



OVER THE RAINBOW
BY
RICHARD HILLS

Extract

A SMITH SCRIPT

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CHARACTERS

MOTHER HUBBARD	Dame
FIDO	Her dog
MRS PINCHEM	Works for Sir Jasper
SIR JASPER DREADNOUGHT	The local Squire
MISS MUFFET	Owens the cake shop
LOOPY LUE	The King's Herald
KING COLE	The King
GERTRUDE HIGGINGBOTTOM	A local Widow
PC COPEM	The local Police Constable
BOBBY GOODFELLOW	A traveller
PRINCESS MIREBELE	King Cole's daughter
PANSY PORTER	Loopy Lue's girlfriend
QUEEN BERTHA	King Cole's wife
LEPPY	A Leprechaun
GRANDPA	Leppy's Grandfather

CHORUS and DANCERS as: Villagers, Fairies, and mythical people of Glocca Morra

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1

Scene 1	Billington Village Square
Scene 2	A path in a nearby wood
Scene 3	Mother Hubbard's Schoolroom
Scene 4	Inside the Police Station
Scene 5	The beginning of the Rainbow

ACT 2

Scene 1	Over the Rainbow
Scene 2	The Wibberly Wobberly Way
Scene 3	Returning over the Rainbow
Scene 4	On the way to the Royal Wedding
Scene 5	Royal Wedding

NOTES ON THE CHARACTERS

Mother Hubbard. Traditional Dame. Male.

Fido. A rather excited dog, played by either boy or girl. Male/Female.

Mrs Pinchem. Rather buxom Charlady who works for Sir Jasper. Female.

Sir Jasper Dreadnought. The village Squire, middle age and always getting into trouble over his wondering hands. Male.

Miss Muffit. Rather aloof Spinster who owns the village Cake Shop. Female.

Loopy Lue. King's Herald, who is given run-around by Pansy Porter, must be on good terms with the children in the audience. Male.

King Cole. Small timid man who is given the run-around by his wife. Male.

Gertrude Higgingbottom. Man-hungry Widow who wants a man whatever way she can get him. Female.

Police Constable Copem. Middle aged local Police man, a bachelor and happy to be so. Male.

Bobby Goodfellow. Principle boy. Travelling the world, looking for where he belongs. He falls in love with the Princess. Female.

Princess Mirabel. Principal Girl, who meets Bobby and is willing to follow him to the ends of the world. Female.

Pansy Porter. Young girl, who knows what she wants, and is out to get Loopy Lue. Female.

Queen Bertha. Big buxom Queen who everyone obeys, her word is law. Female.

Leppy. A Leprechaun, who speaks with an Irish accent, needs to be rather small. Male.

Grandpa. Old Irishman of eighty two. Male.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

The songs included are suggestions, and can be changed by the Musical Director.

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| 1. It's a lovely day today. | Chorus and Dancers |
| 2. I'll run them in. | PC Copem Principals and Chorus |
| 3. I'm standing on the corner watching all the girls
go by | PC Copem and Dancers |
| 4. My Boy Lollipop | Pansy and Dancers |
| 5. I've got the sun in the morning and the moon
at night | Queen Berta, Principals, Chorus
and Dancers |
| 6. What kind of fool am I? | Bobby |
| 7. I'm busy doing nothing | Mrs Pinchem |
| 8. The sun has got his hat on | Mother Hubbard, Princess,
Loopy Lue, Pansy and Chorus |
| 9. They say that falling in love is wonderful | Bobby and Princess |
| 10. Look to the Rainbow | Leppy and Fairy Chorus |
| 11. It's the merry month of May | Princess and Bobby |
| 12. Somewhere over the Rainbow | Queen Bertha, Principals,
Chorus and Dancers |
| 13. How are things in Glocca Morra | A lady, Chorus and Dancers |
| 14. What is this thing called love? | Pansy and Loopy Lue |
| 15. If I loved you | Bobby and Princess |
| 16. Can't help falling in love | Sir Jasper and Mother Hubbard |
| 17. If this isn't love | Queen Bertha, Principals,
Chorus and Dancers |
| 18. In England, Merry England | Chorus and Dancers |
| 19. For once in my life | Pansy, Loopy Lue, Audience |
| 20. It's a lovely day today | Everyone |
| 21. Somewhere over the Rainbow | Everyone |

OVER THE RAINBOW

ACT 1

Scene 1

(The scene opens on Billington village Square. UR is the entrance to Mother Hubbard's house, and in the distance UL we can see King Cole's Castle. On the L is the entrance to Sir Jasper Dreadnought's house and on the R is the entrance to Miss Muffit's Bakers shop. There entrances UL and DL, and UR and DR.

When the scene opens, it is afternoon, and all the CHORUS and DANCERS are on stage.

MUSIC No. 1

The music plays and everyone sings "IT'S A LOVELY DAY TODAY". At the end of the song, MOTHER HUBBARD comes out of her house in a hurry.)

MOTHER HUBBARD: Oh, dear! Oh, dear! Oh, dear!

1st WOMAN: What is the matter, Mother Hubbard?

MOTHER HUBBARD: I have been robbed!

1st MAN: What has been taken?

MOTHER HUBBARD: Everything!

2nd WOMAN: All your valuables?

MOTHER HUBBARD: I haven't got any valuables! All my food! When I went to the cupboard it was bare.

2nd MAN: Bare?

MOTHER HUBBARD: Bare as a new born babe. Not even a bone for poor old Fido.

1st WOMAN: He won't like that

MOTHER HUBBARD: He will be in tears, running here, there and everywhere.

1st MAN: Let's go before he finds out. You know what he is like when he gets upset.

2nd WOMAN: He will be running around everywhere.

2nd MAN: Make a run for it, quick!

(All the CHORUS and DANCERS make a hurried exit in all directions.)

MOTHER HUBBARD: That is it, make a run for it! Don't worry about me, I have only been robbed! *(She looks about for FIDO and sees the AUDIENCE.)* What are you lot doing here?

AUDIENCE: We have come to see a Pantomime.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Some Pantomime you will see. Have you seen my dog, Fido?

AUDIENCE: No!

MOTHER HUBBARD: He must be somewhere. *(She calls out.)* Fido, where are you? *(She looks about.)* Such a dear little chap wouldn't hurt a fly, except when he is roused. Fido! Where are you? *(To AUDIENCE.)* You will have to look too. Shout Fido!

AUDIENCE: Fido!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Louder!

AUDIENCE: Fido!

FIDO: *(Appearing at the back of the AUDIENCE.)* Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Come on, Fido! I need help.

FIDO: Woof! *(He comes through the AUDIENCE sniffing around.)* Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: We haven't got all day! *(Fido comes on stage and is about to cock his leg against her.)* Don't you dare! *(He looks up at her.)* I have got something to tell you. The good news it will soon be tea time. The bad news is all our food has gone.

FIDO: *(looking up at her.)* Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Including your bone.

FIDO: Woof! Woof! *(Going around the stage trying to catch his tail, runs off stage DR, then runs back on UR and charging off UL barking.)* Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: He is always the same. *(Calling after him.)* Don't mind me! I have nothing to eat either. *(She exits into her house.)*

MRS PINCHEM: *(Entering UR. FILO rushes in UR and sends her sprawling. Then he exits DR.)* What is this, a speedway track? That dog needs putting down.

SIR JASPER: *(Coming out of his house.)* Mrs Pinchem, what are you doing down there?

MRS PINCHEM: Getting up. Brought your week's shopping. *(She gets up.)*

SIR JASPER: Where did you pinch it?

MRS PINCHEM: From the Super Store. What do you mean pinch it?

SIR JASPER: Only half of it?

MRS PINCHEM: I haven't time to stand talking. I have my work to do. You can pay me tomorrow with my wages.

(SIR JASPER pinches her behind.)

MRS PINCHEM: I ask you to keep your hands to yourself, Sir Jasper. *(She exits into his house with her shopping basket.)*

SIR JASPER: *(Looking at his hands.)* Unfortunately my hands have a mind of their own.

MISS MUFFET: *(Coming out of her shop.)* Good afternoon, Sir Jasper. Can I interest you in buying some of my buns or cakes?

SIR JASPER: Good afternoon Miss Muffet. Cakes you say? How about a little trifle?

MISS MUFFET: There will be no trifling in my shop, Sir Jasper, only cakes and buns. *(She exits into her shop.)*

SIR JASPER: What is the world coming to? Life is becoming a bore.

LOOPY LUE: *(Entering UL and blowing on his trumpet.)* Make way! Make way for his Majesty King Cole!

SIR JASPER: What would King Cole want this time of the morning?

LOOPY LUE: Give the King room!

SIR JASPER: How much room does he want? He has got the whole stage.

KING COLE: *(Entering UL to CS.)* My good people, something drastic has happened. *(He looks around.)* Where is everyone?

SIR JASPER: No one heard your call.

KING COLE: Loopy Lue, you bugled it! You should have trumpeted it like an elephant. Blow again!

(LOOPY LUE trumpets again.)

MISS MUFFET: *(Coming out of her shop.)* What is all that noise?

MOTHER HUBBARD: *(Coming out of her house.)* Sounds like a herd of elephants.

MRS PINCHEM: *(Coming out of SIR JASPER'S house.)* Never heard such a row!

(CHORUS enters from all directions.)

1st WOMAN: Has the Circus entered our village?

KING COLE: At last! Gather round my good people.

2nd WOMAN: It is old King Cole!

KING COLE: Bad news, my dear people. Something drastic has happened. Someone has stolen the fiddles of my Fiddlers three. None of them have anything to fiddle with.

MOTHER HUBBARD: All my food has been stolen, even Fido's bone.

1st MAN: Sounds like we have a thief in our midst.

MRS PINCHEM: Don't look at me, just because my name is Pinchem. I can't help my old man's name.

KING COLE: No one is suggesting, Mrs Pinchem. Nevertheless, who would want to pinch three fiddles?

SIR JASPER: There is always a good tune played on an old fiddle.

MOTHER HUBBARD: You should know!

MRS PINCHEM: I reckon it is that Gertrude woman. With a name like her's, she is at the bottom of everything.

GERTRUDE: (*Entering DR.*) I heard that! Trust her to stick her nose in other people's business!

MRS PINCHEM: Gertrude Higgingbottom is always causing trouble.

GERTRUDE: Just wait till I get my hands on you!

(The two WOMEN start fighting each other.)

KING COLE: Loopy Lue, put a stop to it!

LOOPY LUE: I might get hurt.

PC COPEM: (*Entering DL.*) Hello! Hello! What is going on? Stop in the name of the law!

(The two WOMEN stop fighting.)

GERTRUDE: It is all her fault. She started it.

MRS PINCHEM: No I didn't! She did!

PC COPEM: (*Taking out a notebook and pencil.*) I will just take down a few particulars.

GERTRUDE: You are not taking down my particulars!

PC COPEM: You are holding up all the traffic.

MRS PINCHEM: What traffic?

PC COPEM: All that would be coming through here if you were not blocking the road. What is the cause of the trouble?

KING COLE: My three fiddlers have had their fiddles stolen.

MOTHER HUBBARD: All my food has been stolen.

FIDO: (*Entering DR.*) Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Someone has stolen his bone.

PC COPEM: (*Writing in his notebook.*) One bone stolen, seems there is a thief in the neighbourhood. I will have to smoke him out.

KING COLE: I put you in charge of the case. I would like it dealt with immediately.

PC COPEM: Very good, Your Majesty. I will run them in.

MUSIC No 2

(The music plays and PC COPEM sings "I'LL RUN THEM IN, TRARANTA RAH". The CHORUS join in, and end up marching off DL followed by PC COPEM, leaving KING COLE, LOOPY LUE, MOTHER HUBBARD and FIDO on stage.)

KING COLE: Now everything is under control. Come on, Loopy Lue. *(He exits UL followed by LOOPY LUE.)*

MOTHER HUBBARD: I wish I had everything under control. *(Hoist up her bosom.)* I think I am falling apart. Come along, Fido! Walkies! We must go to the shops for some food.

FIDO: Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: And a bone! *(She exits UR.)*

FIDO: *(Rushes around the stage.)* Woof! Woof! *(He hurries out UR after her.)*

BOBBY: *(Entering UL.)* So this is Billington! *(He looks around.)* A bit of a dump! Reminds me of... *(Local area.)* Well, you can't win them all. *(He sees the AUDIENCE.)* Hello! Where do you all come from?

(The AUDIENCE all shout where they come from.)

BOBBY: From the... *(Local Prison.)* Who let you out? I suppose you want to know who I am.?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

BOBBY: I am Bobby Goodfellow. I got lost when I was little and have been travelling ever since, looking for somewhere I can call home. I could do with a job, but there doesn't seem to be anyone about. I will try this shop. *(He enters the Baker's shop.)*

MISS MUFFIT: *(Entering UL.)* I don't know what came over me dancing around and following PC Copem around the streets. What will people say? *(She sees BOBBY coming out of her shop.)* Hey, you! What have you been doing in my shop?

BOBBY: I went to see if I could buy a bun. There doesn't seem to be anything there.

MISS MUFFIT: What do you mean nothing there?

BOBBY: Nothing there.

MISS MUFFIT: I'll soon see about that, you wait here. *(She exits into the shop.)* Help! Murder! I have been robbed! *(She hurries out of shop.)* What have you done with all my cakes?

BOBBY: What cakes?

MISS MUFFIT: My shop was full of them. Where have they gone?

BOBBY: I don't know! I haven't seen them.

MISS MUFFIT: You have pinched them, they said there was a thief going around here. Wait here until I get PC Copem. *(She hurries off DL.)*

BOBBY: Pinched what? Do you know what is going on, girls and boys?

AUDIENCE: Someone has been pinching things.

BOBBY: I hope they don't think it is me. Who do you think it is?

AUDIENCE: Mrs Pinchem! Sir Jasper Dreadnought! Gertrude Higginbottom!

BOBBY: I hope you are not blaming me. *(He turns to exit UL)*

(PRINCESS MIRABEL enters UL.)

BOBBY: *(Seeing her.)* Hello! Where have you come from?

PRINCESS: The Castle over there. *(She points off L.)*

BOBBY: Who does it belong to?

PRINCESS: My father, King Cole.

BOBBY: The merry old soul?

PRINCESS: He was until someone stole the fiddles of his fiddlers three.

BOBBY: Someone seems to be stealing everything around here. I hope you do not blame me.

PRINCESS: Why should I?

BOBBY: I am a stranger here. Everyone is looking who to pin it on.

PRINCESS: You don't look like a thief.

BOBBY: I am glad someone believes me. All the same, I think I had better go or I might get arrested.

PRINCESS: I have only just met you.

BOBBY: I hope we meet again.

MISS MUFFIT: *(Entering DL.)* There he is! That is the culprit!

PC COPEM: *(Entering DL putting on his glasses.)* Him? *(He crosses to BOBBY.)*

BOBBY: Help! I am off! *(He turns to exit DR but collides with MOTHER HUBBARD.)*
Sorry! *He exits quickly.)*

PC COPEM: I arrest you in the name of the law!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Arrest me! I will have you know I am the innocent party.

PC COPEM: *(Coming to her.)* Having a party? No one told me. *(He takes his glasses off and looks at her.)* Mother Hubbard! What are you doing here?

MOTHER HUBBARD: Being arrested by you.

PC COPEM: Miss Muffit said you were the culprit.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Did she? *(She pushes him out of the way and marches across to MISS MUFFIT.)* Explain yourself, woman!

MISS MUFFIT: PC Copem let him get away.

MOTHER HUBBARD: *(Marching across to PC COPEM.)* Are you insinuating I look like a man? *(She heaves up her bosom.)*

PC COPEM: I had my glasses on. *(He looks at her.)* You are a big girl! You must be putting on weight. What is the lightest you have ever been?

MOTHER HUBBARD: Six and a half pounds. *(She exits into her house.)*

PC COPEM: That must have been a long time ago.

MISS MUFFIT: What are you going to do about that thief?

PRINCESS: *(Stepping forward.)* If I may say...

MISS MUFFIT: *(Seeing her.)* Your Highness! Forgive me for not seeing you.

PC COPEM: *(Bowing to the PRINCESS.)* What does your Highness wish to say?

PRINCESS: He seems quite a respectable young man. I am sure he could not possibly steal anything.

MISS MUFFET: Are you sure he hasn't stolen your heart?

PRINCESS: Really, Miss Muffit! I hardly know the man.

PC COPEM: Exactly! So how do you know he is an honest young man? I shall put out an order for his arrest *(He exits DL.)*

PRINCESS: I cannot see how he can be a thief. He was much too nice.

MISS MUFFIT: More reason to believe he is a thief.

PRINCESS: I hope he gets away. *(She exits UL.)*

MISS MUFFIT: The poor girl has fallen for him. *(She exits into her shop.)*

(MOTHER HUBBARD coming out of her house with FIDO.)

MOTHER HUBBARD: Come on, Fido! We must restock our cupboard.

FIDO: Woof! Woof!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Have I got a bone for you? We will see if we can get one.

(FIDO runs around in a circle and then follows her off DL.)

FIDO: Woof! Woof!

LOOPY LUE: (*Entering UL with his trumpet.*) I hope she isn't about. (*He looks around, then comes down to the AUDIENCE.*) Hello girls and boys!

AUDIENCE: Hello, Loopy Lue!

LOOPY LUE: Do you want to be my friend?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

LOOPY LUE: Will you do something for me?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

LOOPY LUE: I am the King's Herald. People think I am a bit loopy, but I am not. I have a problem. I am afraid of it getting my trumpet pinched. Would you girls and boys look after it? Will you girls and boys?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

LOOPY LUE: I will hang it up here. (*He hangs it up DL.*) Look after it for me. I will get the sack if I can't blow my own trumpet. Shout Loopy Lue if anyone tries to take it. Let's give it a try. I will go off and creep back on. (*He exits DR and creeps back on.*)

AUDIENCE: Loopy Lue!

LOOPY LUE: Have you fallen asleep, or gone home? Let's try again. (*He exits DR and then creeps back on.*)

AUDIENCE: Loopy Lue!

LOOPY LUE: That was better. I might be back at the Castle, and I don't want anyone to take it.

PC COPEM: (*Entering UR.*) Who was making all that noise?

LOOPY LUE: The children out there. (*Pointing.*)

PC COPEM: I will have them all arrested for disturbing the peace.

LOOPY LUE: You haven't got a Copper shop big enough.

PC COPEM: I will let them off this time but if they do it again they will be under arrest.

LOOPY LUE: See you all later! (*He exits DL.*)

PC COPEM: (*Taking out a large magnifying glass and looking at the ground.*) Footprints everywhere, It must be a four legged man with small feet. I will stand on the corner and see what I can see. (*He stands DR.*)