



THE LITTLE MERMAID
BY
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Extract

A SMITH SCRIPT

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The Little Mermaid

A Pantomime by
Samantha Cartwright and
Emma Houldershaw

CHARACTERS

ARIELLE:	The Principal girl, a mermaid princess, naïve, innocent, but will stand up for herself (F)
King TRIDENT	Her father, King of the ocean, very powerful, dominant figure but would do anything for his daughters (M)
SEAWITCH	The baddie, loud, brassy, evil (F)
SUGAR:	An unfortunate soul, works for the sea witch, tatty, haggard, bit dumb, thinks she is beautiful, evil by force (F)
SPICE:	Same as SUGAR but slightly more intelligent (F)
GUPPY:	A young fish, friend of ARIELLE, very innocent and childlike (M/F)
CARLTON:	A crab, works for King TRIDENT, very sarcastic, speaks with a west Indies accent, hard shell, soft centre (M/F)
DAZ:	Daughter of TRIDENT, tomboy (F)
BOLD:	Daughter of TRIDENT, spoilt (F)
LENOR:	Daughter of TRIDENT, vain (F)
PERSIL:	Daughter of TRIDENT, nerdy (F)
FAIRY:	Daughter of TRIDENT, shy (F)
SURF:	Daughter of TRIDENT, grumpy (F)
<i>(The sisters are at times jealous of ARIELLE, but they love her and would do anything to help her)</i>	
NANNY:	The Dame, Prince RICK's housekeeper, motherly (M)
Prince RICK:	Principal boy, suave, cheesy, corny, typical over the top Prince/hero, knows he's good-looking, M/F)
SKITTLE:	A scatty seagull, blundering buffoon, not very clever but thinks he knows everything, link with the audience (M/F)
Pretty SEAWITCH	SEAWITCH but when she transforms into a beautiful human (F)
Max:	RICK's dog, loveable family dog (M/F)

THE LITTLE MERMAID

ACT 1

SCENE 1

Gates of Atlantis, TRIDENT and SEAWITCH walk on from audience on opposite sides in front of blacks. SEAWITCH sees TRIDENT and goes to turn around and walk away to avoid him Underwater style lighting, bubble projection

TRIDENT SEAWITCH!
SEAWITCH TRIDENT, fancy seeing you here, how have you been?
Still playing hard to get or are you gonna make me your queen?
TRIDENT I've been looking all over for you SEAWITCH you have gone too far this time,
I've tried to help you but you still desire a life of crime
SEAWITCH Me? Whatever do you imply?
I haven't put a foot wrong would I tell a lie?
TRIDENT I mean it this time you have to go,
The things you have done, you're at an all-time low.
The people you have hurt, the destruction along the way,
I couldn't let you stay not even one more day
SEAWITCH TRIDENT I know I sometimes drift away from the good path,
But come on I was only trying to have a laugh,
Some of these merfolk can be so stuffy,
All sweetness and light and perfect and fluffy
TRIDENT I've made up my mind you leave within the hour,
You know it's for the best don't look so sour,
I'll have your belongings sent to you soon,
I can't wait to announce this, everyone will be over the moon
SEAWITCH Don't I even get the chance to say goodbye,
Some people like me they may even cry
TRIDENT Nobody likes you, they all want you to go,
This is all your own doing SEAWITCH, you reap what you sew
SEAWITCH *(getting angry now)* Fine! See if I care about leaving your poxy little reef,
I'll set up across town and become my own chief,
I don't need your pathetic perfect lifestyle of being kind and nice,
My rules will be do what you like whatever your vice.
You really think this will work asking me to leave?
I have many more bad plans just waiting up my sleeve
TRIDENT *(angry now)* I've heard enough, get out right now, you are banished forever,
I hope you and your shadow will be really happy together,
You will live alone in the depths of despair till the end of your days,
We have given you many chances to change your ways.
SEAWITCH Banished? Forever? Isn't that going a little too far?
Please TRIDENT maybe one last chance, let's say the door is left ajar?
TRIDENT Go! Now, never to return,
This will be a hard lesson to learn,
Just you and your own company for the rest of your life,
See how you like living with all the trouble and strife,
I must go now to tell everyone the news that you are gone for good,
And that we can live happily ever after just like we should,
I would say this is all quite a shame,

But SEAWITCH, you only have yourself to blame!

TRIDENT leaves through audience

SEAWITCH Go TRIDENT see if I care?
I'll probably have loads more fun in the depths of despair,
I can't believe he thinks he can treat me this way,
He is going to really regret this day,
I'll get even with him if it's the last thing I do,
I'll show him who is boss, me that's who,
That overgrown fish man needs putting in his place,
I'll soon be wiping that smile right off his face,
I'll go into the darkness and begin working out a plan,
I'll do whatever it takes to get even with that merman! *(loud laughing as she exits off into the audience)*

SCENE 2

Under the sea, CARLTON's rehearsal room

Curtains open

SONG 1

Carlton, sisters and chorus)(end of huge, colourful production number, all chorus and sisters smiling, holding pose, Carlton starts moaning about it, Brightly lit, shimmery

CARLTON Dis is unacceptable, dis is my big number, I've worked so hard on dis for weeks and you ruined it. I was spectacular, if I do say so myself, den de backing singers are off key, de percussion off time, de whole thing was just *(pause)* ...dull *(chorus who are still in pose look a bit shocked and drop their pose and become deflated, Carlton moves to side muttering)* dis will ruin me, I'm never working with amateurs again *(he continues muttering to himself while the sisters talk)* dis was meant to be de highlight of my career...

Sisters start talking to each other, chorus gather in groups a little disgruntled

LENOR *(gets her mirror out and looks in it)* don't look at me? I looked perfect the whole way through

BOLD It's not about looking good Lenor it's about how we sound, personally, I think if Carlton had given me the solo I had wanted in the first place it would have sounded better, I never get what I want it's so not fair *(stamps foot and crosses arms)*

PERSIL Well statistically you get your own way 99.33% of the time, and if you divide the remaining percentage between the rest of us, we get our own way 0.002% of the time so your statement is completely inaccurate.

DAZ Do you think Carlton will notice if I go yet? I've got tailball practise with the lads.

SURF I don't know why you want to spend your time swimming with those sweaty boys flicking a ball around, I can't think of anything more boring.

LENOR Let me see swimming round with 11 athletic tailball players or standing here getting moaned at hmmm.

FAIRY *(timidly)* I don't think Carlton is meaning to moan, he just wants the best from us.

SURF Who asked you? Get to the back.

FAIRY *(instantly)* Ok *(moves to the back behind an object)*

CHORUS 1 Maybe it would have sounded better if Arielle was here

All sisters instantly stare at the chorus member green eyed

CHORUS 1 *(stepping back)* or maybe not

CHORUS 2 Where is Arielle anyway?

CHORUS 3 I'm not sure but king TRIDENT will be furious that she has missed another rehearsal.

BOLD Forget about Daddy being furious, I'm furious, she should be here, we all have to be, it's not fair *(another strop)*.

CARLTON What is dis my ears are hearing? Arielle 'as missed another rehearsal?

PERSIL On average Arielle only misses 2 rehearsals a week.

CARLTON But we only 'ave 2 rehearsals a week.

LENOR *(moving PERSIL aside)* Arielle was here anyway she didn't miss the rehearsal.

CARLTON Well where is she hiding under dat rock?

DAZ She was here she just went to check on....ermmm.

SURF Her costume, yes her costume, that's it.

CARLTON Enough of dis, wherever she is she 'ad better hurry up we need to practise your masterpiece, de rest of you can go, go on, go *(chorus exit, sisters move to side to practise, Carlton stares at Fairy who is still standing behind scenery)* geez child, what are you doing still standing dere, get over dere with your sisters.

FAIRY Ok

CARLTON I don't get paid enough for dis nonsense, I'm surrounded by incompetent imbeciles, *(looks around and notices the audiences)* I see some of you know the feeling, dere you are, just sat down, show about to start, den you get dat one person, dere's 300 seats but dey sit next to you. The rustler. We all know who I mean, I see you, opening sweets, crunching on crisps, fidgeting. I feel your pain, trust me, up here's not much better, look at what I have to work with, all these beautiful young mermaids needing my attention, it's a tough life

BOLD Carlton, I want the lead in this song.

CARLTON I'm not changing it now Bold, you're not musical enough, you don't even know the difference between a fish and a piano.

BOLD You can't tuna fish. *(Laughs at own joke)* It's not fair, I want the lead *(stamps and pouts)*

CARLTON *(looking at the piano that's got plastic lobsters on top)* Look at dis mess, there's nothing worse dan lobsters on your piano.

LENOR Yes there is, crabs on your organ.

CARLTON Positions, (*says their names and points to their positions*) Lenor, Persil, Bold, Fairy, Daz, Surf, (*to audience*) their mother worked in a laundrette. I'm not waiting another minute for Arielle, she'll 'ave to catch up.

SONG 2

During song Trident enters

TRIDENT (*Claps entering from stage right*) my seven beautiful daughters, well done, that was fantastic (*notices Arielle is missing and is angry*) Where is Arielle?

All the daughters start talking at once with various excuses while CARLTON tries to tip toe away

TRIDENT Carlton?

CARLTON I'm sorry your majesty, dat girl needs to be kept on a leash, she's missing again, dis concert was supposed to be the pinnacle of my career, she is ruining everything (*while Carlton is talking King is pacing and looking worried*)

TRIDENT Find her

Everyone scatters and the blacks close to set ship scene, scene 3 is done in front of blacks

SCENE 3

On the surface of the sea, Skittle's rock, bright day lighting, sea gull sound effects

Skittle enters from audience, pushing past people and talking to them, then onto stage

SKITTLE Excuse me, pardon me, ooh sorry trod on your foot, oops wacked you in the face, sorry, sorry, excuse me, anyone got any sweets? Ooh my favourite, you got any more of those? No, never mind, trying to cut back on my SUGAR intake anyway (*falls onto stage, gets up, looks at audience*) well, well, what do we have here, a scruffy bunch of land lovers, and oh look some mini land lovers. (*sits on his rock*) So what are you all doing here then? (*pauses*) I'm pulling your leg, you've come to meet the amazing talking seagull haven't you? I knew it, I knew it, you've come to meet me, Skittle the seagull and it's true I can talk, and I know all there is to know about you land lovers, in the news this week I read about a man who fell into an upholstery machine, but don't worry, he's now fully recovered. I've got a great idea, you lot could all be my friends, I could do with some friends, it gets lonely on this rock, ooh I got another great idea, I get a lot of great ideas, we could have a secret thing between us, don't get excited madam, I'm not talking about that secret thing. Every time I come on, I'll whisper to you 'yo ho land lovers' (*holds hands by mouth*), then you whisper back 'yo ho Skittle' (*also with hand gesture*), will you do that? (*audience – yes*) let's give it a go 'yo ho land lovers',

AUD Yo ho Skittle
SKITTLE Woa there, it's meant to be secret, that was too loud, let's try it again, yo ho land lovers.
AUD Yo ho Skittle
SKITTLE Brilliant and remember this is our secret.

Arielle enters with Guppy, Skittle sits on his rock splashing, breaking the surface sound effect

SKITTLE Hey there sweet cheeks, come and meet my new friends,
ARIELLE Hello everyone,
SKITTLE This is Arielle and Guppy, Arielle just loves everything about you land lovers, she's always asking me questions about this and that, cos I know all there is to know, did I say that already?
ARIELLE Actually Skittle, I've got some things here that Guppy and I found in a shipwreck, can you tell me what they are? *(she pulls out a wooden spoon)*
SKITTLE Now this is called a mayshant, it's a multi-purpose massager, folk with legs use it like this *(he massages her face with it)*, sometimes they use creams with it.
GUPPY Wow a mayshant.
ARIELLE What about this? *(pulls out a pair of knickers)*
SKITTLE This is a very fashionable hat on land, called a Doogee pod, men love a lady wearing a doogee pod.
GUPPY I bet you'd look beautiful in a doogee pod Arielle
SKITTLE How are the rehearsals coming along for the big concert?
GUPPY That was today? Arielle you've missed it again.
ARIELLE I'm going to be in so much trouble.
GUPPY Come on, we better get back.
BOTH Bye Skittle *(they exit through curtains)*
SKITTLE I better be going as well now, but remember yo ho land lovers
AUD Yo ho Skittle *(he exits up far stairs through audience)*

Seawitch enters from audience, eerie baddy music for her entrance, lightning electricity sound, darker eerie lighting

AUD Boo
SEAWITCH Shut up you lot, I'm thinking, I need to come up with a plan *(she paces)*

Sugar and Spice enter from audience

SEAWITCH There you are, what took you so long?
SUGAR Sorry Seawitch, she took ages in the bathroom.
SPICE I was doing my make up *(acts like she looks great)*
SEAWITCH I hate to disappoint you girls, but no amount of make-up is going to improve your appearance, I've seen to that.

Phone sound effect

SEAWITCH Don't go anywhere, I'm not done with you yet, I need to take this call on my shell phone.
SPICE Are you on O2?
SEAWITCH No, H2O.

Seawitch is talking on phone at side

SUGAR I told you she'd be angry if we were late
SPICE You think that was angry? You don't want to see Seawitch when she's angry, the last time she got angry she caused a tidal wave and that was just because *(runner up of I'm a celebrity)* didn't win I'm a celebrity
SUGAR Well the last time I saw her angry was when she turned us into this
SPICE I don't think this is a private conversation
SUGAR I know, it's like we're not alone *(both turn heads to face audience at the same time, notice audience and start talking to them)*
SPICE We didn't always look like this, we used to be beautiful mermaids until we got on the wrong side of the Seawitch, then she turned us ugly,
SUGAR Yeah, she made us disgusting and vile
SPICE *(to audience)* what did you all do to upset her?
SUGAR Er, I don't think the Seawitch has done anything to them, I think they've always looked like that.
SPICE Oh, really?
SUGAR *(pushing her aside)* I'm Sugar, this is Spice, we came to the Seawitch for help a long time ago, things didn't quite go to plan and now we're doomed to serve her for eternity.
SPICE You could say we're poor unfortunate souls.

Seawitch returns to conversation

SEAWITCH I need to get back at Trident, you two are going to help me. He can't just banish me and get away with it, doesn't he know who I am? Spy on him and his daughters, find a weakness, tweet me once you've found something @seawitchesrus, #evilplans I'm following all the greats at the moment Voldemort, Cruella, Wicked witch of the west, now go *(walk apart, Seawitch drops phone)* Oh Sugar!
SUGAR *(runs back, head bowed)* yes Seawitch
SEAWITCH Not you, you moron

They exit