

# ALADDIN

A PANTOMIME

BY THOMAS MORLEY



## **CAST LIST**

Aladdin – Son of a butcher, fancies himself but a little bit useless with the ladies

Pete the Meat – Butcher's apprentice, unlucky in love

Princess Edith – Daughter of King Latifah's and subject of Aladdin's affections

Widow Twerkin – Typical pantomime dame

Abanazer – On a quest for world domination

Inspector Dick – A health and safety inspector

King Latifah – An overly dramatic royal presence

The Fresh Prince – Our narrator for this tale

Random Chorus Member – A supporting role

## **Act One**

**Prologue: The Cave of Secrets** (front of tabs)

**Scene 1: Widow Twerkin's Vegan Butchers** (full set)

**Scene 2: Twerkin's house** (front of tabs)

**Scene 3: The Marketplace** (full set)

**Scene 4: Outside the Cave of Secrets** (front of tabs)

**Scene 5: Inside the Cave of Secrets** (full set)

## **Act Two**

**Scene 1: Twerkin's house** (full set)

**Scene 2: Somewhere on the road back to town** (front of tabs)

**Scene 3: The Palace** (full set)

**Scene 4: Somewhere else in the palace** (front of tabs)

**Scene 5: The Dungeons** (full set)

**Scene 6: The Songsheet** (front of tabs)

**Scene 7: Finale** (full set)

## **Prologue**

### **The Cave of Secrets**

*The Fresh Prince enters.*

**THE FRESH PRINCE:** Now, this is a story all about how

A boy called Aladdin went and found

A lamp in a cave and he's been happy ever since

So sit back and listen to me, the Fresh Prince.

In a magical kingdom in a different time

Is where you join us now for our pantomime

Aladdin works in the butchers with his ma

When he's visited by a dude called Abanazer

Now Abanazer's a guy who is up to no good

And he starts making trouble in the neighbourhood

He wants to make everyone else's lives grim

So listen up and I'll tell you how we can stop him

Now Abanazer's been plotting day after day

He wants to rule the world and he's gonna find a way

He visited a bad witch, she said "Wait a minute,

If you're trying to sell something, you might as well stick it!"

He said "Alas, I just wanna be bad,

Can you help me overthrow the upper class?"

She said "A hostile takeover is what you'd like,

Hmmm.. you might be alright."

She told him about a lamp in a cave of dreams

It's made of gold but it's not all that it seems

And getting your hands on it won't be easy  
But when you do, you'll have yourself a genie.

Abanazer rubbed his hands, this could be his shot  
He asked her to point him to the cave where the lamp was  
The witch was happy to give him directions  
But warned him that there was magic for protection  
He couldn't enter, the spells wouldn't let him  
Abanazer was worried, this had really upset him  
He found out there was only one person allowed in  
A teenage boy by the name of Aladdin

Aladdin's a guy you'll meet soon, if you just wait  
And now I have to go, my homies, smell you later  
It's time for us to get on with the show  
And that's it from me, the Fresh Prince of Panto.

*Exits. Abanazer enters.*

**ABANAZER:** Mwahahaha! It is I, the evil Abanazer. For years I have wanted to overthrow the ruler of these lands, King Latifah, and take the throne for myself. Imagine what it must feel like to be in charge! I can make all sorts of laws. Bakeries will give away free cakes on a Friday. Game of Thrones spoilers will be illegal. Car parking in *[local town]* will be free. All this and more, and now it's within my grasp. I went to visit a horrifying old witch called "The Director" and she told me that in order to take control of the Kingdom, all I need is a magic lamp. Now, I know this sounds ridiculous, but stay with me. The lamp is home to magical genie that can make wishes come true. So all I need to do is get my hands on this lamp, and then anything will be possible! Mwahahaha! Unfortunately, it's not that easy. The lamp lies within a magical cave, and the cave can only be entered by one person. A young boy that goes by the name of Aladdin. Now I must go and find this boy, Aladdin, and trick him into retrieving the lamp for me. And when I have the lamp, the world will be mine! Mwahahaha!

*Exits.*

**Scene One**

## **Widow Twerkin's Vegan Butchers**

*A butcher's shop with a difference – it only sells fruit and vegetables. Several customers are milling around, looking at the goods on offer. Pete the Meat enters.*

**PETE:** Hello boys and girls, mums and dads, grannies and grandads and everyone in between! How are you all today? Good? Good. Welcome to Widow Twerkin's Vegan Butchers. I'm Pete the Meat, but you can call me just Pete. Ok? So, every time I come on, I'll say "Hello boys and girls!" And you'll say...

**CHORUS:** Hello Just Pete!

**PETE:** What? No, my name's not Just Pete, it's just Pete. Let's try again. Hello boys and girls!

**CHORUS:** Hello Just Pete!

**PETE:** Oh, think you're a funny bunch, do you? Well, you'll have to go far to impress me. I have some of the funniest jokes in the country.

**RANDOM CHORUS MEMBER:** And one of the funniest faces.

**PETE:** Oh, thank you. Would you like to hear one of my jokes, boys and girls? You would? Ok then. *Clears throat.* Why did the old woman fall into the well? Because she couldn't see that well. *Everyone groans.* Hang on, hang on, I have another one. How do dogs party? They raise the woof! Ok, ok, that was bad. They do feel pretty ruff in the morning though! Getting better? Ok, one last one, and this one's a little bit rude, but I think we'll get away with it. What's the difference between a pun and a fart? Well, a pun is a shift of wit and...

*Widow Twerkin enters.*

**TWERKIN:** Hello, hello, everyone! Pete the Meat, what are you doing?

**PETE:** I'm telling jokes to all my new friends, Widow Twerkin.

**TWERKIN:** Well, you should be serving customers here, not telling jokes. How are we ever going to get rid of some of this vegan meat?

**PETE:** I know what you're thinking, boys and girls, how can you have a vegan butcher? Well, it's quite simple. We don't sell any meat, we just sell fruit and vegetables!

**RANDOM CHORUS MEMBER:** I didn't know you were vegan, Widow Twerkin.

**TWERKIN:** Me, oh, I'm not, love. I love myself a bit of meat every now and then. Nothing better than a nice big sausage, isn't that right, ladies?

**PETE:** Widow Twerkin might be a meat muncher, but I don't like the thought of killing animals, random chorus member. That's why I work here, as Widow Twerkin's assistant, every day, except the weekends. At the weekends, I perform as part of an Abba tribute band.

**TWERKIN:** Oh, Mammia Mia, here he goes again. I'll never hear the end of this band.

**RANDOM CHORUS MEMBER:** What is your band called, Pete the Meat?

**PETE:** Abba-toir.

**TWERKIN:** Well, that's enough about Abba. You need to get some work done. We need to sell some veg to these lot and make more money, money, money!

**PETE:** Eh, that must be funny, in a rich man's world!

**TWERKIN:** Funnier than your jokes. Sorry about him, boys and girls. That's Just Pete the Meat, my apprentice. He drives me up the wall but he's a nice lad really. He helps me out in the butchers, along with my son, Aladdin. Have you met Aladdin yet? No? Well, he's sure to turn up at some point. He's probably still in bed, the lazy so and so. Bringing Aladdin up hasn't been easy. See, I'm a single mother. The important part of that sentence, gents, is single. My husband passed away a long time ago. It's true what they say – give a man a fire, he'll be warm for a day. Set a man on fire, and he'll be warm for the rest of his life. Anyway, it's all in the past now, and it's time I moved on. So, I'm looking for a new man. Who knows, maybe the man of my dreams is out there in that very audience today.

*Aladdin enters.*

**ALADDIN:** Hello, ladies. Here I am. The one. The only. Aladdin Twerkin.

*Break dance routine. Of course.*

**TWERKIN:** Aladdin, now come on, stop showing off. You were supposed to be here half an hour ago. Look at all these customers! And Pete the Meat can't serve everyone. You should've been here to give him a hand.

**ALADDIN:** Sorry Mum. I was down at the market with Edith.

**TWERKIN:** Edith? Princess Edith?

**ALADDIN:** Yeah, Princess Edith.

**TWERKIN:** Well, I don't know why you're wasting your time with her. She's a princess, she's way out of your league.

**ALADDIN:** Oh no she's not!

**TWERKIN:** Oh yes she is!

**ALADDIN:** Oh no she's not!

**TWERKIN:** Oh yes she is! For starters, you're just a poor man from a poor family. She's never going to look twice at you, you son of a butcher.

**ALADDIN:** Well, I think she likes me. And it doesn't matter that we're poor. We have a good business here. We make enough money to get by.

*The doorbell rings.*

**TWERKIN:** Ooh, whoever could that be?

**PETE:** Do you want me to get it, Widow T?

**TWERKIN:** Thanks Pete. *He leaves.* He's such a good lad. He's a better son to me than you ever were. He never goes off wooing princesses.

**ALADDIN:** But Edith makes me feel like the happiest person in the world. When I'm with her, I can't stop smiling. She makes me feel all silly inside, and I forget how to speak properly. I've never made so many mistakes... I bet she thinks I'm stupid.

**TWERKIN:** We all make mistakes when we're in love, Aladdin. That's how I made you.

*Pete re-enters, with Inspector Dick.*

**PETE:** Someone to see you, Widow T.

**DICK:** *Offering his hand.* Hello. Inspector Dick.

**TWERKIN:** You're here to inspect what?

**DICK:** No, that's my name, Inspector Dick. Short for Richard.

**TWERKIN:** Oh, don't be hard on yourself, I'm sure I've seen shorter. I don't think we've met before. I'm sure I'd remember if a Dick came in my butchers.

**DICK:** I'm from Health and Safety, just here to do a check-up on the shop.

**TWERKIN:** Well, you can check me out all you like, Dickie.

**DICK:** I intend to. Perhaps you can show me around.

**TWERKIN:** My pleasure. Come this way. Aladdin, Pete, entertain the boys and girls.

*Twarkin and Dick leave. Throughout the next speech, Pete picks up various fruit and veg to coincide with what he is saying.*

**PETE:** So, where have you been all morning? We've been so busy, Aladdin. I've been rushed off my feet. Your mum's been driving me **bananas**. I tried ringing you on my **Apple** iPhone, and then tried again on your mum's **blackberry**, but no answer. Mrs T said you might be playing **squash**, but I said you were probably watching **Pepper Pig**. She said she didn't give a **fig** what you were doing, we just needed another **pear** of hands. She was really going out of her **nut**, Aladdin, pacing up and down, shouting "Where did that **man go**?" I had heard on the **grape** vine that you might be out on a **date**, but I didn't want any more rumours to **sprout**. You've really **lettuce** down, Aladdin, your mum said today was the last **straw-berry**.

**ALADDIN:** Chill your **beans**, Pete, I've been hanging out with Princess Edith, that's all.

**PETE:** The Princess? Really?

**ALADDIN:** Yeah. We went for a walk down to the market. I think she likes me.

**PETE:** But she's a Princess! How can you impress a Princess?

**ALADDIN:** Oh, it's not been easy. She makes it really hard for me.

**PETE:** I bet she does. And do you like her back, Aladdin?

**ALADDIN:** I like her back and her front. I like everything about her, Pete. I think I'm in love.

**PETE:** I don't think I'll ever be in love.

**ALADDIN:** Of course you will. And I can help you!

**PETE:** Thanks Aladdin, but I don't think...

**ALADDIN:** Sure, it'll be easy. You don't want to be on your own forever, Pete the Meat.

*Princess Edith enters.*

**ALADDIN:** Omg omg omg. Pete! Don't look now, but guess who's just walked in?

**PETE:** Is it star of stage and screen Michael Ball?

**ALADDIN:** No, it's Princess Edith!

**PETE:** Are you going to say something to her?

**ALADDIN:** Yeah. Watch this. Just copy what I do and you'll have yourself a girlfriend in no time. *He walks over to her, trips and ends up in front of her on one knee.*

**EDITH:** Oh, hello Aladdin. What are you doing down there?

**ALADDIN:** Just, erm, just checking the floor.

**EDITH:** The floor?

**ALADDIN:** Yes. *He knocks on the floor.* Seems sturdy enough to me. Can never be too careful. Some of the floorboards are not very strong, they can't hold a lot of weight. That is, not that I'm saying that they wouldn't be able to hold your weight, I'm just saying that they might not be able to hold a weight, which is definitely heavier than your weight, because your weight is...

**EDITH:** Wait, what are you talking about?

**ALADDIN:** It doesn't matter. Sorry, Edith, I'm just a little worried because my mum's being inspected.

**EDITH:** Oh dear. Is she in trouble with the police again?

**ALADDIN:** What? No, the butchers is being inspected by some Dick from health and safety.

**EDITH:** Oh, I see. But you'll be ok, won't you?

**ALADDIN:** What do you mean?



**EDITH:** Well, this bloke won't make you shut down or anything, will he?

**ALADDIN:** No, we'll be fine.

*Dick enters, followed by Twerkin.*

**DICK:** I'm shutting you down.

**TWERKIN:** No, you can't, Mr Dick Sir, this is my livelihood! In fact, it's my liveliest hood!

**DICK:** It clearly says in the rules, Widow Twerkin, that a butchers must sell meat. And I see no meat here. How can you advertise yourself as a butchers if you don't sell meat?

**ALADDIN:** But that's ridiculous! We can sell whatever we like!

**DICK:** I'm afraid I cannot allow it. Meat is what holds a butchers together. Without it, the whole place will just fall apart.

**EDITH:** And the floorboards are already loose.

**DICK:** My word on this is final. I'm sorry, but you must close down immediately. I bid you good day.  
*He leaves.*

**TWERKIN:** Close down immediately! This is the worst day of my life since Aladdin was born. What are we going to do?

**PETE:** Come on, Widow T. Let's go and have a cuppa. We'll sort this out, won't we, boys and girls? Everything will work out in the end, you'll see.

*Pete and Twerkin leave. Aladdin is left with Edith.*

**ALADDIN:** Well, I'm sorry, Edith. I don't know what you came in for, but I guess, if we're closed down forever, I can't sell anything to you.

**EDITH:** It's ok, Aladdin. I didn't come for any food.

**ALADDIN:** Oh. What did you come for then?

**EDITH:** I came to see you. Ever since this morning, I just... I can't stop thinking about you.

**ALADDIN:** Really?

**EDITH:** Yes. Did you stop thinking about me?

**ALADDIN:** Only for a second when I found out I'd lost my job and that I was broke. Apart from that I was thinking about you all the time too. You're just... You're gorgiful.

**EDITH:** Gorgiful?

**ALADDIN:** I was... I was going to say gorgeous but then I changed mid-word to beautiful.

**EDITH:** Oh. Well, I think you're gorgiful too.

## **SONG: A LOVE SONG BETWEEN ALADDIN AND EDITH**

*The song finishes with the two in each other's arms. Edith bursts into tears.*

**ALADDIN:** What's wrong?

**EDITH:** I love you, Aladdin, but I'm afraid we can never be together.

**ALADDIN:** What do you mean?

**EDITH:** Well, you said it yourself. You're unemployed and you have no money. That doesn't bother me, but my dad would never let me marry someone like you.

**ALADDIN:** Oh, shuck!

**EDITH:** Shuck?

**ALADDIN:** I was going to say shoot but then I changed mid-word to fu-

**EDITH:** I'm sorry, Aladdin.

**ALADDIN:** Look, don't listen to your Dad. I love you Edith.

**EDITH:** But my Dad's the King. I'm sorry, Aladdin. But I can't do this! *She runs off.*

**ALADDIN:** No, Edith, wait! Ugh, now what am I going to do, boys and girls? I know! I need to make myself some money and fast, and then the King will let me marry his daughter. Now, how can I make some money? I have an idea! If I pass a collection tin round the audience, and you all put a few quid in, I bet I'll have loads of money to impress Princess Edith with. Will you do that boys and girls? Mums and dads? No? Fine. *Exits.*

## **Scene Two**

### **Twerkin's house**

*Twerkin and Pete are sat together talking.*

**PETE:** So there are three British cats called One, Two, Three...

**TWERKIN:** They seem like silly cat names.

**PETE:** Well, they are, but it's important to the joke. So there are three British cats called One, Two, Three and three French cats called Un, Deux, Trois.

**TWERKIN:** Oh, like, the French version of One, Two, Three.

**PETE:** Exactly.

**TWERKIN:** See, I get it!

**PETE:** No, that's not the joke.