



HANSEL & GRETEL – THE PANTO
BY
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Extract

A SMITH SCRIPT

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Hansel & Gretel

By

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PLOT

Hansel and Gretel's father is the Frog King. He was turned from a frog into a king when he kissed his true love, but the spell is breaking and he's begun to turn back into a frog again. Hansel and Gretel set off into the woods to find the Great Sorceress in the hope that she can make him a king again; little do they know that she is actually a very wicked witch who intends to capture them and use them in a potion to make her youthful again. They go on their journey with their good friend the Gingerbread Man and meet several fairytale people along the way such as, Red Riding Hood, Three Little Pigs and Goldilocks. After rescuing these fairytale people from the Witch's right hand man, the Big Bad Wolf, they carry on and end up at the Witch's gingerbread cottage, where she traps them and prepares to eat them. The fairytale creatures band together to rescue the twins and save the day.

CHARACTERS:

- Hansel** - Principal Boy, Gretel's twin and the Frog King's son. Desperate for a date.
- Gretel** - Principal Girl, Hansel's twin and the Frog King's daughter, More street wise and attitude than her brother.
- Gingerbread Man** - Audience participation and Hansel and Gretel's best friend
- Witch (Rose)** - Dame and the Witch that lives in the gingerbread cottage. She wants to capture Hansel and Gretel to use them in a spell to make her young again.
- Big Bad Wolf** - The Witch's right hand man.
- Red Riding Hood** - A bit simple with no clue about subtlety.
- Schwein** - One of the Three Pigs, house made of straw.
Porc - One of the Three Pigs, house made of sticks.
Cerdo - One of the Three Pigs, house made of bricks.
- Goldilocks** - Hansel and Gretel's friend, she helps lead the fairytale creatures to take down the Witch.
- Mother (Ursula)** - Hansel and Gretel's Mother, she is grumpy and dislikes her husband.
- Frog King (Henry)**- Hansel and Gretel's father, the Witch turned him into a frog, but the spell was broken when he found his true love, but since the love between he and his wife is breaking he is slowly turning back into a frog.
- Friilly Knickers** - Red Riding Hood's Grandma.
- Pinocchio** - Fairytale creature who helps Goldilocks, small speaking part.

Chorus - School children/fairytale creatures.

ACT 1

PROLOGUE

Wolf, Witch and Ginger

SCENE 1 - Hansel and Gretel Walking Home from School

Hansel and Gretel

SCENE 2 - Hansel and Gretel's House

Hansel, Gretel, Ginge and Mother

SCENE 3 – Witch's House

Witch and Wolf

SCENE 4 - Red Riding Hood

Hansel, Gretel, Ginger, Red Riding Hood, Wolf and Frilly Knickers

SCENE 5 - Witch and Wolf

Witch and Big Bad Wolf

SCENE 6 - Three Pigs

Hansel, Gretel, Ginge, Three Pigs, Wolf

SCENE 7 - Hansel and Gretel's House

Frog King, Mother and Goldilocks

SCENE 8 – Hansel and Gretel Captured

ACT 2

SCENE 1 - Wolf and Ginge

Witch and Gingerbread Man

SCENE 2 - Frog Kings House

Frog King, Mother, Goldilocks, Red Riding Hood, Three Pigs and Chorus

SCENE 3 - Hansel, Gretel and Ginge in Prison

Hansel, Gretel and Ginge

SCENE 4 - Witch and Wolf

Witch, Wolf

SCENE 5 - Hansel and Gretel Escape

Hansel, Gretel, Hood, Three Pigs, Goldilocks and Chorus

SCENE 6 – Storming the Cottage

All

SCENE 7 - FINALE

SUGGESTED SONGS

ACT 1

SONG 1: When I Grow Up - Matilda the Musical (Hansel, Gretel, Chorus)

SONG 2: Pulled - The Addams Family (Witch)

SONG 3: Roar - Katy Perry (Wolf and Chorus)

SONG 4: Mamma Mia - ABBA (Pigs, Hansel, Gretel, Ginger and Chorus)

SONG 5: Go Your Own Way - Fleetwood Mac (Mother and King)

SONG 6: This is Me - Greatest Showman (Witch, Wolf and Chorus)

ACT 2

SONG 7: Freak Flag - Shrek! (Prince, Mother, Goldilocks, Pigs, Hood and Chorus)

SONG 8: For Good - Wicked! (Hansel, Gretel and Ginge)

SONG 9: Pulled (Reprise) - The Addams Family (Witch)

SONG 10: Revolting - Matilda the Musical (Hansel, Gretel, Ginge, Hood, Pigs, Goldilocks and Chorus)

SONG 11: We're All in this Together - High School Together (All)

ACT 1

PROLOGUE

Front of curtains.

Big Bad Wolf enters looking round the room as if looking for someone.

WOLF: Mistress? Oh mistress, where are you? Oh dear! Hello boys and girls, have you seen my mistress? About this tall, this wide...

WITCH: *(from offstage)* Wolf!

WOLF: Oh here she comes!

Witch enters

WITCH: Wretched Wolf, where have you been?

WOLF: Sorry mistress, I...

WITCH: And who are you talking to?

WOLF: I just said hello to the boys and girls.

WITCH: *(Looks at the audience)* Urgh...this lot! What a terrible audience. What no boo? Cowards! I am the Grand Sorceress of Fairytale Forest. The evil, the wonderful, the dastardly! Ha ha ha!

WOLF: The most evil you are mistress!

WITCH: Yes alright you snivelling Wolf. Now why have you called me here? What have you found out?

WOLF: Well, your mistress. You remember that guy that was turned into a Frog?

WITCH: My brother?

WOLF: No, not him.

WITCH: My father?

WOLF: No, no!

WITCH: The milkman?

WOLF: No, no, no, not him!

WITCH: Well narrow it down for me.

WOLF: The King, the one that ran off with the commoner to the forest, had

the twins.

WITCH: Oh yes, of course I remember him, I...what about him?

WOLF: Well rumour has it there's trouble in paradise, looks like their marriage is on the rocks.

WITCH: So? Why would I care? He made it quite clear, all those years ago, I was most definitely not his type.

WOLF: Well yeah, I don't think that's changed, but the spell, it's breaking. They're saying his turning back into a frog!

WITCH: Really? Now that is interesting, maybe Beauty will get her Beast back? What is to become of the twins? The boy and girl?

WOLF: Hansel and Gretel? I don't know, they've still got their mum I presume.

WITCH: Yes, yes, that vile woman. If a divorce is on the cards she may be unable to care for them.

WOLF: Or not want them more like it.

WITCH: Well yes there is that.

WOLF: You're plotting something mistress, I can tell!

WITCH: Well a young boy and girl, in the prime of youth, they could be very handy for...certain spells.

WOLF: Ooo... come on mistress, tell me, tell me!

Laughing can be heard off stage

WITCH: What on earth is that?

Gingerbread Man runs on stage laughing

GINGE: Ha ha! (*calling offstage*) thought you'd eat me did you! Got to run faster than that to catch me! Woo, I'm free! (*to audience*) oh, hello boys and girls how are you?

WITCH: Do you mind? This is our bit!

WOLF: Yeah, get lost!

GINGE: Alright, keep your hair on. Who are you?

WITCH: I am the Grand Sorceress of the Fairytale Forest.

GINGE: Really? You look like a witch to me.

WITCH: I'm not a witch I'm the Grand Sorceress.

GINGE: I always used to think a sorceress was just a female little plate. Then like, a "saucer" was a male plate.

WITCH: Look, I am the Grand Sorceress and that's final.

WOLF: Yeah, and I'm...

WITCH: Shush, no one cares who you are. *(To Ginge)* Who are you?

GINGE: I'm the Gingerbread Man, just managed to dodge the old crone who tried to eat me. Phew, I had to leg it, I'll tell you, I'm half baked. Hang on... you two look like you're up to something!

WOLF: Well, now you mention it...

WITCH: Absolutely not! I don't care for your accusation!

GINGE: Alright! Touchy! Anyway, I need to get to the school to meet my mates. Gosh I need to stop at the library as well! Don't you know the way do you?

WOLF: Yeah it's...

WITCH: No we do not! Now if you don't mind we have a dastardly plot to get on with! Oh boo all you like! Carry on and I will make sure there is no beer for any of you at the interval! Come Wolf, heel!

Witch and Wolf exit

GINGE: Blimey! What's got her knickers in a twist? Hi boys and girls, I'm the Gingerbread Man how are you all this fine evening? I can't quite hear you; I said how are you all this fine evening? Wonderful! Did you hear what that horrible Witch was up to? Didn't seem good whatever it was. We'll have to keep our eye on her. I hope she doesn't have a fancy for gingerbread; I've only just escaped one big gob. Blimey, look at the time! I've got to be off, I'm meeting my mates Hansel and Gretel from school, they're not doing too well, their poor dad is ill! I'm off to cheer them up. Listen, if you hear what that Witch is up to you will tell me, won't you? Thanks boys and girls! See you soon!

Ginger exits

SCENE 1 – HANSEL AND GRETEL WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL

School bell rings and the curtains open. Hansel and Gretel have just finished school and all the children are heading home.

SUGGESTED SONG

SONG 1 - When I Grow Up - Matilda the Musical (Hansel and Gretel and Chorus)

Chorus filter off.

GRETEL: I really hate school. I wish I was a grown up and didn't have to go.

HANSEL: Me too. Mrs Thumb gave me detention this afternoon. Where's Ginge?

GRETEL: I'm not sure; I hope that fox hasn't been after him again. He did say he had to pick some books up from the library for mum, we can just meet him back at the house.

HANSEL: Oh okay, we should get going, come on.

Gretel stands daydreaming

HANSEL: Come on Gretel, we need to go home.

GRETEL: I'm coming. Hansel?

HANSEL: Yeah?

GRETEL: Do you think dad... never mind, come on let's go home.

Hansel and Gretel exit.

SCENE 2 – HANSEL AND GRETEL'S HOUSE

Hansel and Gretel's house.

Mother is busying herself cleaning.

MOTHER: Hansel! Gretel!

Hansel and Gretel enter. They throw off their school bags and sit at the table.

GRETEL: Hello mother.

MOTHER: Where have you been?

HANSEL: Sorry mother, we got stuck talking to the local Rambling Association and they just went on and on.

MOTHER: Well, you're back now. Your father's still not getting any better, I don't know what to do, he's doing my head in.

GRETEL: No change in him then?

MOTHER: Well, on a positive note the house is completely fly free cause your father keeps eating them all but we need help.

HANSEL: Who can help us mother?

MOTHER: There is a magic sorceress that lives in the forest, she may have the magic ability to sort him out... or bump him off.

HANSEL: What?

MOTHER: Nothing, nothing. The sorceress lives in the forest, she could help, I suppose.

Gingerbread man appears stage left carrying books

GINGE: *(to audience)* Hello boys and girls! Phew, I haven't stopped running yet.
(to Mother, Hansel and Gretel) Hi guys, how's things?

HANSEL: Oh hi Ginge, not great, dad's just getting worse.

GRETEL: Mother have you booked for us to go to Disneyland yet?

MOTHER: Disneyland? No why would I do that?

GRETEL: Well you always said when dad croaked we would be able to go to Disneyland, and this morning when I said good morning he croaked at me.

MOTHER: Oh for goodness sake. Oh Ginge thank you for the books, it's so difficult to please him at the moment. Every book I give him he just says reddit, reddit, reddit.

GINGE: Well he should like these, this one's a big book of fairy tales.

MOTHER: Excellent. Good weight too. *(Pretends to throw it)*

HANSEL: Mother!

MOTHER: What? I was... never mind.

HANSEL: You do still love father, don't you? You'll love him even if...

GRETEL: Of course she does, don't you mother?

MOTHER: Well... oh it's complicated.

HANSEL: Ginge, do you know where the sorceress lives in the woods?

GINGE: Sorceress? No. A miserable old witch, yes. Just ran into her actually.

HANSEL: Well mother says she's the only one that might be able too..erm Ginge, you seem to be dropping bits all over the floor.

GINGE: Yes I know I'm sorry. It's been happening recently, everywhere I go I leave crumbs.

GRETEL: Well maybe the sorceress could help you too?

GINGE: Are you kidding? I heard her whole house is made of gingerbread, she'll use me as a roofing tile and she didn't strike me as a 'nice' witch.

GRETEL: She's a sorceress and if she can make gingerbread strong enough to live in, she must know how to make you stronger. Come on Ginge, it'll be an adventure and we must get father better.

MOTHER: Yes all of you go, I want you all out from under my feet.

GINGE: I'm telling you I don't think she's a good witch and what if we get lost?

MOTHER: You're dropping crumbs like no one's business, you can just follow them back, you'll soon find your way home.

GINGE: I guess but I still don't think it's a good idea. When do you want to set off?

HANSEL: First thing in the morning.

MOTHER: Don't you wake me up!

GRETEL: We won't mother, no one wants to see your face in the morning.

GINGE: Right, well, I'd better go pack. I'll see you crazy kid's first thing.

Ginge exits

MOTHER: Alright then, well, there's ready meals in the microwaves, you pair sort yourselves out, I'm going to the spa.

HANSEL: What about father?

MOTHER: He'll be fine! You two are here aren't you? See you when you're back from this sorceress or whatever.

Mother exits

HANSEL: Do you think mother and father are...

GRETEL: No, no, she's just...stressed.

HANSEL: Looks like it's up to us to find a cure for father. Perhaps we'll meet

some interesting people on our journey.

GRETEL: Oh I already know who we're going to meet.

HANSEL: Oh? How would you know that?

GRETEL: I picked up one of the programmes on the way here and had a look.

HANSEL: So you know what happens?

GRETEL: Yep.

HANSEL: Tell me then!

GRETEL: Nope.

HANSEL: Oh go on! Do we make it? Do we meet any single beauties?

GRETEL: If there's one desperate enough Hansel you're welcome to her, come on.

Blackout

SCENE 3 – WITCH'S HOUSE

The Witch's house, the Witch is stood at her cauldron.

WITCH: Essence of vomit... a dash of snot...three rats tails, no wait, two rats tails and....a dollop of peanut butter! Ha ha ha! (*she starts humming and dancing around*).

Wolf enters.

WOLF: (*Loudly clears his throat*) Erm...mistress.

WITCH: (*She jumps*) Oh my! Wolf! How dare you sneak up on me. What do you Want?

WOLF: What was that you were singing?

WITCH: Nothing, I wasn't singing anything.

WOLF: Oh go on!

SUGGESTED SONG

SONG 2 - Pulled - The Addams Family (Witch)

WITCH: Wonderful! Now what is it you wanted?

WOLF: I've got great news mistress, great news!

WITCH: What is it?

WOLF: You know them twins I was telling you about? Them ones whose dad is turning back into a frog?

WITCH: Yes, what about them?

WOLF: They're only on their way here! Their Mother still thinks you're a good witch, she's sent them off to ask you for help for their dad.

WITCH: Really? How do you know this?

WOLF: Me old mate Johnny from down the way told me. They're setting off in the morning! Will be here in three days, which to anyone watching will feel like half an hour.

WITCH: Oh my! How wonderful! They are the last piece of the puzzle, the last ingredient.

WOLF: What?

WITCH: The spell! The spell you idiot! The one that will turn me into the grandest, most beautiful, the most striking woman in all of Rugeley!

WOLF: Not much competition for that boss.

WITCH: We must put our plan into action, there is no time to lose. There is so much to do, we need Goldilocks and those pigs and that wretched Little Red Riding Hood. We must move quickly.

WOLF: Yes mistress!

WITCH: You must be ready Wolf, you are vital to my plan! You know what you need to do?

WOLF: Yes. Get to the old Grandma's house in the woods and...

WITCH: No! Not here! This horrid lot are still here, we cannot let them in on the plan, they'll tell that crumbling Gingerbread Man as soon as they can, won't you? Vile little creatures. Oh boo all you like. There will be no stopping my plan! Ha ha ha! Wolf you must be ready to leave, you need to set out before sunrise.

WOLF: Yes mistress, of course mistress, my bags have been packed for weeks.

WITCH: And you've got everything you need?

WOLF: Yeah, teeth sharpener, wind machine, I've got that dress you gave me as well, although I'm not sure purple is my colour.

WITCH: Good, good, I shall get everything prepared here and wait for your return. Go now Wolf, and don't mess this up we need every single one of those creatures!

WOLF: Right!

Wolf exits

WITCH: (*Picks up a mirror and looks into it*) Not long now and I shall finally be free of this face and this body. Soon I will be what I was always destined to be, the most beautiful woman in all the land!!!

MIRROR: Who are you kidding?! (*Witch throws the mirror*)

WITCH: They shall see who I really am, what I'm supposed to be and then they will pay for what they did to me, for what they made me!

Blackout