

Rumpelstiltskin – A Christmas Pantomime

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The title "Rumpelstiltskin" is written in a large, bold, black, stylized font. To the left of the first few letters is a line drawing of a spinning wheel. Above the letter 'i' in "skin" is a small illustration of a Santa hat with a pom-pom.

Rumpelstiltskin

A Christmas Pantomime

by

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Rumpelstiltskin: a long lost Santa’s elf.

Harry the Horses Ass: (*principal boy*) The back end of a Panto Horse and the next Santa.

Front: The front end of the panto horse that gets dragged around with Harry.

Noelle: (*principal girl*) The eldest of the Flour Children.

Dame H. Goods (Goody): (*the Dame*). King Coal’s sister and rightful heir to the throne.

Snowflake: (*good fairy*) Has yet to earn her wings.

The ToyMaker: (*principal villain*) A rouge Santa’s elf. Rumpelstiltskin’s brother.

Clonkenboot: (*villain*) Evil miller. Has steel boot. Works for ToyMaker.

Bundlebust: (*villain*) Sergeant at Arms. Has big arms. Secretly works for the ToyMaker.

King Coal: (*bumbling monarch*) An overcompensating weak monarch. Goody’s brother.

Nick Nock: A King Coal Henchman. One half of a pair of Siamese twins joined at the leg.

Nack Nock: A King Coal Henchman. The other Siamese twin joined at the leg.

Patty Whack: Carries a big hammer. King’s henchman. Works with Nick and Nack.

Mice: (*evil henchmen*) The ToyMaker’s minions. Children’s Chorus.

Flour Children: Children’s Chorus.

Bjorn 1: A Swedish lumberjack.

Bjorn 2: Another Swedish lumberjack. He only says “Ya.”

Wood Elf: Knotty Pine. Works with Bjorn 1 and Bjorn 2.

NASA Cow: (*puppet*) Cow wearing a space helmet. The cow that jumped over the moon.

Baa Humbug Sheep: (*puppet*) A grumpy sheep that goes “baa humbug!”

Stage Hand: a stage hand.

Bush People: People that run around with tree props to act as scenery.

Ghost of Christmas Future: Hooded black cape and skeletal hands. Possible cameo role.

Drummer Boy: The Little Drummer Boy grown up. Into jazz and new world music.

Cookie: (*puppet*) A gingerbread hand puppet with attitude.

Holy Sock: (*puppet*) Resides in a Christmas stocking. Supposedly wise.

Stocking 1: (*puppet*) Stocking hung by the chimney. Holy Sock Aid.

Stocking 2: (*puppet*) Another stocking hung by the chimney. Holy Sock Aid.

Announcer V.O.: voice-over voice.

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SCENE 1 – GIVING OUT MR. HOO

Snowflake

SNOWFLAKE walks out holding a TOY OWL.

SNOWFLAKE

Salutations
And how do you do
This thing in my hand
Is Mr. Hoo

Now he's very important
Beyond all measure
So I'm giving him to YOU
No pressure

SNOWFLAKE hands the TOY OWL to someone in the audience.

But we all must help
We all must care
When I ask "Where's Hoo?"
You must say "Hoo's there!"

And point, that'd be nice,
And give it a shout
So take a big breath
And be really loud

Let's try. One, two, three..."Where's Hoo?"
"Hoo's there!"

You call that loud?
That wasn't a peep
A shy mouse would be louder
If it whispered a squeak

Let's try again. One, two, three..."Where's Hoo?"
"Hoo's there!"

A little bit better
Now on with the show
But before we begin
Please watch this instructional video

SNOWFLAKE exits.

SCENE 2 - INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO

An instructional video plays on the MONITORS.

It goes over the basic rules of panto and audience participation.

It ends with the tag “This video was brought to you by ToyMaker Inc. – Making Christmas all about the present(s).”

SCENE 3 - OPENING MONTAGE – VILLAGE SQUARE – CHRISTMAS EVE

Noelle, Goody, Front, Harry, Clonkenboot, Flour Children, King Coal, Nick, Nack, Patty Whack

[Pat a Pan – instrumental]

Snow falls. It is cold.

DAME H. GOODS (GOODY) secretly giving food to NOELLE.

CLONKENBOOT, the evil Miller, herds FLOUR CHILDREN toward the mill.

The PANTO HORSE walks across the courtyard. A hand comes out from beneath and hands a small wooden toy to NOELLE. She pats the PANTO HORSE.

KING COAL limps across the square. He is followed by NICK, NACK and PATTY WHACK. PATTY WHACK holds a LARGE HAMMER.

SCENE 4 - HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Noelle, Flour Children

[Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas]

NOELLE comforts the Flour Children with song. She hands out FOOD and TOYS as she sings.

NOELLE

Have yourself a merry little Christmas

Let your heart be light

From now on

Our troubles will be out of sight

Have yourself a merry little Christmas

Make the Yule-tide gay,

From now on

Our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days
Happy golden days of yore.
Faithful friends who are dear to us
Gather near to us once more

Through the years
We all will be together
If the fates allow
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough
And have yourself a merry little Christmas now

SCENE 5 - CLONKENBOOT AND BUNDLEBUST ENTER

Noelle, Flour Children, Clonkenboot, Bundlebust

CLONKENBOOT enters and takes TOY from child.

Audience is encouraged to “BOO”.

CLONKENBOOT

What is this? You been stealing from me? You ungrateful little imp. I’m barely making ends meet as is.

A BAG OF GOLD falls from his coat. He quickly picks it back up.

CLONKENBOOT

That’s not mine. I’m watching it for a friend. The dog ate my homework. Here’s a letter from my mom. Shut up.

BUNDLEBUST enters and flexes.

NOELLE

It’s Bundlebust. The despicable and somewhat evil Sargent of Arms.

Encourage audience to “BOO”.

BUNDLEBUST

Come along, Clonkenboot. We have that thing. Wink wink.

CLONKENBOOT

Wink wink?

BUNDLEBUST

Yes. Wink wink.

CLONKENBOOT

Are you coming on to me?

BUNDLEBUST

No. Wink wink. We have that “thing”.

CLONKENBOOT

Oh. The “thing”.

BUNDLEBUST

Yes. The “thing”.

CLONKENBOOT

What thing?

NOELLE

Bundlebust and Clonkenboot would steal children and put them to work in the Flour Mill and make them Flour Children. They were vile, nasty, foul, stinky, smelly, rotten, not nice men.

BUNDLEBUST

Hey. We’re standing right here.

NOELLE

They were secretly working for the ToyMaker. They would steal children and train them to one day work in his toy factory.

CLONKENBOOT

Hey. No one’s supposed to know that.

Bag of gold falls out again.

BUNDLEBUST

What is this?

CLONKENBOOT

Nothing. My allowance. I have a paper route. The Tooth Fairy. I had a garage sale.

BUNDLEBUST

You haven’t been skimming from profits have you?

CLONKENBOOT

What? No. Don’t be crazy. That’s silly. Unthinkable. Don’t be daft.

BUNDLEBUST

Because if you’re holding out on me...

CLONKENBOOT

Me? Nah. What? Huh?

BUNDLEBUST

You're holding out on the ToyMaker. You don't want to have me tell the ToyMaker you're stealing from him do you?

CLONKENBOOT

Perish the thought. Never happened. Poof. Nothing there. Purely circumstantial. She did it.

He points at NOELLE.

BUNDLEBUST

Who did it?

CLONKENBOOT

She did it. She robbed a bank. Won the lottery. It's her inheritance. It's a dowry. She...um... spun straw into gold.

NOELLE

Spun straw into gold? That's the best you can do? No one's going to believe you.

BUNDLEBUST

I believe you.

NOELLE

Oh, for heaven's sake.

BUNDLEBUST

Does anyone else know?

CLONKENBOOT

Nobody else knows because I just made it up.

BUNDLEBUST

So just you and I?

CLONKENBOOT

Yes. If you don't count her and all the kids.

BUNDLEBUST

So, just her, the kids and you and I?

CLONKENBOOT

Yes. And the audience.

BUNDLEBUST

So, just the audience, her, the kids and you and I?

CLONKENBOOT

Yes. And the technicians. Up in the booth.

BUNDLEBUST

So, just the technicians, the audience, her, the kids and you and I?

CLONKENBOOT

Yes. And the concession ladies. Sometimes they come in and watch the show.

BUNDLEBUST

So, just the concession ladies, the technicians, the audience, her, the kids and you and I?

CLONKENBOOT

Yes. And Wilbur.

BUNDLEBUST

Who's Wilbur?

CLONKENBOOT

My pet cockroach. I'm not sure if cockroaches have ears but you can never be too careful.

BUNDLEBUST

So, just Wilbur, the concession ladies, the technicians, the audience, her, the kids and you and I know that she can spin straw into gold?

CLONKENBOOT

She can spin straw into gold?

BUNDLEBUST

Come on you.

*BUNDLEBUST grabs NOELLE by the arm and begins to lead her away.
The audience is encouraged to "BOO".*

BUNDLEBUST

And not a word to anyone...from any of you!

"BOO!"

BUNDLEBUST exits with NOELLE.

SCENE 6 - CASTLE HALLWAY – FOT

King Coal, Nick, Nack and Patty Whack, Goody

Curtain closes guided by GOODY wearing a HARDHAT and directing with ORANGE TORCHES.

KING COAL, NICK, NACK AND PATTY WHACK enter.

GOODY

It's the King! Kneel.

NICK, NACK and PATTY WHACK attempt to kneel.

NICK

I hate it when she does that.

NACK

I thought his name was Bartholomew.

KING COAL

Arise.

They struggle to their feet.

NICK

Old King Coal was a merry old soul, my backside.

KING COAL

You were saying?

NICK

I was just wishing him a Merry Christmas your majesty.

NACK

Merry Christmas, your majesty.

KING COAL

I hate Chri...

KING COAL gets stuck in a loop.

KING COAL

King me!

PATTY WHACK hits KING COAL over the head with a LARGE HAMMER.

KING COAL becomes unstuck.

NICK

(to audience) King Coal hates Christmas so much...

NACK

(to audience) He can't even say the word.

PATTY WHACK

Christmas!

KING COAL

I hate Chri...

KING COAL gets caught in a loop again.

NICK

See what we mean?

NACK

It all started...

KING COAL

King me!

PATTY WHACK hits him over the head and unfreezes him.

KING COAL

It all started when I was a spry young lad of rosy cheek and bouncy step. I was a prince. The world was my oyster. And then it happened.

Lights dim. Mood music.

NACK

Here comes the scary part.

NICK

Why does he always have to be so dramatic?

KING COAL

He – he – him. That red suited judge and jury. That ho-ho harbinger of doom. That reindeer riding rapsallion.

NICK

He means Santa.

NACK

In case you were wondering.

PATTY WHACK

Santa!

KING COAL

He put coal in my stocking.

Chord of doom.

NICK

And he keeps that very coal in his stocking to this very day.

KING COAL

And I keep that very coal in my stocking to this very day.

NACK

As a reminder of the injustice that befell him in his youth.

KING COAL

As a reminder of the injustice that befell me in my youth.

NICK AND NACK

Thus his limp.

KING COAL

Thus my limp.

PATTY WHACK

Coal.

SCENE 7 – SNOWFLAKE ENTERS

Snowflake, Nick, Nack, Patty Whack, King Coal

SNOWFLAKE runs in out of breath.

SNOWFLAKE

As a young lad
Of rosy cheek
King Coal was...

NICK
Too late.

NACK
He's already done it.

NICK
It's done.

SNOWFLAKE
What? The coal in the stocking?

NACK
The injustice.

NICK
Blah blah blah.

SNOWFLAKE
He didn't call Santa the ho-ho harbinger of doom again, did he?

NACK
Yup.

SNOWFLAKE
Piddle. "Where's Hoo?"

Audience responds "Hoo's there!"

SNOWFLAKE
I'm keeping an eye on you all.

I should explain
I should have before
I'm not a Fairy First Class
I'm a Fairy Class Four

NICK AND NACK
No wings.

SNOWFLAKE
Alas it is true
It hardly seems fair
To get where I want
I must run everywhere