. Look in to my eyes, not around the eyes, into the eyes.' I am Abanazar the greatest magician in the civilised world. The boy Aladdin lives with my brother's wife and it is him I seek. I wish to make him and his mother rich beyond all expectations.

He unfreezes her

WISHEE Go on then prove it.

ABANAZAR Prove what?

WISHEE That you're a great magician. We so don't believe you do we boys

and girls? [No] If you're such a great magician make me fly like

bird.

ABANZAR Do not trifle with me Girl!

WISHEE Hah! Told you you couldn't

ABANAZAR Very well. So be it. Are you ready?

WISHEE Yeah whatever!

ABANAZAR Prepare.

WISHEE [Less sure] Yeah whatever!

ABANAZAR Water be I

Fire be I

Take this girl and

Make her fly!

There is lots of smoke and the sound of swords cutting through the

air. WISHEE flies across the tent landing on floor next to

ABANAZAR.

WISHEE Wow! That was wicked! Do it again.

ABANAZAR No more. Tell me where Aladdin is?

WISHEE Go on! Just one more time!

ABANAZAR Do not make me cross, but tell.

WISHEE Cross boss?

ABANAZER Do not raise my ire.

WISHEE Ire squire?

ABANAZER Do not fill me with wrath.

WISHEE Fill you with broth?

ABANAZAR Tell me where Aladdin is or I will split you from gizzard to ghosties.

WISHEE Don't you mean ghoulies?

ABANAZAR I know what I mean. Tell me where Aladdin is!

WISHEE Oh he's gone Princess-chasing. I expect he'll be at the laundry later.

Twankey's laundry. It's right in the heart of Ali Bert Square. You

can't miss it.

ABANAZAR Then farewell.

And with that he disappears.

WISHEE What a strange man! Hey but I can fly. I must find Aladdin and tell

him. See you later kids and remember what do you shout when I

shout - Ni Hao Kids? [Ni Hao Wishee] Great see you later!

And off she goes.