

What A Knight

Junior Script

by

Craig Hawes

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CAST LIST

N.B. In the following list, the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each role has.

An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

The Narrator

Lester Lugabout (40)

Principal Characters

* Watt Cobblers (92)

Kitty Cobblers (64)

Merlin The Magician (73)

* Princess Alice (48)

* Dusty Dragon (34)

The Royal Family

King Arthur (42)

Queen Guinevere (24)

Princess Alberta (14)

Princess Alfreda (12)

Princess Almira (11)

The Courtiers

Lord Dorking (12)

Lord Dudley (11)

Lord Dent (10)

Maid Molly (20)

Scratch The Guard (14)

Sniff The Guard (13)

Jolly Jake The Jester (17)

Colin Calvin (12)

Keith Klein (12)

Earl Axminster (20)

The Good Knights

Sir Roundsound (12)

Sir Cumference (7)

Sir Loinsteak (6)

Sir Render (7)

Sir Curity (5)

Sir Veillance (5)

The Squires

Squire Salvador (8)

Squire Sylvester (8)

Squire Sebastian (7)

Squire Samuel (8)

Squire Steve (5)

Squire Syd (5)

Squire Stan (5)

Squire Scott (5)

The Black Knight's Army

The Black Knight (69)

Ernie Blackhead (49)

Bernie Blackhead (49)

Bad Bill (2)

Bad Ben (2)

Bad Bob (2)

Bad Bert (2)

Bad Brian (2)

Marvin The Magic Mirror (21)

SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

* Watt Cobblers	92
Merlin The Magician	73
The Black Knight	69
Kitty Cobblers	64
Bernie Blackhead	49
Ernie Blackhead	49
* Princess Alice.....	48
King Arthur.....	42
Lester Lugabout.....	40
* Dusty Dragon	34
Queen Guinevere	24
Marvin The Magic Mirror.....	21
Earl Axminster	20
Maid Molly	20
Jolly Jake The Jester.....	17
Princess Alberta	14
Scratch The Guard	14
Sniff The Guard	13
Colin Calvin	12
Keith Klein	12
Lord Dorking.....	12
Princess Alfreda	12
Sir Roundsound.....	12
Lord Dudley	11
Princess Almira.....	11
Lord Dent.....	10
Squire Salvador	8
Squire Samuel.....	8
Squire Sylvester	8
Sir Cumference.....	7
Sir Render	7

Squire Sebastian	7
Sir Loinsteak.....	6
Sir Curity.....	5
Sir Veillance.....	5
Squire Scott.....	5
Squire Stan.....	5
Squire Steve.....	5
Squire Syd.....	5
Bad Ben.....	2
Bad Bert.....	2
Bad Bill	2
Bad Bob.....	2
Bad Brian.....	2

CAST LIST IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER (WITH LINE COUNT)

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

Bad Ben.....	2
Bad Bert.....	2
Bad Bill	2
Bad Bob.....	2
Bad Brian.....	2
Bernie Blackhead	49
Colin Calvin	12
* Dusty Dragon	34
Earl Axminster	20
Ernie Blackhead	49
Jolly Jake The Jester.....	17
Keith Klein	12
King Arthur.....	42
Kitty Cobblers	64
Lester Lugabout.....	40
Lord Dent.....	10
Lord Dorking.....	12
Lord Dudley	11
Maid Molly	20
Marvin The Magic Mirror.....	21
Merlin The Magician	73
Princess Alberta	14
Princess Alfreda	12
* Princess Alice.....	48
Princess Almira.....	11
Queen Guinevere	24
Scratch The Guard	14
Sir Cumference.....	7
Sir Curity.....	5
Sir Loinsteak.....	6
Sir Render	7

Sir Roundsound	12
Sir Veillance.....	5
Sniff The Guard	13
Squire Salvador	8
Squire Samuel	8
Squire Scott	5
Squire Sebastian	7
Squire Stan.....	5
Squire Steve	5
Squire Syd	5
Squire Sylvester	8
The Black Knight	69
* Watt Cobblers	92

CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE**Scene One**

Colin Calvin
 Earl Axminster
 Earl Axminster
 Jolly Jake The
 Jester
 Keith Klein
 King Arthur
 Kitty Cobblers
 Lester Lugabout
 Lord Dent
 Lord Dorking
 Lord Dudley
 Maid Molly
 Princess Alberta
 Princess Alfreda
 Princess Almira
 Queen Guinevere
 Scratch The
 Guard
 Sir Cumference
 Sir Curity
 Sir Loinsteak
 Sir Render
 Sir Roundsound
 Sir Veillance
 Sniff The Guard
 Squire Salvador
 Watt Cobblers

Scene Two

Earl Axminster
 Jolly Jake The
 Jester
 Kitty Cobblers
 Maid Molly
 Merlin The
 Magician
 Princess Alice
 Scratch The
 Guard
 Sniff The Guard
 Squire Salvador
 Squire Samuel
 Squire Scott
 Squire Sebastian
 Squire Stan
 Squire Steve
 Squire Syd
 Squire Sylvester
 Watt Cobblers

Scene Three

Bad Ben
 Bad Bert
 Bad Bill
 Bad Bob
 Bad Brian
 Bernie Blackhead
 Colin Calvin
 Ernie Blackhead
 Keith Klein
 Lester Lugabout
 Marvin The
 Magic Mirror
 The Black Knight

Scene Four

Dusty Dragon
 Merlin The
 Magician
 Princess Alice
 Watt Cobblers

Scene Five

Earl Axminster
 Jolly Jake The
 Jester
 King Arthur
 Kitty Cobblers
 Lord Dent
 Lord Dorking
 Lord Dudley
 Maid Molly
 Princess Alberta
 Princess Alfreda
 Princess Almira
 Queen Guinevere
 Scratch The
 Guard
 Sir Cumference
 Sir Curity
 Sir Loinsteak
 Sir Render
 Sir Roundsound
 Sir Veillance
 Sniff The Guard
 Squire Salvador
 Squire Samuel
 Squire Scott
 Squire Sebastian
 Squire Stan
 Squire Steve
 Squire Syd
 Squire Sylvester

Scene Six

Bernie Blackhead
 Colin Calvin
 Ernie Blackhead
 Keith Klein
 Marvin The
 Magic Mirror
 Princess Alberta
 Princess Alfreda
 Princess Almira
 The Black Knight

Scene Seven

Dusty Dragon
 Merlin The
 Magician
 Princess Alice
 Watt Cobblers

Scene Eight

Bad Ben
 Bad Bert
 Bad Bill
 Bad Bob
 Bad Brian
 Bernie Blackhead
 Dusty Dragon
 Ernie Blackhead
 Lester Lugabout
 Princess Alice
 Sir Cumference
 Sir Curity
 Sir Loinsteak
 Sir Render
 Sir Roundsound
 Sir Veillance
 Watt Cobblers

Scene Nine

All

LIST OF PROPERTIES**Scene One**

Lute.....	Lester Lugabout
Flags/Banners showing King Arthur’s crest.....	Scene Prop
Three scrolls and three quills.....	Lords Dudley, Dorking & Dent
Mob cap.....	Kitty Cobblers
Apron.....	Kitty Cobblers
Rolling Pin.....	Kitty Cobblers
Hand whisk.....	Kitty Cobblers
Heavy-looking sack of flour.....	Watt
Two trumpets.....	Scratch & Sniff
Three royal pendants.....	King Arthur

Scene Two

Cooking table with various ingredients and kitchen utensils.....	Scene Prop
Sacks.....	Scene Prop
Barrel.....	Scene Prop
Tray of scones.....	Scene Prop
Flower in a flowerpot, with string attached to the stem.....	Watt
Eggs.....	Watt
Sock.....	Watt
One toilet roll.....	Watt
Large magnifying glass.....	Merlin
Large bag embroidered with the initials “W.C.”.....	Kitty
Book.....	Kitty
Book.....	Molly

Scene Three

Two large banners showing the Black Knight’s crest.....	Scene Prop
Chess table, chess pieces and two chairs.....	Scene Prop
Magic Mirror, covered with a cloth.....	Ernie/Bernie
Instruction manual.....	Ernie
Rope and shackles.....	Calvin/Klein
Two wigs and two skull caps.....	Calvin/Klein

Scene Four

Table set with magic-looking objects	Scene Prop
Dragon puppet set on table, under a cloth	Scene Prop
Quill and scroll, set on table	Scene Prop
Book (of spells), set on table	Scene Prop
Magnifying glass (as before)	Merlin
Magic wand	Merlin
Magic shop bouquet of flowers (see production notes)	Scene Prop
Pile of labels, either self adhesive or with separate glue	Scene Prop
Feather duster	Watt
Potion bottles (minimum six)	Scene Prop

Scene Five

Two pieces of parchment/note paper, handwritten.....	Kitty
Magnifying glass (as before)	Merlin

Scene Six

Rope and shackles (as before).....	Calvin/Klein
Chess table, chess pieces and two chairs (as before)	Scene Prop
Magic mirror (as before)	Scene Prop

Scene Seven

Workbench	Scene Prop
Six potion bottles (as before).....	Scene Prop

Scene Eight

Three potion bottles (as before)	Sir Cumference
Dragon puppet (as before)	Kitty
Large bag embroidered with the initials "W.C." (as before)	Watt
Feather duster (as before; in the large bag)	Watt
Two swords	Ernie & Bernie
Two swords	Alice

Scene Nine

Throne	Scene Prop
Table, with the dragon puppet concealed with a cloth.....	Scene Prop
Large bag embroidered with the initials “W.C.” (as before)	Bernie
Feather duster (as before).....	Ernie
Scone, in the large bag.....	Bernie
Sword	The Black Knight
Book (as before)	Watt
Book (as before)	Princess Alice
Miniature sword, produced from scone using sleight of hand	Watt
Large bag containing large telescopic sword (see production notes).....	Merlin
Magic wand (as before)	Merlin

PRODUCTION NOTES

Welcome to ***What A Knight!*** I am sure you will enjoy rehearsing and performing this musical comedy, but to aid you in your production it may be helpful to consider the following production notes.

CASTING

The script is written for 44 speaking characters, as listed previously. These range from principal parts to small supporting roles. For productions with fewer cast members, condensing and doubling of characters is possible. This can be done in numerous ways, but the following example reduces the cast number to 28:

- Remove Princess Almira (reallocating lines) to leave just 2 princesses
- Remove Sir Veillance (reallocating lines) to leave just 5 knights
- Combine the Squires and Bad Guards into just 2 parts each, both doubling with each other
- Combine the Lords into just 1 part
- Double up Dusty Dragon with Marvin The Magic Mirror

To expand the cast, unlimited chorus parts may be used as additional courtiers, squires and an off-stage choir for backing on other songs. Dent is a decrepit old man who simply echoes the other Lords' words with a croaky voice. Dusty Dragon is a fun part that was written as a large dragon puppet worked and voiced by a hidden performer. However, it would work equally effectively with a small performer in a dragon costume actually on stage. A modern (and slightly easier) approach may be to have the puppet performer in full view on stage, dressed in similar colours or all in black as in Avenue Q. One final point here - the word "scone" (a small British cake of Scottish origin) is often pronounced in various ways, but for the purposes of this production should at all times be pronounced to rhyme with "stone"!

COSTUMES

This show is full of traditional medieval, Arthurian characters, and there are countless films and books to draw upon. Mock chain mail costumes are easily available to buy or hire and are essential for the Knights and Arthur. The Mirror works well as a face poking through a hole in some shiny silver material stretched across the decorated wooden frame of a full-length mirror. Remember, an authentic look will transport the audience to the dark ages - plenty of chain mail, tunics, tights and dresses and you can't go far wrong!

STAGING

This production can be staged effectively with simple scenery to suggest the inside of a castle. A backcloth of grey stonework can be embellished with castling, turrets, flags and shields. Camelot and Rook Castle can be identified by a change in lighting and a large central banner set at the back that can be rotated for each location to show the appropriate coat of arms. Merlin's Workshop can be a small flat, painted with potion bottles and books, set centre stage behind a wooden workbench. If you are using a puppet for Dusty Dragon with a hidden performer, the puppet would sit on the table and be worked from behind through a discreet hole in the flat. When Dusty is at Rook Castle, the puppet is carried and

worked by Alice but voiced by the original performer offstage. Merlin also uses three magic tricks - a collapsing wand, an instantly appearing bouquet of flowers and a collapsible sword that grows telescopically. These can be made, but are all available to purchase at little cost from good magic or joke shops.

MUSIC

All the music required to stage this production, including sound effects, is found on the Backing Track CD. A vocal recording is provided as a guide and to enable the swift learning of songs. The backing tracks without vocals are ideal to use in rehearsals and performances, and the three scores give vast flexibility if you have the luxury of a live pianist. Directors may, if they wish, allow a choir or separate character to accompany or replace a soloist in a song or section intended for a soloist. This is sometimes necessary if certain cast members are unable to perform the solo themselves fully or if a larger chorus or choir is required to be employed more fully throughout the show.

AND FINALLY...

This is a fun show to rehearse and perform, so remember to enjoy yourselves and your audience will, too! My best wishes for a successful and enjoyable production.

Craig Hawes

TRACK 1:**OVERTURE****PROLOGUE**

(As the House Lights dim, the music begins and eventually swells as the curtain rises. The scene is outside Camelot Castle. The Courtiers inside are frozen in action as Lester Lugabout, the wandering minstrel, enters with his lute and addresses the audience in verse.)

LESTER:

Well met, fellow travellers, lend me your ear
A story of wonder you're going to hear
A story of magic and castles of old
Of damsels and dragons and knights so bold.

The Britons are strong and there's peace through the land
Under the might of King Arthur's hand
But wait, good people, and listen ye well -
A tale of terrible treason I tell.

The year, five hundred and thirty one
The dawn is breaking, the day has begun
So let me begin to unravel my plot
As I welcome you all... to Camelot!

SCENE ONE

(Inside Camelot Castle, early on the morning of King Arthur's birthday. The castle is bright and decorated with colourful flags and banners showing King Arthur's crest. The Courtiers who were frozen come to life and perform their opening number.)

TRACK 2:**CASTLE OF CAMELOT**

ALL: IN CAMELOT WE KNOW WE'VE GOT
A PLACE TO CALL OUR OWN
FOR WE HAVE FOUND WE'RE SAFE AND SOUND
WITHIN THESE WALLS OF STONE
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN A PLACE SO GREEN
NO MATTER WHERE YOU ROAM
FROM LOW AND MEAN TO KING AND QUEEN
OUR CASTLE IS OUR HOME!

THE FLAG IS FLYING HIGH
AND HERE'S THE REASON WHY
AS EVERY DAY GOES BY
WE COUNT THE BLESSINGS WE FORGOT
SO COME ON IN AND FIND
YOU'VE LEFT YOUR CARES BEHIND
AND JOIN US IN THE LUCKY LIFE WE'VE GOT
IN THE CASTLE OF CAMELOT!

(The Courtiers busy themselves again in the musical break, taking up new positions for the second verse.)

OUR KNIGHTS OF OLD WITH HEARTS SO BOLD
WILL FIGHT AWAY YOUR FEARS
JUST STEP INSIDE, WE'LL BE YOUR GUIDE
AND WIPE AWAY YOUR TEARS.
SO WHEN IT SEEMS YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS
HAVE VANISHED OUT OF VIEW
JUST STAY A DAY, YOU'LL FIND THE WAY
TO MAKE THEM ALL COME TRUE!

THE FLAG IS FLYING HIGH
AND HERE'S THE REASON WHY
AS EVERY DAY GOES BY
WE COUNT THE BLESSINGS WE FORGOT
SO COME ON IN AND FIND
YOU'VE LEFT YOUR CARES BEHIND
AND JOIN US IN THE LUCKY LIFE WE'VE GOT
IN THE CASTLE OF CAMELOT!

(The song ends and the Courtiers busy themselves in the castle, preparing for the arrival of the royal couple. Many characters (including the Princesses and Squires) cross the back of the stage busily. Lords Dudley, Dorking and Dent are carrying scrolls and quills, issuing orders centre stage.)

DUDLEY: Quickly, come along, now! There's no time to waste!
DORKING: The King and Queen will be here any moment!
DENT: Any moment!
ALBERTA: Molly, fetch me my tiara!
MAID MOLLY: Yes, Miss Alberta, I'll just run up to the North Tower and see if I can..
ALFREDA: Molly, where is my gown?
MAID MOLLY: Your gown, Miss Alfreda? Well, I thought I'd left it on your bed this morning when...
ALMIRA: Molly, I need my ribbons!
MAID MOLLY: Your ribbons, Miss Almira? Yes, of course. I'll find them right away. Princesses!
EARL AXMINSTER: Remember your manners, young squires. This is the most important day of the year - and who can tell me why?
SQUIRE SAL: It's King Arthur's birthday, Sir!
EARL AXMINSTER: Precisely, my boy! And one of you may be made a Knight in the birthday honours list!

(Kitty Cobblers enters with mob cap, apron and a rolling pin and whisk in her hands. She looks back off stage and calls to her son.)

KITTY: Oh, do get a move on, Watt. We've got so much to do. Watt!

(Watt enters, struggling with a large, heavy sack of self-raising flour.)

WATT: I'm coming, Mum. This flour weighs a ton! I thought it was supposed to be self-raising!
KITTY: You'll never make a knight if you don't build up your muscles, Watt. Now get a move on! *(They both exit.)*
LESTER: My lords, I was wondering if I might have a word. I was wondering if your banquet needed entertainment. I was wondering if you appreciated music of the lute. I was wondering if you'd like me to sing and play for the king?
DUDLEY: Who are you?
LESTER: I'm a wandering minstrel!
DORKING: Wandering minstrel! He's funnier than our jester. Book him, quick!
DENT: Book him quick!
DUDLEY: What's your name, minstrel?

LESTER: *(Bowing.)* Lester Lugabout, at your service.
DUDLEY: Well, Lester Lugabout, you're hired!
DORKING: You may bring your belongings and move in straight away!
DENT: Straight away!
LESTER: No need - I travel light, just me and my lute. That way there's less to lug about!
SCRATCH: Pray silence for their Royal Highnesses...
SNIFF: King Arthur and Queen Guinevere!

TRACK 3: **ROYAL FANFARE #1**

(Scratch and Sniff the royal guards raise their trumpets and play the fanfare as Arthur and Guinevere enter. The Courtiers cheer and Arthur and Guinevere wave.)

KING ARTHUR: Thank you, loyal subjects!
GUINEVERE: You're all too kind!
DUDLEY: Sire, the whole of Camelot rejoices on this day of celebration...
DORKING: As we join with every Briton in the land to wish you a happy birthday!
DENT: Happy birthday!
KING ARTHUR: Thank you, my noble lords. And as is customary on my birthday, tonight at my royal banquet I shall make one squire an honorary knight to sit at my round table.
GUINEVERE: Don't forget our daughters, dear. Remember, this morning you bestow upon each of them the royal pendant to mark the end of their royal training!
KING ARTHUR: Thank you, Guinevere, my dear. Now, where are my knights?
DUDLEY: Sire, may I present the leader of the knights...
DORKING: With his booming voice that can be heard for miles...
DENT: Sir Roundsound!

(The crowd cheer as Sir Roundsound steps forward and bows.)

SIR ROUNDSOUND: Thank you. Sire, the Knights of the Round Table would like to offer their greetings on this very special day. Firstly, the inventor of the round table, Sir Cumference.

(The crowd cheer as Sir Cumference steps forward and bows.)

SIR CUMFERENCE: Joyful felicitations, your royal highness!
SIR ROUNDSOUND: Our secret service special agents, Sir Veillance and Sir Curity.

(The crowd cheer as the two Knights step forward and bow.)

SIR VEILLANCE: Happy birthday, sire!

SIR CURITY: Many happy returns!

SIR ROUNDSOUND: Our faithful, if a little scared and cowardly, Sir Render!

(The crowd cheer as Sir Render anxiously walks forward and bows.)

SIR RENDER: *(Nervously.)* Hello!

SIR ROUNDSOUND: And finally, our very own hunky hero, Sir Loinsteak!

(The crowd cheer.)

SIR LOINSTEAK: I'm a ladies' knight, and the feeling's right!

ALBERTA: I love Sir Loinsteak! He's a knight to remember! Which one do you like, Alfreda?

ALFREDA: I'm saving myself for one knight only!

ALMIRA: Oh, we'll ask you tomorrow then.

MOLLY: Please behave yourselves and remember your manners!

KING ARTHUR: Now it is time to present each princess with a royal pendant to mark the end of her training! Bring forth my daughters!

(Each of the three daughters steps forward in turn to greet their parents and receive their royal pendant.)

GUINEVERE: Princess Alberta!

ALBERTA: Good morning, Mother. Happy birthday, Father.

GUINEVERE: Princess Alfreda!

ALFREDA: Good morning, Mother. Happy birthday, Father.

GUINEVERE: Princess Almira!

ALMIRA: Good morning, Mother. Happy birthday, Father.

GUINEVERE: Princess Alice? Princess Alice? Where is Princess Alice?

(Princess Alice enters running, very undignified, untidy and out of breath.)

ALICE: Good morning, Mother. Happy birthday, Father.

GUINEVERE: Really, Alice! Where have you been? You look like you've been dragged through a hedge backwards by a mad bull!

ALICE: That's because I have! You see, I was running through this muddy field when...

KING ARTHUR: This is the last straw, Alice. Princesses don't behave like that! There are rules to follow, a code to stick to. I'm sorry, Alice, but there is no royal pendant for you. You need more training.

ALICE: *(Sadly.)* Yes, father.

ALBERTA: Bad luck Alice. It looks like we are the only true princesses around here.

ALFREDA: With royal pendants to prove it!

ALMIRA: We can wear them to the royal banquet tonight!

GUINEVERE: Talking of the Royal Banquet, I have commissioned the top designers in the land to make new dresses for each of you.

(Calvin and Klein step forwards and bow.)

CALVIN: Colin Calvin...

KLEIN: ... and Keith Klein...

CALVIN/KLEIN: ...at your service, your majesty!

GUINEVERE: This is Calvin and Klein, the finest dress designers in the land. Gentlemen, may I present our royal daughters Princess Alberta...

CALVIN: Charmed!

GUINEVERE: Princess Alfreda...

KLEIN: Enchanted!

GUINEVERE: Princess Almira...

CALVIN/KLEIN: Delighted!

GUINEVERE: ...and Princess Alice!

CALVIN/KLEIN: *(Shocked and aghast at Alice's appearance.)* Aarghh!

CALVIN: *(Recovering quickly.)* I mean, er, what an interesting outfit.

KLEIN: Yes, and... *(Sniffing.)* what an interesting perfume! What is it?

PRINCESSES: Pig poo!

ALICE: It is not!

GUINEVERE: All right dears, that's enough.

CALVIN: We shall collect our cloth and return at noon for your fittings.

KLEIN: You shall be the toast of the royal banquet tonight!

DUDLEY: And so, Sire, your loyal subjects salute you on this special day!

DORKING: Good people, let us celebrate our noble sovereign, King Arthur!

DENT: King Arthur!

(The crowd cheers as the Guards play their trumpets as the introduction to the song.)

TRACK 4:**KING ARTHUR AIN'T 'ARF A BAD KING!****ALL:**

WHO MAKES IT HOT WHEN HE'S REIGNING?
WHO MAKES IT NOT WORTH COMPLAINING?
WHO HAS SPENT A LIFETIME SAT UPON THE THRONE
EVER SINCE HE PULLED A SWORD RIGHT OUT OF A STONE!
WHO IS THE WORLD'S STRAIGHTEST RULER?
WHO IS LIKE YOU, JUST MUCH COOLER?
GENUFLECT BEFORE HIM, BOW AND KISS HIS RING!
KING ARTHUR AIN'T 'ARF A BAD KING!

WHO IS A RIGHT ROYAL GEEZER?
WHO IS A GREAT BRITISH CAESAR?
EMPERORS AND PHARAOHS, THEY MAY COME AND GO,
HE CAN TOP THEM ALL 'COS HE'S THE STAR OF THE SHOW!
WHO IS AS TASTY AS TOFFEE? (YUMMY!)
WHO IS THE CREAM IN OUR COFFEE?
SHOUT IT FROM THE ROOFTOPS, JOIN WITH US AND SING,
KING ARTHUR AIN'T 'ARF A BAD KING!

WHO IS A RIGHT ROYAL GEEZER?
WHO IS A GREAT BRITISH CAESAR?
EMPERORS AND PHARAOHS, THEY MAY COME AND GO,
HE CAN TOP THEM ALL 'COS HE'S THE STAR OF THE SHOW!
WHO IS AS TASTY AS TOFFEE? (YUMMY!)
WHO IS THE CREAM IN OUR COFFEE?
SHOUT IT FROM THE ROOFTOPS, JOIN WITH US AND SING,
KING ARTHUR AIN'T 'ARF A BAD KING!
KING ARTHUR AIN'T 'ARF A BAD KING!

Blackout.

SCENE TWO**TRACK 5:****KITTY'S KITCHEN**

(The Castle Kitchen. A barrel, some sacks and different ingredients and kitchen utensils are scattered about. Kitty Cobblers, the castle cook, is at her cooking table preparing her infamous scones. Scratch & Sniff enter.)

SCRATCH: Are you the castle cook, Kitty Nobblers?
KITTY: The name's Kitty Cobblers. And what are you two doing in my kitchen?
SCRATCH: We're the royal guards, Scratch and Sniff. We've been sent to taste the food for tonight's banquet.
SNIFF: That's right. I'm starving! I mean, health and safety rules; check nothing's poisoned. What have you got?
KITTY: Scones.
SCRATCH: Scones? Is that it? It's not going to be much of a banquet.
KITTY: Scones is all I can make, so scones is all there is!
SNIFF: Come on then, let's have some.
KITTY: *(Handing over a tray of scones.)* Very well, but just one.

(Jolly Jake the depressed jester enters looking sullen and morose.)

SCRATCH: Ah, Jake, my jolly jester. Good morning!
JAKE: *(Sadly.)* Is it?
SNIFF: All ready for your cabaret spot tonight? Try that joke we gave you. It's very funny, Mrs. Wobblers.
KITTY: Cobblers!
SNIFF: Well, at least hear it first!
JOLLY JAKE: Knock, knock.
SCRATCH: Who's there?
JOLLY JAKE: Arthur.
SCRATCH: Arthur who?
JOLLY JAKE: Arthur. King Arthur. You know, the bloke with the crown.
SNIFF: No, it's "Arthur!" - "Arthur who?" - "Arthur any more scones left?"
KITTY: *(Crossly, snatching Sniff's empty tray from him.)* Apparently not! I've never heard such a terrible joke in all my life!
JOLLY JAKE: Life! Don't talk to me about life.
SCRATCH: Oh, dear.
JOLLY JAKE: Every morning I wake up and think "What's the point of it all?".
SNIFF: Here we go again!

- JOLLY JAKE:** I spend all day bringing happiness to others and go to bed more depressed than when I woke up, knowing tomorrow's going to be even worse.
- SCRATCH:** Well, at least you don't let it get you down.
- JOLLY JAKE:** That's just it. This jolly personality is just a façade, a mask of merriment hiding my inner gloom and desolation.
- SNIFF:** Really?
- JOLLY JAKE:** My heart may be breaking, my soul may be crying out in the darkness, but on the outside I'm smiling and laughing, bringing joy and happiness to everyone around me.
- SCRATCH:** Yes, so we see.
- JOLLY JAKE:** It isn't easy being so cheerful all the time, you know. It's just a talent I was born with.
- KITTY:** *(Pushing them all out of the kitchen.)* Yes, well, I'm a little busy right now, but thank you for brightening up my morning.
- JOLLY JAKE:** *(As they leave.)* Don't mention it.

(Scratch, Sniff and Jake exit. Watt Cobblers, Kitty's son, enters looking unhappy.)

- KITTY:** There you are, Watt! And how's my birthday boy! Having a good day, are we?
- WATT:** A good day? Have you forgotten what happened yesterday at Knight School? It was a total disaster!
- KITTY:** Oh, don't exaggerate. We all have off days. It could have been worse.
- WATT:** It could have been worse? Mum, I was expelled!
- KITTY:** No, you're right. It was a total disaster! I still don't understand it. Tell me again, how did it happen?
- WATT:** Well, it was just like any other day at Knight School...

TRACK 6: **FLASHBACK MUSIC #1**

(During the music, one side of the stage becomes the schoolroom scene. Earl Axminster and the young Squires enter quickly, taking frozen positions. The lights change and the scene comes to life.)

- EARL AXMINSTER:** Right, pay attention young squires. Tomorrow is King Arthur's birthday, and one of you may be chosen to become a Knight in the birthday honours list. So here is your chance to impress me. We are going to start by reciting the Knight's Code. I hope you have all learnt it by heart?
- SQUIRES:** Yes, Earl Axminster.
- EARL AXMINSTER:** Good, then we shall begin.

EARL & SQUIRES: A Knight is good and well behaved
A Knight is neat and cleanly shaved
A Knight is right and never wrong
He's clever and his feet don't pong!

WATT: Sorry I'm late, Earl Axminster.

EARL AXMINSTER: Watt Cobblers, you should have been here half an hour ago!

WATT: Why, what happened?

EARL AXMINSTER: You are eleven years old tomorrow, Watt. And yet you seem to have learned nothing at this school.

SQUIRE SAL: He'll never be a knight in shining armour, will he Earl Axminster?

SQUIRE SYL: Yeah, more like a nit in shining armour!

SQUIRE SEB: He's not the brightest bulb in the pack, is he?

SQUIRE SAM: Hey, Watt! You know why you're so dim? Because you're only ten, Watt!

(The Squires all laugh loudly at Watt.)

EARL AXMINSTER: That's enough, boys. Watt, this is your last chance. Say the Knight's Oath.

WATT: That's easy, Earl Axminster. I promise to be a good knight.

EARL AXMINSTER: You missed the last word. What comes after "Good Knight"?

WATT: *(Unsure.)* Sleep tight?

EARL AXMINSTER: No, "always". I swear to be a good knight always!

WATT: Right. I'll be a good knight always.

EARL AXMINSTER: *(Putting his hand on his heart.)* No, it's an oath. You must swear it!

WATT: *(Putting his hand on his heart.)* OK. I'll be a good knight always, bumface!

(The Squires all gasp in shock and horror! Earl Axminster is furious.)

EARL AXMINSTER: Watt Cobblers, I have had enough! I am Earl Axminster, and you can't walk all over me! I never want to see you here again. Henceforth you are expelled!

TRACK 7:

FLASHBACK MUSIC #2

(The lights change and Earl Axminster and the Squires exit. Watt returns to his mother in the kitchen scene.)

WATT: So that's what happened. And now I'll never get to be a knight. I'm useless!