

## **PROLOGUE**

### **TRACK 1:**

### **OVERTURE**

*(As the House Lights dim, the Overture music begins. At the end of the Overture, Jack Spratt appears in a spotlight front of stage, wearing a hat and raincoat and reading a newspaper with the headline "Crime Wave Continues". He looks up and addresses the audience in the cool, dramatic manner of a Film Noir detective. He speaks over the Underscore.)*

### **TRACK 2:**

### **SPRATT UNDERScore #1**

**JACK:** The name's Spratt. Jack Spratt, Private Detective. Investigator, Gumshoe, Private Eye. But whatever you call me, I'm the best in town. And this town sure needs the best. They used to call this place paradise, but not anymore. There's crime on every corner and the streets aren't safe. So welcome to my story. It's going to be a thriller, and it starts - as all good stories should - "Once upon a crime!"

### **TRACK 3:**

### **ONCE UPON A CRIME (SONG)**

*(There is a lighting change as the music begins. We see flashing police lights and hear sirens. The Police enter and point across the stage as the Chief shouts, possibly through a megaphone.)*

**CHIEF:** Stop, thief! Police! Come back here! He's getting away! After him, boys!

*(The Police run across the stage and exit. The Reporters enter and stand in spotlights either side of the stage, holding hand microphones and speaking directly to the audience. Rusty is the newsroom anchor-man whilst Dwayne is the roving reporter.)*

**RUSTY:** Folks, we're getting reports of more crime on the streets. We're going straight to our roving reporter, Dwayne Pipe! What's the story out there, Dwayne?

*(The company enter as a crowd of anxious and panicking onlookers, pointing around and reacting. Dwayne holds a finger on his "earpiece", shouting over the noise as if in a war zone.)*

**DWAYNE:** It's all kicking off out here, Rusty. Crowds are gathering as Police are in hot pursuit of yet another criminal. One thing's for sure, Rusty - this forest is no longer safe!

*(Rusty and Dwayne exit as the crowd take their positions to begin their dramatic song and dance.)*

**ALL:** TAKE A CHANCE AS YOU ROLL THE LOADED DICE,  
IN A FOREST OF VILLAINY AND VICE.  
WATCH THEM BREAK OUT OF JAIL,  
PUT A TWIST IN THE TALE OF EVERY RHYME.  
THE STORY OF OUR TIME!

ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
IT'S A TALE OF SCANDAL AND GRIME,  
EVERY TIME, OH  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!

TAKE A STEP IN A WORLD OF DARKEST DREAD,  
YOU'LL BE TREADING WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD.  
SOMEONE COMES TO SOME HARM,  
THEN YOU HEAR THE ALARM BEGIN TO CHIME!  
THE STORY OF OUR TIME!

ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
IT'S A TALE OF SCANDAL AND GRIME,  
EVERY TIME, OH  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!

*(The Police enter and wave their arms in front of the crowd as if holding them away from a crime scene. The crowd point towards the audience and strain to see what is happening. Rusty and Dwayne stand at each side as before, ready to report. The Chief addresses the crowd, possibly through his megaphone again.)*

**CHIEF:** This is the Police! Keep back and stay calm, folks! There is nothing to worry about! Nobody panic! We have everything under control!

**RUSTY:** Dwayne, can you give us an update? What's the latest out there?

**DWAYNE:** *(Approaching the Chief)* I'm with the Chief right now, Rusty! What's going on, Chief? *(He holds his microphone out to the Chief)*

**CHIEF:** *(Irate)* No comment!

**DWAYNE:** Is it another unexplained crime, Chief?

**CHIEF:** *(More irate)* No comment!

**DWAYNE:** Have you lost control of the forest, Chief?

**CHIEF:** *(Shouting, possibly through his megaphone)* No comment!

*(The crowd bursts through the Police line to resume their song and dance. The Police and reporters exit.)*

**ALL:** TAKE A CHANCE AS YOU ROLL THE LOADED DICE,  
IN A FOREST OF VILLAINY AND VICE.  
WATCH THEM BREAK OUT OF JAIL,  
PUT A TWIST IN THE TALE OF EVERY RHYME.  
THE STORY OF OUR TIME!

ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
IT'S A TALE OF SCANDAL AND GRIME,  
EVERY TIME, OH  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!  
THE STORY OF OUR TIME!  
ONCE UPON A CRIME!

#### **TRACK 4:** **CRIME PLAY OFF**

*(During the Play Off, the company exit and the scene transforms into Jack's office, with a small desk and chair. Peter Piper and Tom-Tom are stood frozen upstage holding hollow picture frames in front of their faces. Stood next to them, also with frames, are two other cast members in masks/hats depicting a Wicked Witch and a Big Bad Wolf. Jack is sat asleep with his hat over his face and feet up on the desk, arms folded. As the lights come up, he tips his hat back and addresses the audience over the Underscore.)*

#### **TRACK 5:** **SPRATT UNDERSCORE #2**

**JACK:** It was another lonely night in the office. As the rain washed down the windows, I washed down another milkshake and gazed at the Rogues' Gallery hanging on my wall. *(He moves to view each picture frame in turn)* Wicked Witch! Thanks to me, she was doing a spell in prison! BB Wolf! With my help, he was caged up for good! But these two - they were different. Peter Piper, accused of nicking pickled peppers. And Tom-Tom the piper's son, caught with a stolen pig. Something just didn't add up.

**TOM-T & PETER:** We were framed!

**JACK:** That's what they all say, kids!

*(Jack walks to his desk as the framed characters exit, shuffling sideways in a comical manner.)*

**JACK:** I often wondered what the local cops would do without my help. Truth was, they'd be lost without me. But a recent case was playing on my mind - I was sure we'd missed something, so I called the Chief to go through the case one more time.

*(Jack picks up the phone and talks to the Chief, moving away from the desk and facing away from the office door.)*

**JACK:** Chief, it's Jack Spratt. Have you got those case files in front of you? Yes, I'll wait.

*(There is a knock at the door and Jack calls out.)*

**JACK:** Come in, I'll be with you in a minute!

*(Goldie enters carrying a scruffy suitcase, unseen by Jack who is facing the other way still on the phone.)*

**JACK:** Now listen, I'm not happy about that case - I want it reopened.

*(Goldie looks down at the suitcase in her hand.)*

**JACK:** That's right, reopen the case right now. I want to look into it.

*(Goldie lifts the case, looks at it, shrugs then puts it on the desk and opens it.)*

**JACK:** Let's go through it slowly, starting at the top. What have we got?

*(Goldie pulls out a giant hotdog.)*

**JACK:** Well, I find that hard to swallow! What else?

*(Goldie pulls out a tiny pair of trousers.)*

**JACK:** Ah ha! I knew something didn't fit! Keep going.

*(Goldie pulls out an air horn.)*

**JACK:** Can you put your finger on it?

**TRACK 6:****SFX HORN**

*(Goldie presses it and we hear a long, loud horn - there is a pause of silence.)*

**JACK:** No, I don't like the sound of that at all! What briefs are involved?

*(Goldie holds up a large pair of white knickers.)*

**JACK:** Marcus & Spencer? Expensive briefs. Trying to cover up something big!

*(Goldie looks insulted and peers backwards to look at her rear.)*

**JACK:** That pair seem whiter than white, but behind it all they're the dirtiest briefs around!

*(Goldie turns the knickers round to show a pair of dirty hand prints.)*

**JACK:** That pair should be taken down. Then we'd expose everything.

*(Goldie looks shocked and throws the knickers on the desk in disgust.)*

**JACK:** There's still something fishy at the bottom of this case.

*(She throws the last of the clothes out and holds up a big fish.)*

**JACK:** Holy Mackerel! That's it! Good work, Chief!

*(Jack puts the phone down and turns to see Goldie. He is shocked at the state of his office.)*

**GOLDIE:** Can I put it all back now? *(She repacks her case)*

**JACK:** Goldie Lox? *(He turns to address the audience)* This young dame certainly knew how to make an entrance! To be frank, I was a little shocked and surprised to see her.

**GOLDIE:** *(Moving to stand next to Jack)* You seem a little shocked and surprised to see me.

*(Goldie stands looking worried, looking round the room nervously. Jack turns to the audience.)*

- JACK:** *(To audience)* She was perceptive. I wasn't expecting any visitors at this time of night, certainly not a young dame like Goldie. It was past her bedtime, but from the look of her she wasn't ready for sleep. She seemed worried and desperate.
- GOLDIE:** *(Desperately)* I'm worried and desperate, Mr. Spratt.
- JACK:** *(To Goldie)* Calm down, Miss Lox. Tell me, what brings you to my office at this time of night? Couldn't you sleep?
- GOLDIE:** How can anyone sleep at the moment? Everything's going wrong, no one's safe and... and I need your help! *(She grabs Jack's lapels)* You're my only hope!
- JACK:** *(Turning his head to the audience)* I had half a mind to tell her to run along home. But something about this dame had me curious. Perhaps she knew something important. I had to find out.
- GOLDIE:** *(Turning her head towards the audience)* Excuse me, Mr. Spratt, but... who are you talking to?

*(Jack pushes Goldie away and dusts himself down.)*

- JACK:** *(To Goldie)* I'm not talking to anyone, Miss Lox. *(Turning to the audience)* This dame didn't miss a trick.
- GOLDIE:** *(Excitedly, pointing at Jack)* There! You did it again! *(Looking curiously towards the audience)* You keep talking to that wall!
- JACK:** *(To Goldie)* Don't change the subject, Miss Lox. Now, why don't you tell me all about it? So, what's the story?
- GOLDIE:** *(Mysteriously, with a hand gesture as if setting the scene)* Well, I suppose it all began yesterday morning... at the dairy!

*(Fade to black.)*

TRACK 7:

FLASHBACK MUSIC

**SCENE ONE:****THE DAIRY**

*(There are a few wooden farm buildings and farm items. Mother Hubbard is pacing up and down looking worried and calling out for her cow.)*

**MA HUBBARD:** Marigold! Marigold! Oh dear, where on earth did I leave her? Marigold! Marigold!

*(Goldie enters.)*

**GOLDIE:** Good morning, Mother Hubbard!

**MA HUBBARD:** Good morning? What's good about it, Goldie? Marigold's gone missing again. I'm sure I left her here, but she must have wandered off.

**GOLDIE:** Silly old cow.

**MA HUBBARD:** ***(Shocked and cross)*** I beg your pardon?!

**GOLDIE:** Not you, Marigold! Are you sure you left her here? You know how forgetful you are.

**MA HUBBARD:** I know dear. That's what gets me into so much trouble. Just like my precious recipe book. Oh, Goldie! If I hadn't lost that recipe book all those years ago, we could be running our own restaurant... and rolling in dough!

**GOLDIE:** Not that recipe book story again! Mother Hubbard, are you sure you ever had one?

**MA HUBBARD:** Of course I had it! Do I look nutty to you? ***(Looking closely into Goldie's face, appearing very "nutty" indeed.)***

**GOLDIE:** Well....

**MA HUBBARD:** I could have sworn I'd left it in the cupboard, but when I got there the cupboard was bare. ***(Getting upset)*** And now we're poor... and running a dairy with just one cow... and now, I've lost her, too! ***(She sobs.)***

**GOLDIE:** Don't worry, we'll find her.

*(Simon enters, yawning and stretching.)*

**GOLDIE:** Look, Simple Simon's here - he'll help.

**SIMON:** Morning Mother Hubbard, morning Goldie. Help with what?

**GOLDIE:** Mother Hubbard's lost Marigold - she's wandered off again!

**SIMON:** Silly old cow.

**MA HUBBARD:** ***(Shocked and cross)*** I beg your pardon?!

**SIMON:** Not you, Marigold! I know! I'll make the sound of a cow to call her home. ***(He wraps his arms around himself and shivers)*** Brrrrrrrr!

**GOLDIE:** ***(Confused)*** What sort of cow was that?

**SIMON:** A Friesian!

*(He and Goldie laugh, but Mother Hubbard isn't impressed.)*

**MA HUBBARD:** **(Cross)** Oh, don't encourage him, Goldie. You know he spent yesterday morning staring at a carton of orange juice.

**SIMON:** It's not my fault. It said "concentrate" on the label.

**MA HUBBARD:** How can you stand there making silly jokes when my dearest cow is missing? Gone forever! Never to be seen again! **(She sobs loudly.)**

## **TRACK 8:** **MARIGOLD PLAY ON**

*(Bo Peep enters with Marigold, followed by Miss Muffet, Peter Piper, Wee Willie Winky, and Humpty Dumpty. Marigold is positioned carefully centre stage diagonally or sideways to the audience, ready for milking.)*

**GOLDIE&SIMON:** Marigold!

**BO PEEP:** Anyone lost a cow?

**GOLDIE:** Bo Peep! You found her!

**BO PEEP:** Well, Humpty did, actually.

**HUMPTY:** I was just sat on the wall by the Mulberry Bush, when she just appeared.

**PETER:** She must have fancied a wander in the woods.

**WILLIE:** She didn't want to come back - it took all of us to guide her!

**MISS MUFFET:** **(Throwing her hands in the air and screaming in terror)** Spider!

**WILLIE:** No, Miss Muffet, not spider. "Guide her".

**MISS MUFFET:** **(Calmly)** Oh, sorry.

**SIMON:** Marigold! You've made Mother Hubbard very worried.

**ALL:** Silly old cow!

**MA HUBBARD:** **(Shocked and cross)** I beg your pardon?!

**ALL:** Not you, Marigold!

**MA HUBBARD:** Marigold! You naughty girl, I'm very cross with you for running away again.

*(Marigold turns her head sadly.)*

**MA HUBBARD:** And don't give me those cow eyes.

**SIMON:** Leave her alone! How could anyone be cross with you, you gorgeous old heifer? You've got the cutest nose, the biggest eyes, the most squeezable udders...



*(Simon gives Marigold a hug.)*

**GOLDIE:** Simon! Stop flirting and get squirting!  
**MA HUBBARD:** And don't forget to whisper the word "milk" into her ear.  
**SIMON:** Why?  
**MA HUBBARD:** 'Cause everything you tell her goes in one ear and out the udder!  
*(Moving across to Bo Peep)* Now, Bo Peep, what can I get you?  
**BO PEEP:** Some fresh milk for my sheep, please, Mother Hubbard.  
**MA HUBBARD:** *(Shouting to Simon)* Some fresh milk for Little Bo Peep!  
**SIMON:** *(Shouting to Goldie)* Some fresh milk for Little Bo Peep!

**TRACK 9:** **SFX MILK #1**

*(Goldie starts to wind Marigold's tail like a handle. We hear sound effects as Marigold shakes, then bends her knees and a bottle of milk drops from under her.)*

**SIMON:** *(Holding it up)* A pint of gold top!  
**MA HUBBARD:** *(Taking it from him and waving it backwards and forwards in front of Bo Peep's face)* And look - it's "pasteurised"! There you are, dear.  
 Who's next?  
**WILLIE:** A little milk for me, please, Mother Hubbard!  
**MA HUBBARD:** *(Shouting to Simon)* A little milk for Wee Willie Winky!  
**SIMON:** *(Shouting to Goldie)* A little milk for Wee Willie Winky!

**TRACK 10:** **SFX MILK #2**

*(Goldie starts to wind Marigold's tail again. We hear more sound effects as Marigold shakes, then bends her knees and a tiny bottle of milk drops from under her.)*

**SIMON:** *(Holding it up)* What's this?  
**MA HUBBARD:** Condensed milk! *(Taking it and handing it to Willie)* There you are, dear! *(To Miss Muffet)* What about you, Miss Muffet?  
**MISS MUFFET:** Some curds & whey for me, please, Mother Hubbard!  
**MA HUBBARD:** *(Shouting to Simon)* Some curds and whey for Little Miss Muffet!  
**SIMON:** *(Shouting to Goldie)* Some curds and whey for Little Miss Muffet!

**TRACK 11:** **SFX MILK #3**

*(Goldie starts to wind Marigold's tail again. We hear more sound effects as Marigold shakes, then bends her knees and a bowl of curds and whey drops from under her.)*

**SIMON:** Curds and whey for Little Miss Muffet.

**MA HUBBARD:** There you are, dear. She's a clever cow—you wouldn't think there was so much milk inside her!

**MISS MUFFET:** *(Throwing the bowl in the air and screaming in terror)* Spider!

**HUMPTY:** No, Miss Muffet. She said "inside her".

**MISS MUFFET:** *(Calmly)* Oh, sorry.

**MA HUBBARD:** And what about Humpty Dumpty? What can I get, my little egghead?

**HUMPTY:** Could I have some mild cheddar cheese for my cat? It helps him catch mice.

**PETER:** How does cheese help your cat catch mice?

**HUMPTY:** Well, he eats the cheese, then lies in wait with baited breath!

**MA HUBBARD:** Anything for you, Peter Piper?

**PETER:** I'll have two packs of butter, please!

**GOLDIE:** Simon, fetch the cheese and butter. Oh, and get the old cow back to the barn.

**SIMON:** *(To Mother Hubbard, pointing offstage)* Mother Hubbard, back to the barn!

**MA HUBBARD:** *(Shocked and cross)* I beg your pardon!

**GOLDIE:** I meant Marigold.

**SIMON:** Right! Sorry! Come on, Marigold.

**TRACK 12:** **MARIGOLD PLAY OFF**

*(Simon leads Marigold offstage and exits. Tom-Tom enters, running and out of breath, with a large pig. He talks to the pig, catching his breath.)*

**TOM-TOM:** It's alright, little Dave. Calm down! We're safe here!

**ALL:** *(Shocked to see him)* Tom-Tom?

**PETER:** The Piper's son?

*(Simon enters with two large boxes labelled butter and a large wedge of cheese. He is delighted to see his friend Tom-Tom.)*

**SIMON:** Well, if it isn't my best mate Tom-Tom! You look out of breath! What's going on, Tom-Tom?

**TOM-TOM:** I've run all the way from the bridge. I never thought I'd get here!

**SIMON:** Well, Tom-Tom, after 800 yards, you have arrived at your destination! What's with the pig?

**TOM-TOM:** There's no time to explain, Simon! The Police are chasing me!

*(Everyone gasps in shock.)*

**GOLDIE:** The Police? What have you done, Tom-Tom?  
**TOM-TOM:** Nothing! Please trust me, I'll explain later. Just hide us, quickly!

**TRACK 13:** **POLICE PLAY ON #1**

*(The others hide Tom-Tom and the pig in a large box/crate and put a sheet over them, then stand in a line. The Police enter, and stand in line looking official.)*

**CHIEF:** Right everyone, freeze!

*(They put their hands in the air.)*

**CHIEF:** Sound your whistles boys!

*(The PCs blow their whistles in turn, but Plod's last blast is very odd!)*

**TRACK 14:** **SFX WHISTLE #1**

*(The Chief paces up and down in front of the line in a pompous and official manner.)*

**CHIEF:** My officers and I are in pursuit of a male delinquent who has absconded with a domesticated creature of the swine variety.  
**ALL:** *(Confused)* Eh?  
**DOUGHNUT:** *(Explaining)* We're chasing a boy who's nicked a pig.  
**ALL:** *(Understanding)* Ah!  
**CHIEF:** We believe he has ensconced himself in the immediate vicinity to evade incarceration.  
**ALL:** *(Confused)* Eh?  
**FUZZBUT:** *(Explaining)* We think he's hiding here.  
**ALL:** *(Understanding)* Ah!  
**SIMON:** Tom-Tom's my best mate - he'd never steal a pig! Leave him alone!

**TRACK 15:** **SFX CHEESE CHUCK**

*(Simon throws the cheese he is holding at the Chief and it hits him on the head. The Chief turns, cross.)*

**CHIEF:** Who threw that cheese?  
**DOUGHNUT:** *(Pointing)* It was him with the butter!  
**FUZZBUT:** Drop those packs of butter and spread 'em!

*(Simon drops the butter and puts his hands in the air.)*

**FLATFOOT:** Chucking cheese at an officer of the law is a criminal offence!

*(Plod picks up the cheese, smells it, then shakes it in Simon's face, reprimanding him.)*

**PLOD:** It's also not very mature!

**CHIEF:** *(To Simon)* Come on then, where's he hiding?

**SIMON:** *(Trying to look innocent)* I don't know what you're talking about!

**CHIEF:** *(Producing a large lollipop)* Perhaps a tasty lollipop might make you remember.

**SIMON:** If you think I'd shop my best mate for a lollipop, you are very much mistaken.

*(Simon turns away and folds his arms indignantly.)*

**CHIEF:** *(Producing another lollipop)* How about two lollipops?

*(Simon immediately turns, takes the lollipops and points at the box.)*

**SIMON:** He's in the box!

*(The Policemen pull the sheet off and bring Tom-Tom and the pig forward. Goldie stands telling Simon off.)*

**CHIEF:** What are you doing with that strange creature?

**TOM-TOM:** It's not a strange creature!

**CHIEF:** I was talking to the pig! Tom-Tom the Piper's Son, you've been caught red handed! To steal a pig was rash, but to hide from the police was even rasher!

## **TRACK 16:**

## **SFX PIG SNORT**

**TOM-TOM:** Please don't mention rashers - little Dave here is very sensitive.

**FLATFOOT:** You ham burglar!

**TOM-TOM:** But I didn't steal him.

**PLOD:** Don't tell porkies! Now squeal!

**TOM-TOM:** It's true! I met a farmer by the bridge and he told me an evil butcher was chasing little Dave, so could I keep him safe.

**DOUGHNUT:** A likely story. And what was this farmer's name?

**TOM-TOM:** Old McDonald.

**FUZZBUT:** Old McDonald?

**FLATFOOT:** *(Writing in his notebook)* How do you spell that?

**TOM-TOM:** E, I, E, I, O!

**FUZZBUT:** I've heard enough! Tom-Tom The Piper's Son, we are arresting you for theft.

**PLOD:** Anything you say will be taken down!

**TOM-TOM:** Knickers!

*(Tom-Tom looks fed up and cross, whilst everyone else gasps, looking comically shocked. Blackout.)*

**SCENE TWO:****THE PORRIDGE POT DINER**

*(Waitresses and Customers are gathered around in frozen positions. Reporter Dwayne Pipe stands amongst them, microphone in hand. Rusty Hairclips, newsroom anchor-man, addresses the audience, standing to one side in a spotlight.)*

**TRACK 17:****NEWS MUSIC**

**RUSTY:** Good morning, Happy Valley! I'm Rusty Hairclips and this is Nursery News, bringing you the latest headlines. Breaking news this morning - Tom-Tom arrested for pig-napping! But our top story today is Porridge! Yes, Papa Bear and his delightful family have awoken from hibernation once again, and this morning will be re-opening their ever popular five star restaurant "The Porridge Pot". To tell us more, our roving reporter Dwayne Pipe has gone down there to see what's cooking. **(Looking over)** Dwayne?

*(A lighting change and the crowd comes to life.)*

**DWAYNE:** Yes, thanks, Rusty. Well I'm here at the Porridge Pot diner where there's a real buzz of excitement as we await Papa Bear, Mama Bear and Junior Bear. Joining me right now are the glamorous waitresses of The Porridge Pot. Hi there, girls!

**WAITRESSES:** *(In high pitched voices, giving a little wave)* Hi, Dwayne!

**DWAYNE:** It must be great to be opening up again after the long winter?

**ROXY:** It sure is swell, Dwayne.

**RUBY:** We just can't wait to get started!

**DWAYNE:** And tell me, what's it like to work for such a famous family as The Bears?

**RUTHIE:** Oh, The Porridge Pot is like one big happy family, Dwayne!

**RENEE:** Papa Bear's the most awesome boss ever!

**ROSIE:** Mama Bear is like a mother to us all!

**RITA:** And Junior Bear is so cute and cuddly!

**DWAYNE:** And what's in store for your customers this season?

**RHONDA:** Just the usual, Dwayne - delicious porridge!

**ROBYN:** Hot and steamy, just the way you like it!

*(The Billy Goat brothers enter and act as bouncers, moving the crowd of Customers and Waitresses.)*

**DWAYNE:** Well, we'll have to leave it there, girls, as I think the Bears are arriving!

**TRACK 18:****BEAR FANFARE**

*(The Bear Family enter, waving to the crowd as if royal celebrities. Everyone cheers and applauds.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** Thank you, thank you, dear friends. Welcome to another season at The Porridge Pot Diner. An extra special season, as this year our award-winning porridge is going global!

**TRACK 19:****THE PORRIDGE POT (SONG)**

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Spoken)* London, New York, Paris, Norwich! Everybody talk about... hot porridge!

**ALL:** IF YOUR TANK IS RUNNING LOW,  
THERE'S A PLACE THAT YOU CAN GO.  
PUT SOME YUMMY IN YOUR TUMMY  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!

TAKE A SEAT, WE'LL TAKE YOUR COATS,  
WHEN YOU COME TO GET YOUR OATS.  
WHAT A VENUE, TAKE A MENU  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!

FOOD THAT FEEDS THE BODY,  
FOOD THAT FEEDS THE SOUL,  
FOOD THAT SENDS YOU POTTY,  
TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BOWL!

WITH A SECRET RECIPE,  
IT'S AS TASTY AS CAN BE,  
AND WE RECKON YOU'LL HAVE SECONDS  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!

HOT AND STEAMY,  
OH, IT'S SO DREAMY,  
AND WE JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH!  
WE'RE ALL SWOONING,  
SO STICK YOUR SPOON IN!  
EACH DAY WE GO STIR CRAZY  
FOR THAT SLOPPY, PLOPPY STUFF!

IF YOUR TANK IS RUNNING LOW,  
THERE'S A PLACE THAT YOU CAN GO.  
PUT SOME YUMMY IN YOUR TUMMY  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!

TAKE A SEAT, WE'LL TAKE YOUR COATS,  
WHEN YOU COME TO GET YOUR OATS.  
WHAT A VENUE, TAKE A MENU  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!

FOOD THAT FEEDS THE BODY,  
FOOD THAT FEEDS THE SOUL,  
FOOD THAT SENDS YOU POTTY,  
TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BOWL!

WITH A SECRET RECIPE,  
IT'S AS TASTY AS CAN BE,  
AND WE RECKON YOU'LL HAVE SECONDS  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!  
AT THE PORRIDGE POT!  
**(Shouted)** YUM, YUM!

***(At the end of the song, Papa Bear addresses the crowd.)***

**PAPA BEAR:** Ladies and gentlemen, I declare the Porridge Pot open for business!  
**ALL:** Hooray!

***(The Customers disperse as the Waitresses gather around Mama Bear.)***

**MAMA BEAR:** Well, girls? What are you waiting for? Let's serve those customers!  
**WAITRESSES:** Yes, Mama Bear!

***(The Waitresses move to different Customers, ready to take their orders.)***

**ROXY:** What can we get you, ladies?  
**BO PEEP:** I'll have two bowls of porridge, please.  
**MISS MUFFET:** And make mine extra milky!  
**RUBY:** No problem - we'll be right back!  
**RUTHIE:** How about you, gentlemen!  
**PETER:** Just two of your delicious porridge milkshakes, please.  
**WILLIE:** Extra whipped cream in mine, please.  
**RENEE:** Your wish is my command, Sir!  
**ROSIE:** And what about you, Sir?  
**HUMPTY:** Five large milkshakes and ten bowls of porridge.  
**RITA:** Certainly sir!  
**HUMPTY:** With extra milkshake.  
**RHONDA:** Absolutely, Sir!  
**HUMPTY:** And extra porridge.



**ROBYN:** Straight away, Sir!

*(Goldie enters with two buckets of milk. She is greeted by Mama Bear.)*

**MAMA BEAR:** Ah, Goldie! You've remembered our milk order.

**GOLDIE:** Two pails of Marigold's finest milk, Mama Bear!

**MAMA BEAR:** *(Looking at the milk)* Lovely, just what I need! A pair of Marigolds! That cow of yours is certainly special, Goldie. Are you sure we can't persuade you to sell her?

**GOLDIE:** Never! Sorry, but Marigold's one of the family! We couldn't part with her

**MAMA BEAR:** Oh, well. *(Calling over to Junior)* Junior, come and help Goldie with the milk, dear.

*(Mama Bear leaves Junior and Goldie to chat.)*

**JUNIOR:** Hi, Goldie! I've not seen you in months!

**GOLDIE:** Well, it's you that's been hibernating, Junior. No such luck for me!

**JUNIOR:** I've been busy, too, Goldie. I've been building my new invention. I reckon it'll revolutionise the Porridge Industry!

**GOLDIE:** New invention? That sounds exciting, Junior. What is it?

**JUNIOR:** The Porridge-O-Matic Five Thousand! It automatically crushes the oats, boils the milk, mixes and stirs to produce the perfect bowl of porridge!

**GOLDIE:** Wow! You're so clever, Junior! I reckon you'll make a brilliant inventor one day!

**JUNIOR:** Do you really think so? That would be great! But... well, it's just that Mum and Dad want me to join the family business. They want me to stay here and run this place when I'm older. But I'm not a business bear. I want to go off and invent things! I don't want to be stuck here for the rest of my life - *(Looking around, then whispering secretly)* I don't even like porridge!

**GOLDIE:** Well, I'm sure it's more fun than being stuck at the dairy every day, clearing up after that old cow.

**JUNIOR:** That's no way to talk about Mother Hubbard!

**GOLDIE:** *(Laughing)* I meant Marigold!

**TRACK 20:****NEWSFLASH**

*(Rusty enters and stands in a spotlight to one side to address the audience with a newsflash. The Customers move centre stage and the Bear family move to the front, waiting to be interviewed by Dwayne.)*

**RUSTY:** This is Nursery News, I'm Rusty Hairclips! We interrupt whatever it was you were doing to bring you a newsflash. This morning, Papa Bear announced his plan to go global with his porridge. We're going back live to The Porridge Pot to find out more. Dwayne Pipe is there right now, and he's caught up with Papa Bear and his family. Any more news, Dwayne?

*(A lighting change reveals Dwayne holding a microphone, interviewing the Bear family.)*

**DWAYNE:** Thanks, Rusty. Well, let's find out. I'm here with the Bear family. Papa Bear, can you tell us more about your plans to go global?

**PAPA BEAR:** Well, Dwayne, as owner of this little diner, I felt it was selfish to keep the porridge to ourselves and our friends. I want to spread the happiness around the globe and bring a smile to every face with our humble food. But rest assured, the folk of Happy Valley will always be our top priority. After all, we're the Bears that care!

*(The bear family put their heads together and their thumbs up with a cheesy grin as we hear a "ting".)*

**TRACK 21:****SFX TING**

**DWAYNE:** Well, that's just wonderful! Mama Bear, can you tell us what exactly goes into your porridge to make it so lip-smackingly delicious?

**MAMA BEAR:** Now, Dwayne, you cheeky thing! You know very well I can't tell you that! It's a secret recipe that's been in the family for generations. It just warms the saucepan of my heart to know our simple food brings pleasure to the lives of our many friends here in Happy Valley.

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Grabbing the microphone)* And she means that most sincerely, folks!

**DWAYNE:** And what about you, Junior? Looking forward to following in your daddy's paw-steps and running the Porridge Pot one day?

**JUNIOR:** Well, not exactly. You see, I really want to be an invent...

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Grabbing the microphone and interrupting Junior)* Course he is, aren't you son?

**JUNIOR:** *(Grabbing the microphone back)* Actually, I thought I could...

**MAMA BEAR:**     *(Grabbing the microphone and interrupting Junior)* He can't wait till he's the big boss bear, can you dear?

**JUNIOR:**         *(Grabbing the microphone back)* You see, I don't really...

**PAPA BEAR:**     *(Grabbing the microphone and interrupting Junior)* And when that day comes, we'll be happy to know the place is in safe paws!

*(Junior folds his arms and sulks, defeated.)*

**DWAYNE:**         That's just wonderful. Well, folks, this is Dwayne Pipe for Nursery News, reminding you that if you're wanting to put some yummy in your tummy, then there's just one place you can go...

**ALL:**             The Porridge Pot!

**TRACK 22:**                 **THE PORRIDGE POT (SONG REPRISE)**

**ALL:**             FOOD THAT FEEDS THE BODY,  
                       FOOD THAT FEEDS THE SOUL,  
                       FOOD THAT SENDS YOU POTTY,  
                       TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BOWL!

                      WITH A SECRET RECIPE,  
                       IT'S AS TASTY AS CAN BE,  
                       AND WE RECKON YOU'LL HAVE SECONDS  
                       AT THE PORRIDGE POT!  
                       AT THE PORRIDGE POT!  
                       *(Shouted)* YUM, YUM!

*(Blackout.)*

**SCENE THREE:****THE BACK ROOM**

*(The cash suitcase and the recipe suitcase are positioned downstage to one side. As familiar Sicilian music plays, the lights slowly fade up to reveal Papa Bear frozen centre stage, with Jack Spratt stood nearby, watching him. As the music ends, he addresses the audience.)*

**TRACK 23:****THE BACK ROOM**

**JACK:** Papa Bear sure was one fine, upstanding member of the community. But I had a nose for scandal, and my nose was smelling a rat. When I started scratching beneath the surface, I discovered that Mr Bear had been stirring up a lot more than porridge!

*(Jack exits, and Papa Bear unfreezes. Little Bill enters, followed by his big brothers.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** You wanted to see us, Boss?

**PAPA BEAR:** Ah, Billy Goats! Come in, come in! Little Bill. Middle Bill. *(He shakes their hands)*

**BIG BILL:** *(Excitedly stepping forward to shake Papa Bear's hand)* Big Bill!

*(Papa Bear looks annoyed and refuses to shake Big Bill's hand. He paces in front of the Billy Goats.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** I know! Just listen. I like to think of my business as a family.

**GOATS:** Yes, boss!

**PAPA BEAR:** And I like to think of you Billy Goats as part of that family.

**GOATS:** Yes, boss!

**PAPA BEAR:** You goats are my boys. Which makes me... *(Dramatically)* The Goatfather!

**TRACK 24:****GOATFATHER TRUMPET**

*(Papa Bear freezes in a dramatic pose. We hear a solo trumpet and the Billy Goats look around for the source. They spot the unseen trumpeter offstage and point as Little Bill pulls out a catapult and fires it - the trumpeter stops.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** You boys have brought respect to the family business and made me the crime boss I am today. All those underhand schemes and dirty deals! We've made money out of lumberjacks' hard hats...

**LITTLE BILL:** The protection racket!

**PAPA BEAR:** We've made money out of baked potatoes...

**MIDDLE BILL:** The jacket racket!

**PAPA BEAR:** We've made money out of fake Wimbledon tickets...

**BIG BILL:** The tennis racket!

**PAPA BEAR:** And now it's time to expand my porridge empire. How did "Operation Piggywig" go?

**LITTLE BILL:** Like clockwork, boss. Tom-Tom didn't suspect a thing!

**MIDDLE BILL:** Gave him the piggy and called the cops, just like you said.

**BIG BILL:** And now he's been caught by the boys in blue!

**PAPA BEAR:** Excellent! But that's just the start. A sudden crime wave will scare the locals away and my little lumberjacks can flatten the forest.

**MIDDLE BILL:** **(Overly soppy)** But what about Happy Valley? All the friendly locals and cute woodland creatures like the fluffy bunnies?

**BIG BILL:** And the sweet little squirrels that go "nip nip nip" as they scamper out of their nests and through the trees gathering their nuts!

**BIG & MIDDLE:** **(Dreamily)** Ahhhh!

**PAPA BEAR:** **(Fiercely)** There will be no Happy Valley. And as for those pesky squirrels, their nests will be flattened.

**(Big & Middle Bill gasp.)**

**PAPA BEAR:** Their trees will be squashed!

**(Big & Middle Bill gasp again.)**

**LITTLE BILL:** And their nuts will be crushed! **(Holding out his hands and grasping on "crushed".)**

**(Big & Middle Bill turn to the audience and look horrified.)**

**PAPA BEAR:** Then I shall build the world's biggest porridge factory and our business goes global. Imagine - Porridge Pot Diners serving my porridge in every country of the world! I will crush all other cereal companies. I'll massacre muesli, kill cornflakes and wipe out Weetabix!

**BIG BILL:** He's a cereal killer!

**PAPA BEAR:** Don't disrespect the head of the family. Now, Little Bill - here's a list of crimes I want you to commit and folk I want you to frame. **(He hands Little Bill a list.)**

**LITTLE BILL:** Yes, boss!

**PAPA BEAR:** Middle Bill, here's a suitcase full of cash. **(He hands Middle Bill a suitcase.)**

**MIDDLE BILL:** Oh, thanks, boss - you shouldn't have!

**PAPA BEAR:** Fool! It's for the lumberjacks! I want you to make them an offer they can't refuse. And Big Bill...

**BIG BILL:** *(Excitedly going to grab the other suitcase)* Yes, boss! That's me boss! What can I do boss? Do I get this suitcase?

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Slapping his hand away)* Get your hooves off it! This is my secret suitcase.

**BIG BILL:** What's in it?

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Holding and stroking the suitcase lovingly)* The blueprints for the factory - and my precious recipe book!

**LITTLE BILL:** The recipe book you stole from Old Mother Hubbard all those years ago?

**PAPA BEAR:** The very one! That nutty old fruitcake was most helpful when she told me about her secret porridge recipe. I simply helped myself to her recipe book and made a fortune out of her! Now I need to keep it safe, so don't touch it, or else ...cssck! *(He makes a duck-like slashing sound and a finger motion across his throat)*

**BIG BILL:** *(Confused)* I'll be a duck?

**PAPA BEAR:** You'll be sleeping with the fishes!

*(Big Bill is still confused.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** He means you'll be dead!

*(Big Bill gulps nervously.)*

**MIDDLE BILL:** Well I'll be alright. *(He makes several finger motions across his throat, then looks at his finger)* My finger's blunt!

*(Mama Bear enters.)*

**MAMA BEAR:** There you are! Hiding away in the back room, I don't know! You boys and your secret meetings - anyone would think you were up to something.

*(The Billy Goats whistle and look away, trying not to look guilty.)*

**MAMA BEAR:** I've made you a glass of Mama Bear's porridge milkshake, just the way you like it - my big, cuddly teddy bear!

*(Mama Bear squeezes Papa Bear's cheeks like a little boy. He is very embarrassed. The Billy Goats stifle their giggles.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** My dear, not in front of the boys.

**MAMA BEAR:** Oh, don't be so silly! Now come along and get it while it's fresh! See you later, boys!

*(She drags Papa Bear off by his tie and they exit. The Billy Goats wait till they have gone, then laugh hysterically. Papa Bear enters again quickly and points menacingly at the Goats, then fingers his neck again. The Goats stop laughing immediately. Papa Bear exits. Little Bill moves to the centre with his arms around his brothers. They all speak looking straight forward.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** Smell that, boys?

**MIDDLE & BIG:** *(Sniffing happily)* Yes!

**LITTLE BILL:** You know what that smell is, boys?

**MIDDLE BILL:** *(Sniffing again)* Yes!

**BIG BILL:** It's your armpits!

**LITTLE BILL:** No it isn't, you fools! It's the smell of opportunity!

**MIDDLE BILL:** *(Sniffing again)* Is it? Wow, opportunity!

**BIG BILL:** *(Sniffing again)* Opportunity!

**MIDDLE BILL:** You know, opportunity don't half smell like your armpits!

**LITTLE BILL:** Shut up about my armpits! Listen, if we help Papa Bear flood the world with porridge, we'll soon be rolling in it!

**MIDDLE BILL:** Rolling in porridge?

**BIG BILL:** *(Moving in disgust)* It'll get down your pants and everywhere.

**LITTLE BILL:** Rolling in money! So we get these jobs done properly, right?

**MIDDLE & BIG:** Right!

**LITTLE BILL:** We want the sweet smell of success, right?

**MIDDLE & BIG:** Right!

**LITTLE BILL:** We don't want the smell of defeat!

**MIDDLE & BIG:** Right!

**MIDDLE BILL:** *(Pointing at Little Bill's feet)* 'Cos the smell of defeat is worse than de armpits! *(He points at Little Bill's armpits.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** Well, boys, it's time to get your surfing gear on!

**BIG BILL:** Surfing gear? Why?

**LITTLE BILL:** 'Cos we're about to ride the biggest crime wave Happy Valley has ever seen!

## TRACK 25:

## POLICE MUSIC

*(They throw their hands in the air and give a long, comically evil maniacal laugh over the first part of the Police Music, as the lights fade. Blackout.)*

**SCENE FOUR:****THE POLICE STATION**

*(Inspector Drain and his squad are frozen in a straight line to one side. Plod has his nut suitcase next to him. Doughnut holds a telephone by his side. Pip the Paperboy is centre stage holding a rolled up newspaper aloft. A spotlight comes up on him and he shouts.)*

**PIP:** Read all about it! Read all about it! Happy Valley not so happy anymore! Crime rate goes through the roof! Baffled police have now reached their wits' end! *(Leaning forward with hand to his mouth, as if in secret to the audience)* Must have been a short journey! *(Louder as he runs off)* Read all about it! Read all about it!

*(Pip the Paperboy runs off and exits and the Police unfreeze. Inspector Drain paces up and down in front of his assembled squad, addressing them.)*

**CHIEF:** Now, lads, as you know, we are facing a crime wave like never before. I'm sorry boys, but if these crimes aren't solved by lunchtime, no one's getting any lunch. Ideas, anyone?

**PLOD:** *(Putting his hand up excitedly)* Spaghetti bolognaise?

**CHIEF:** Not ideas for lunch, Plod, ideas to solve the crimes. We have a pussy down a well! Jack and Jill have been pushed down the hill! And we still don't know who killed Cock Robin. Let's start with the scene of the latest crime. Doughnut, did you dust the place for fingerprints?

**DOUGHNUT:** Yes, chief! We dusted the whole place.

**FUZZBUT:** *(Putting his hand up)* And I vacuumed.

**FLATFOOT:** *(Putting his hand up)* And I sprayed the air freshener!

**PLOD:** It's spotless, Chief! You'd never know there'd been a crime at all!

*(They all look very pleased with themselves, then crushed as the irate Chief speaks.)*

**CHIEF:** You idiots! You've destroyed the evidence! Now we haven't got a case.

**PLOD:** Don't panic, Chief. I've got my case right here! *(He picks up his nut suitcase and strokes it.)*

**DOUGHNUT:** A suitcase?

**PLOD:** Nice isn't it? I call it Justin.

**FUZZBUT:** Why?

**PLOD:** Justin Case! It's my new lunchbox for my new diet.

**FLATFOOT:** What's your new diet?

**PLOD:** Peanuts. It's a great big nut case.

**FUZZBUT:** It's not the only one!



**TRACK 26:****SFX TELEPHONE**

*(The telephone rings and Doughnut answers it in a happy, sing-songy voice.)*

**DOUGHNUT:** Happy Valley 999. You're through to the Boys in Blue! PC Doughnut at your service. How may I help you? ***(Shocked, and getting more dramatic each time)*** You don't say! ***(Pause)*** You don't say! ***(Pause)*** You don't say! ***(He puts the phone down.)***

**CHIEF:** Who was it?

**DOUGHNUT:** They didn't say! ***(Pause)*** But apparently Humpty Dumpty's had a great fall!

**FUZZBUT:** I told him not to sit up on that wall.

**FLATFOOT:** That mad old egghead was always off the wall, but this time he's finally cracked!

**PLOD:** How is the poor feller?

**DOUGHNUT:** All the King's horses and all the King's men have taken him to Hickory Hospital. Doctor Foster's working on him now.

**CHIEF:** Well, if anyone can save his shell, Doctor Foster can.

**PLOD:** He's an egg-spurt!

**TRACK 27:****HOSPITAL MUSIC & BEEPS**

*(The Police freeze as the lights change to focus upon an operating table on the other side of the stage. Nurse Polly is assisting Doctor Foster in an emergency operation to save a lifeless Humpty, who is covered by a green sheet on a table in front of them. We hear a heart monitor beeping. The whole scene has an air of an over-the-top TV medical drama - lots of ham and cheese!)*

**NURSE POLLY:** Doctor Foster, Humpty's cracked his shell in several places. I'm afraid he's lost a lot of yolk.

**DOC FOSTER:** We may be too late, Nurse Polly. We have to face the fact that he might be...

**NURSE POLLY:** What?

**DOC FOSTER:** Scrambled!

**NURSE POLLY:** ***(Shocked and loud, with hand to forehead)*** No!

**DOC FOSTER:** I'm afraid so my dear! But don't give up hope, Nurse Polly. If anyone can save him, I can!

**NURSE POLLY:** ***(Swooning)*** Oh, Doctor Foster, you're so inspirational!

**DOC FOSTER:** ***(Sensuously running his fingers through his hair)*** I know! Now, to work. Scalpel!

**NURSE POLLY:** Scalpel!

*(She passes the scalpel to Doctor Foster, who uses it briefly on Humpty, then discards it over his shoulder.)*

DOC FOSTER: Egg whisk!

NURSE POLLY: Egg whisk!

*(She passes the whisk to him, and he uses it briefly on Humpty, then discards it over his shoulder.)*

DOC FOSTER: Sticky tape!

NURSE POLLY: Sticky tape!

*(She passes the sticky tape to him, and he uses it briefly on Humpty, then discards it over his shoulder.)*

DOC FOSTER: Mirror!

NURSE POLLY: Mirror!

*(She passes the mirror to him, and he turns away and stares at his reflection.)*

DOC FOSTER: Gosh, I'm gorgeous! *(He kisses his reflection.)*

#### TRACK 28:

#### SFX LONG BEEP

*(We hear a long beep. Nurse Polly is worried.)*

NURSE POLLY: *(Panicking)* Doctor, what is it? What's happened?

DOC FOSTER: *(Overly serious)* I'm sorry, Nurse Polly. I think... we've lost him.

NURSE POLLY: *(Confused)* No we haven't, he's right there in front of you. Look!

DOC FOSTER: No, I mean he's gone... to a better place.

NURSE POLLY: *(Dreamily)* You mean... *St Albans?*

#### TRACK 29:

#### SFX WEASEL BEEPS

*(We hear the beeps begin again.)*

NURSE POLLY: Wait a moment! Listen! What is it, Doctor?

DOC FOSTER: *(Listening to the beeps)* I think it's "Pop Goes The Weasel"!

NURSE POLLY: Doctor Foster, you've saved him. You're a hero! A genius!

DOC FOSTER: *(Sensuously running his fingers through his hair again)* I know!

**NURSE POLLY:** Humpty, how do you feel?

**HUMPTY:** *(Suddenly sitting up and giving the audience the thumbs-up)* Egg-cellent!

**TRACK 30:**

**HOSPITAL PLAY OFF**

*(The lights change back to focus on the Police once again, allowing the Doctor, Nurse and Humpty to exit. Doughnut is on the telephone, listening to an update. The other Police are watching him anxiously.)*

**DOUGHNUT:** Good news! He's going to make it! He's just a bit shell-shocked.

**PLOD:** I know how he feels. I once broke my leg in three different places.

**FUZZBUT:** Really? That's awful!

**PLOD:** I know! I'm never going back to those three places ever again!

**DOUGHNUT:** There's more Chief. Humpty says... he was pushed!

*(They all gasp in shock.)*

**CHIEF:** That's the last straw! This is getting ridiculous. We can't possibly have any more crime!

*(Bo Peep enters in a hurry, looking anxious and desperate.)*

**BO PEEP:** I want to report a crime!

**CHIEF:** *(Going slightly mad)* Aagghh!

**BO PEEP:** I'm Little Bo Peep and I've lost my sheep and I don't know where to find them!

**FUZZBUT:** Can you remember when you last saw them, Miss Peep?

**BO PEEP:** I remember shearing them last night, but then it all gets a bit woolly.

**FLATFOOT:** How many sheep did you have, Miss Peep?

**BO PEEP:** I'm not sure. Every time I count them, I fall asleep.

**FUZZBUT:** It was probably sheep rustlers.

**BO PEEP:** Sheep rustlers? Well, I did catch a glimpse of someone suspicious.

**CHIEF:** Excellent! Time for an identity parade!

## **TRACK 31: IDENTITY PARADE PLAY ON**

***(The Lumberjacks enter, led by Woody. In the middle of the line is Big Bill, standing out like a sore thumb. They all hold a number and stand straight to the front.)***

**CHIEF:** Do you see the suspected sheep rustler, Miss Peep?

**BO PEEP:** *(Giving the line a good look)* I'm not sure. They all look the same to me.

**CHIEF:** Ah, yes, but we are trained to spot the smallest difference! Right, boys?

**DOUGHNUT:** It's obvious, Chief!

**FUZZBUT:** Sticks out a mile!

**FLATFOOT:** *(Pointing towards Big Bill)* It's him! Go grab him, Plod!

***(Plod looks as if he is going to grab Big Bill, then grabs the shoulder of the smallest Lumberjack stood next to Big Bill.)***

**PL0D:** Come on, matey. Hop it, the rest of you!

## TRACK 32: IDENTITY PARADE PLAY OFF

*(The remaining Lumberjacks exit with Big Bill, as Plod brings the smallest Lumberjack forward and the other Police gather around.)*

**CHIEF:** Thanks Plod. Now, have you been rustling?

**PLOD:** Sorry, chief. (*Adjusting himself*) It's these new nylon knickers.

**CHIEF:** Not you, him! Are you guilty?

### TRACK 33: SFX SHAKING HEAD #1

*(The little Lumberjack shakes his head frantically.)*

**FUZZBUT:** Are you a rustler?

**TRACK 34: SFX SHAKING HEAD #2**

*(The little Lumberjack shakes his head frantically again.)*

**FLATFOOT:** Are you sure?

**TRACK 35:****SFX SHAKING HEAD #3**

*(The little Lumberjack shakes his head one last time.)*

**FLATFOOT:** Aha! Gotya! Take him down, Plod.

**PLOD:** *(Taking the Lumberjack offstage)* Come along, sonny, you're nicked!

**CHIEF:** Now don't go sheep worrying, Miss Peep. We'll find your flock in a flash.

**BO PEEP:** Thank you, Inspector Drain!

*(Bo Peep exits. Plod returns with Peter Piper in handcuffs.)*

**PLOD:** Peter Piper from cell number two, Chief!

**CHIEF:** Peter Piper! Someone nicked a peck of pickled peppers and we think it was you.

**PETER:** *(Indignantly)* I never did nothing!

**FUZZBUT:** *(Correcting Peter's bad grammar)* I didn't do anything.

**PETER:** Well, that makes two of us.

**FLATFOOT:** He was correcting your grammar.

**PETER:** *(Cross)* You leave my grandma out of this. She didn't do nothing, neither!

**PLOD:** Well if you're so innocent, perhaps you could explain this! *(He shows Peter a piece of paper.)*

**PETER:** What is it?

**PLOD:** It's my maths homework. I don't understand a word of it!

**PETER:** *(Cross)* You can't accuse me of nicking pickled peppers. You've got nothing on me!

**FUZZBUT:** Yes we have - a pair of handcuffs! Now stop acting dumb!

**PETER:** I'm not acting!

**DOUGHNUT:** We'll soon see when you're in front of the judge. He'll put you away for years!

**PETER:** I'm appealing!

**DOUGHNUT:** Not to me, you're not! Come on, mate, back to your cell.

*(Doughnut takes Peter off and enters again straight away.)*

**FLATFOOT:** But Chief, if Peter Piper nicked that peck of pickled peppers, where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper nicked?

**CHIEF:** That, Flatfoot, is the least of our worries. Lads, it appears that our force is facing its darkest hour! The citizens of Happy Valley are relying on us, the boys in blue, and we can't let them down. It's time to sharpen our pencils, polish our truncheons and wet our whistles!

**TRACK 36:**

**SFX WHISTLE #2**

*(The PCs in turn blow their whistles, with Plod at the end producing another inappropriate sound.)*

**CHIEF:** Good luck, lads! And may the force be with you!

**TRACK 37:****BOYS IN BLUE (SONG)**

*(During the introduction, the company march on stage and stand behind the four Police Officers as four separate groups, ready to perform the multi-part song and group actions. The Chief stands to one side, ready to conduct and shout orders.)*

<b>GROUP 1:</b>	NEE-NA, NEE-NA! NEE-NA, NEE-NA!	}	<b>Sung simultaneously</b>
	NEE-NA, NEE-NA! NEE-NA, NEE-NA!		
<b>GROUP 2:</b>	DING-A-LING-A-LING! DING-A-LING-A-LING!		
	DING-A-LING-A-LING! DING-A-LING-A-LING!		
<b>GROUP 3:</b>	NICK-NICK! NICK-NICK!		
	NICK-NICK! NICK-NICK!		
<b>GROUP 4:</b>	EVENING ALL! EVENING ALL!		
	EVENING ALL! EVENING ALL!		

**ALL:** IF YOU'RE BEING A WORRY,  
IF YOU'RE BEING A PEST,  
WE'LL BE THERE IN A HURRY,  
TO PUT YOU UNDER ARREST!

FIGHTING BADDIES FOREVER,  
SHOWING ROBBERS THE DOOR,  
ALWAYS STICKING TOGETHER,  
FOR WE ARE BROTHERS IN LAW!

EVER READY, OUR NERVES ARE STEADY,  
WE'RE HONEST THROUGH AND THROUGH,  
'COS WE'RE THE BOYS IN BLUE!

<b>GROUP 1:</b>	NEE-NA, NEE-NA! NEE-NA, NEE-NA!	}	<b>Sung simultaneously</b>
	NEE-NA, NEE-NA! NEE-NA, NEE-NA!		
<b>GROUP 2:</b>	DING-A-LING-A-LING! DING-A-LING-A-LING!		
	DING-A-LING-A-LING! DING-A-LING-A-LING!		
<b>GROUP 3:</b>	NICK-NICK! NICK-NICK!		
	NICK-NICK! NICK-NICK!		
<b>GROUP 4:</b>	EVENING ALL! EVENING ALL!		
	EVENING ALL! EVENING ALL!		

**ALL:** IF YOU'RE BEING A WORRY,  
IF YOU'RE BEING A PEST,  
WE'LL BE THERE IN A HURRY,  
TO PUT YOU UNDER ARREST!

FIGHTING BADDIES FOREVER,  
SHOWING ROBBERS THE DOOR,  
ALWAYS STICKING TOGETHER,  
FOR WE ARE BROTHERS IN LAW!

EVER READY, OUR NERVES ARE STEADY,  
WE'RE HONEST THROUGH AND THROUGH,  
COS WE'RE THE BOYS IN BLUE!

**CHIEF:** Right lads, from the left, prepare to drill!

*(As each group performs their individual chant and actions, the others stand to attention and smile at the audience. Each group's actions are designed to link together comically when performed by the Policemen later. See Choreography Notes at the front of this script.)*

**GROUP 1:** Fingerprint! Fingerprint!  
Footprint on the floor!  
Fingerprint! Fingerprint!  
Footprint on the floor!

**GROUP 2:** Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic!  
Let the traffic through!  
Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic!  
Let the traffic through!

**GROUP 3:** Evening all! Evening all!  
Standing to attention!  
Evening all! Evening all!  
Standing to attention!

**GROUP 4:** Oi, you! Come back here!  
Naughty, naughty, naughty!  
Oi, you! Come back here!  
Naughty, naughty, naughty!

**CHIEF:** Now lads, one last time, all together!

*(Each group repeats their chant and actions in turn, continuing as the others join until all groups are performing together. The four Policemen move close together at the front so that their actions link together comically.)*

**GROUP 1:** Fingerprint! Fingerprint!  
Footprint on the floor!  
Fingerprint! Fingerprint!  
Footprint on the floor!



<b>GROUP 1:</b>	Fingerprint! Fingerprint! Footprint on the floor! Fingerprint! Fingerprint! Footprint on the floor!	}	<b><i>Spoken simultaneously</i></b>
<b>GROUP 2:</b>	Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic! Let the traffic through! Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic! Let the traffic through!		
<b>GROUP 1:</b>	Fingerprint! Fingerprint! Footprint on the floor! Fingerprint! Fingerprint! Footprint on the floor!	}	<b><i>Spoken simultaneously</i></b>
<b>GROUP 2:</b>	Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic! Let the traffic through! Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic! Let the traffic through!		
<b>GROUP 3:</b>	Evening all! Evening all! Standing to attention! Evening all! Evening all! Standing to attention!		
<b>GROUP 1:</b>	Fingerprint! Fingerprint! Footprint on the floor! Fingerprint! Fingerprint! Footprint on the floor!	}	<b><i>Spoken simultaneously</i></b>
<b>GROUP 2:</b>	Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic! Let the traffic through! Stop the traffic! Stop the traffic! Let the traffic through!		
<b>GROUP 3:</b>	Evening all! Evening all! Standing to attention! Evening all! Evening all! Standing to attention!		
<b>GROUP 4:</b>	Oi, you! Come back here! Naughty, naughty, naughty! Oi, you! Come back here! Naughty, naughty, naughty!		

*(Each group return to their original words and actions.)*

<b>GROUP 1:</b>	NEE-NA, NEE-NA! NEE-NA, NEE-NA!	}	<b>Sung simultaneously</b>
	NEE-NA, NEE-NA! NEE-NA, NEE-NA!		
<b>GROUP 2:</b>	DING-A-LING-A-LING! DING-A-LING-A-LING!		
	DING-A-LING-A-LING! DING-A-LING-A-LING!		
<b>GROUP 3:</b>	NICK-NICK! NICK-NICK!		
	NICK-NICK! NICK-NICK!		
<b>GROUP 4:</b>	EVENING ALL! EVENING ALL!		
	EVENING ALL! EVENING ALL!		

**ALL:**

IF YOU'RE BEING A WORRY,  
 IF YOU'RE BEING A PEST,  
 WE'LL BE THERE IN A HURRY,  
 TO PUT YOU UNDER ARREST!

FIGHTING BADDIES FOREVER,  
 SHOWING ROBBERS THE DOOR,  
 ALWAYS STICKING TOGETHER,  
 FOR WE ARE BROTHERS IN LAW!

EVER READY, OUR NERVES ARE STEADY,  
 WE'RE HONEST THROUGH AND THROUGH!  
 'COS WE'RE THE BOYS IN BLUE!  
 'COS WE'RE THE BOYS IN BLUE!

*(The company finish in their end position, standing to attention and saluting.  
 Blackout.)*

**SCENE FIVE:****THE MULBERRY BUSH****TRACK 38:****THE MULBERRY BUSH**

*(A clearing in the forest. Jack Spratt addresses the audience over the Underscore.)*

**TRACK 39:****SPRATT UNDERSCORE #3**

**JACK:** It was another cold and frosty morning at the Mulberry Bush. Happy Valley had become a den of thieves overnight. It seemed that Peter Piper, Tom-Tom the Piper's son and a gang of other friendly folk were just plain bad. But I didn't buy it - something stank worse than a rancid bowl of curds and whey. And I knew, if I watched and waited, I'd soon get to the bottom of things!

*(Jack exits, creeping backwards so as to watch the others enter on the opposite side. Little Bill enters, followed by Middle Bill who is leading Marigold on. Big Bill enters bringing up the rear of Marigold, using her tail as a gear stick.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** Get a move on, you two! What's taking so long?  
**BIG BILL:** I've tried the gear stick, but I can't find second gear.  
**MIDDLE BILL:** Come on, Marigold. You've been cow-napped! Old Mother Hubbard will pay a thousand pounds to get you back.  
**LITTLE BILL:** Double that!  
**BIG BILL:** Seven thousand pounds? Wow!  
**LITTLE BILL:** Not seven! *(Explaining slowly and clearly to Big Bill)* Look, if you had a thousand pounds in one pocket, and a thousand pounds in the other pocket, what would you have?  
**BIG BILL:** Somebody else's trousers on!  
**LITTLE BILL:** And if they don't pay up, we'll sell her on eBay.  
**BIG BILL:** Will she be going cheap?  
**MIDDLE BILL:** Course not - she goes "moo"! The boss will be pleased.

*(Papa Bear enters unseen and walks slowly up behind Big Bill, looking cross.)*

**BIG BILL:** Some boss! Pushing us around and shouting at us like a bear with a sore head. He's just a grizzly old fuzz ball!  
**MIDDLE BILL:** *(Spotting Papa Bear and pointing)* Don't look now, but you've got a bear behind!  
**LITTLE BILL:** Sorry boss - he's never been the same since that terrible blow to the head.  
**BIG BILL:** When did that happen?

**TRACK 40:****SFX HEAD BANG**

*(Little Bill cuffs Big Bill round the back of the head, with comic reaction from Big Bill.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** Just then!

*(Junior enters unseen by the others and listens to the conversation, reacting.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** Well, I see you've kidnapped the cow! Did you leave the ransom note?

**LITTLE BILL:** Absolutely, boss! Mother Hubbard will be quaking in her knickers!

**PAPA BEAR:** Excellent! And with all my other crimes, this forest will soon be deserted, flattened and pumping porridge!

*(Junior steps forward - the others are shocked, surprised and looking a little guilty.)*

**JUNIOR:** Dad, what's going on? What crimes? And why have you got Marigold?

**PAPA BEAR:** **(Shocked)** Ah, son. We were... having a business meeting.

**JUNIOR:** In the woods?

**PAPA BEAR:** Son, us Bears always do our business in the woods!

**JUNIOR:** **(Pointing at his father)** It was you! You're the one behind all those crimes yesterday! I can't believe it - it's... it's... it's horrible!

**PAPA BEAR:** It's business! The family business! And it's about time you joined me in it, Junior.

**JUNIOR:** Never!

**PAPA BEAR:** Son, I'm afraid you have no choice. You see, this is an offer you can't refuse.

*(Papa Bear puts a heavy paw on a worried Junior's shoulder and guides him off firmly. They exit, followed by the Billy Goats who guide Marigold offstage. The Lumberjacks enter, led by Woody.)*

Track 41: Lumberjack Play On

**WOODY:** Fellow Lumberjacks, time for roll call. Twiggy?

**TWIGGY:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Edward?

**EDWARD:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Splinter?

**SPLINTER:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Willow?

**WILLOW:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Chopper?

**CHOPPER:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Ash?

**ASH:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Barker?

**BARKER:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Timber?

**TIMBER:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Plank?

**PLANK:** Here, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Chip?

**CHIP:** Here, Gaffer!

*(The Billy Goats enter.)*

**WOODY:** Right you lot, wait here.

**LUMBERJACKS:** Yes, Gaffer!

**WOODY:** Woody Woodhead, Chief Lumberjack. And I'm Terry Treetops his assistant. Here's my business card!

*(Woody hands Little Bill a blank business card, and Little Bill looks at it, bemused.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** But there's nothing on it.

**WOODY:** It's my day off! Us lumberjacks used to work for the council, but our jobs were axed and we got the chop.

**MIDDLE BILL:** I blame the cuts!

**WOODY:** So we've turned over a new leaf and we're branching out. We've started a splinter group and carved ourselves a niche in the market.

**LITTLE BILL:** Great! Our boss wants this forest cleared right away. *(Looking around)* On the quiet.

**WOODY:** *(Crossly)* If you think we're going out on a limb for you, you're barking up the wrong tree, mate! If we chopped trees down without council clearance, we'd be in right lumber!

**BIG BILL:** I'm not surprised you got axed. *(Turns away and folds his arms)*

**MIDDLE BILL:** You're probably rubbish. *(Turns away and folds his arms)*

**LITTLE BILL:** We don't want you anymore. *(Turns away and folds his arms)*

**WOODY:** Don't want us? *(Turning to the other Lumberjacks)* Right lads, choppers out and get spruced up - time for a demonstration!

**LUMBERJACKS:** Yes, Gaffer!

*(They run off quickly and exit.)*

#### TRACK 42: SFX TREE SAWING

*(The Billy Goats watch intently offstage as we hear sawing and chopping. All but the smallest Lumberjack run on and gather in a huddle, pointing offstage as we hear an enormous tree fall to the ground.)*

**LUMBERJACKS:** *(Shouting)* Timber!

*(There is a pause, then the smallest Lumberjack enters carrying a tiny twig and holds it up proudly.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** You're hired! Collect a suitcase of cash from The Porridge Pot at midnight!

**LUMBERJACKS:** Hooray!

*Billy Goats exit*

#### LUMBERJACK'S SONG

#### TRACK 43: LUMBERJACK PLAY OFF

*(The Lumberjacks exit. Mother Hubbard and Simon enter.)*

**SIMON:** I can't believe you've lost Marigold again! You've got the worst memory ever!

**MA HUBBARD:** I know. My dear late husband was the same. One day I sent him down to the market to buy a cauliflower for our tea... and he never returned!  
*(She sobs.)*

**SIMON:** That must have been awful! What did you do?

**MA HUBBARD:** I had to open a tin of peas!

***(Goldie enters quickly, looking flustered and holding a ransom note.)***

**GOLDIE:** Mother Hubbard! Simon! Thank goodness I've found you!

**MA HUBBARD:** Goldie! Have you found her?

**GOLDIE:** No, just this! It's a ransom note. Marigold's been kidnapped!

**MA & SIMON:** Kidnapped!

**GOLDIE:** Yes, and they want two thousand pounds for her return!

**MA HUBBARD:** I can't afford that.

**SIMON:** Nor can I. I'm so poor, I have to sleep in the cow shed with Marigold.

**GOLDIE:** What about the awful smell?

**MA HUBBARD:** Marigold's got used to it! Oh, if only I hadn't lost my recipe book. Those recipes would have made us a fortune and we wouldn't be in this mess. Now it looks like we'll never see Marigold again, and we can't run a dairy without a cow. We'll have to sell up and leave Happy Valley for good. *(She sobs.)*

**GOLDIE:** Stop those tears right now! I'm going back to pack a case and then I'm off to find Marigold and bring her home. Just be positive!

***(Goldie exits and Simon comforts Mother Hubbard.)***

**SIMON:** She's right, you know. You have to be positive. It doesn't matter how grey a day gets, you can always brighten it up with a smile. Now come on, turn that frown upside down!

## **TRACK 44: IT'S UP TO YOU (SONG)**

*(Simon sings to a sad Mother Hubbard to cheer her up.)*

**SIMON:** YOU'LL NEVER STOP THE RAIN FROM FALLING,  
OR STOP THE SUN FROM SHINING THROUGH.  
NO MATTER HOW YOU TRY,  
YOU CAN'T REPAINT THE SKY,  
TO TURN A GREY DAY BLUE.  
YOU'LL NEVER STOP THE TIDE FROM TURNING,  
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO!  
JUST TAKE A TINY FROWN,  
AND TURN IT UPSIDE DOWN,  
REMEMBER THAT IT'S UP TO YOU!

**MA HUBBARD:** YOU'VE GOT TO PAINT A LITTLE RAINBOW  
IN YOUR HEART. THAT'S JUST THE START!

YOU'VE GOT TO PAINT AWAY  
THE SADNESS AND THE SORROW,  
AS STRANGE AS IT SEEMS  
YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS WILL GROW!

**SIMON&  
MA HUBBARD** YOU'LL NEVER STOP THE TIDE FROM TURNING,  
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO!  
JUST TAKE A TINY FROWN,  
AND TURN IT UPSIDE DOWN,  
REMEMBER THAT IT'S UP TO YOU!

*(The company enter to join the song. Mother Hubbard has cheered up now and also joins in.)*

**ALL:** YOU'LL NEVER STOP THE RAIN FROM FALLING  
(FALLING!)  
OR STOP THE SUN FROM SHINING THROUGH.  
(SO TRUE!)  
NO MATTER HOW YOU TRY,  
YOU CAN'T REPAINT THE SKY,  
TO TURN A GREY DAY BLUE.  
YOU'LL NEVER STOP THE TIDE FROM TURNING  
(TURNING!)  
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO!  
JUST TAKE A TINY FROWN,  
AND TURN IT UPSIDE DOWN,  
REMEMBER THAT IT'S UP TO YOU!

YOU'VE GOT TO PAINT A LITTLE RAINBOW  
IN YOUR HEART, THAT'S JUST THE START!  
YOU'VE GOT TO PAINT AWAY  
THE SADNESS AND THE SORROW,  
AS STRANGE AS IT SEEMS  
YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS WILL GROW!

YOU'LL NEVER STOP THE TIDE FROM TURNING  
(TURNING!)  
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO!  
JUST TAKE A TINY FROWN,  
AND TURN IT UPSIDE DOWN,  
REMEMBER THAT IT'S UP TO YOU!  
REMEMBER THAT IT'S UP TO YOU!  
REMEMBER THAT IT'S UP TO .....  
UP TO YOU!

*(Blackout.)*

**TRACK 45:**

**UP TO YOU PLAY OFF**





**SCENE SIX:****NIGHT TIME**

*(An abstract split scene with no particular location. Lights fade up on one side of the stage to reveal Junior Bear looking sad and thoughtful. Mama Bear enters and spots him.)*

**MAMA BEAR:** There you are, Junior! I've been looking everywhere for you. It's supper time - your evening porridge is ready. You've got to eat up if you want to grow up big and strong like your father.

**JUNIOR:** *(Frustrated)* I don't want any porridge. And I don't want to be anything like my father!

**MAMA BEAR:** Junior, what's wrong with you this evening? You're being a very grizzly Bear.

**JUNIOR:** Sorry, mum. It's just that, well, I found out something today. Something really terrible. And I just don't know how to tell you.

**MAMA BEAR:** Oh, Junior! You're not... lactose intolerant?

**JUNIOR:** No, mum. You see, I was having a walk in the forest this afternoon when...

**MAMA BEAR:** Well, that's lovely dear, but it's getting late, so don't be long. You know what your father's like!

*(Mama Bear exits, leaving Junior alone talking to himself.)*

**JUNIOR:** Yes, I know what he's like. Oh, how can I tell her what Dad's been up to? And how do I tell Dad that I think he's wrong? I don't want to be part of the family business. I want to be an inventor! Well, Junior, it looks like that's just another dream that won't ever come true.

**TRACK 46:                    WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING (SONG)**

*(As the music begins, Junior stands and looks out into the audience as the lights fade up on the other side of the stage. Goldie enters with her clothes suitcase and begins to talk to herself over the music.)*

**GOLDIE:**                    This is it, Goldie. Your chance to go out and make something of yourself. Every night I've dreamed of being something different, of having an adventure. Well, now it's time to make that dream come true!

*(During the song, Jack enters and stands to one side, watching.)*

**JUNIOR:**                    WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING, I LIE AWAKE,  
DREAMING OF THE THINGS I'LL NEVER BE.  
DREAMING OF THE WISHES I DARE NOT MAKE.  
WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING,  
SECRETS I AM KEEPING,  
WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING, I DREAM.

**GOLDIE:**                    WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING, THERE'S TIME FOR ME,  
MAKE BELIEVE I'M NOT THE ONE I SEEM.  
BE THE VERY PERSON I WANT TO BE.  
WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING,  
SECRETS I AM KEEPING,  
WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING, I DREAM.

**BOTH:**                    FLOWING STREAMS OF HOPES AND DREAMS  
SURROUND ME IN THE NIGHT,  
BUT EVERY DAY THEY FADE AWAY  
AND VANISH OUT OF SIGHT.

WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING, THERE'S TIME FOR ME,  
MAKE BELIEVE I'M NOT THE ONE I SEEM.  
BE THE VERY PERSON I WANT TO BE.  
WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING,  
SECRETS I AM KEEPING,  
WHILE THE WORLD IS SLEEPING,

**JUNIOR:**                    I DREAM.

**GOLDIE:**                    I DREAM.

**BOTH:**                    I DREAM.

*(At the end of the song, Jack watches Goldie and Junior, then turns to address the audience.)*

**JACK:** The moment those kids finished singing, they turned and spotted each other.

*(Goldie and Junior turn and greet each other in the centre of the stage. Junior takes Goldie's hands and mimes frantic talking whilst Goldie listens, looking shocked.)*

**JACK:** Junior knew he had to tell Goldie everything. When he had finished, Goldie was speechless.

**GOLDIE:** *(Turning to the audience)* I'm speechless!

**JACK:** But Junior, as usual, had a plan. They decided they needed the help of Jack Spratt, private detective.

*(Junior and Goldie mime these last words simultaneously with Jack. Junior exits and Goldie picks up her suitcase and makes her way to Jack as his office reappears.)*

**JACK:** So while Junior went back to the Porridge Pot, Goldie made her way to my office. And that's just where we started this whole story...

*(Jack turns to Goldie, who talks as if continuing a conversation she started at the opening of the show. The character positions, lighting and set remind the audience that we have now arrived back at the point in time where we first met these two characters.)*

**GOLDIE:** So you see, Mr. Spratt, Junior Bear and I need your help. Junior knows who's behind all the crimes around here, but he can't tell anyone. So he's leaving the evidence at the Porridge Pot for us. If you're the one to discover it, the police will believe you and Junior won't get into any trouble. Will you come with me?

**JACK:** *(To the audience)* It was an odd request, but how could I resist it? The chance to find out what was really going on. I didn't need to think hard about my answer!

**GOLDIE:** Mr. Spratt, you're talking to yourself again.

**JACK:** Sorry, Miss Lox. Well, what are we waiting for? Let's go solve some crime!

*(Blackout.)*

**TRACK 47:**

**PORRIDGE POT RAID**

**SCENE SEVEN:****THE PORRIDGE POT DINER**

*(A table is set centre stage covered in a tablecloth. Three iconic bowls of porridge with spoons are lined up upon it. Behind it are stood, or sat, the Bear family.)*

**MAMA BEAR:** Feeling better, son?

**JUNIOR:** I think so, Mum.

**MAMA BEAR:** Things often sort themselves out, dear. Now let's have supper.

*(They all take their spoons to taste the porridge, but it is too hot. They all react.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** This porridge is far too hot! I can't eat this!

**JUNIOR:** Well, why don't we go for a long, slow night-time walk while it cools down?

**PAPA BEAR:** Great idea, son. And when you join the family business, great ideas will be what we need!

*(Papa and Mama Bear exit. Junior checks they have gone, then exits and returns with the recipe suitcase and places it in front of the table. He talks to himself.)*

**JUNIOR:** There you are Goldie, one suitcase full of stolen recipes and secret plans. I hope this works!

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Shouting from offstage)* Junior!

**JUNIOR:** *(Running off)* Coming, Dad!

**TRACK 48:****CASE MUSIC #1**

*(As Junior exits to follow his parents, Woody leads the Lumberjacks on the opposite side of the stage. Woody looks around for his promised suitcase of cash whilst the other Lumberjacks gather round the porridge, hungrily. Twiggy tries Papa Bear's bowl.)*

**TWIGGY:** Urgh! Too sloppy!

*(Splinter tries Mama Bear's bowl.)*

**SPLINTER:** Urgh! Too ploppy!

*(Chopper tries Junior's bowl.)*

**CHOPPER:** Mmm! Just right!

*(The others gather round to taste it.)*

OTHERS: Mmm!

WOODY: *(Spotting the recipe suitcase and picking it up)* Leave the porridge, lads! I've found the suitcase of cash, just like the Billy Goat brothers promised! Let's go!

**TRACK 49:**

**CASE MUSIC #2**

*(Woody takes the recipe suitcase and exits with the Lumberjacks. The Billy Goat brothers enter on the opposite side of the stage. Little Bill looks offstage and points to an unseen Marigold.)*

LITTLE BILL: Why did you have to bring the cow?

MIDDLE BILL: I'm still looking for somewhere to hide her.

LITTLE BILL: What about the larder?

MIDDLE BILL: No, it's full of lard.

LITTLE BILL: What about the pantry?

BIG BILL: No, it's full of pants!

LITTLE BILL: Look, let's just leave the suitcase of cash for the Lumberjacks. *(He places the cash suitcase in front of the table and looks back offstage)* Where's the cow?

BIG BILL: *(Looking offstage and panicking)* Oh no! She's become one of those invisible cows!

MIDDLE BILL: Invisible cows?

BIG BILL: *(Mysteriously)* Yes - they're herd... but not seen!

LITTLE BILL: Just go and find her before the boss finds out!

*(Big and Middle Bill exit following the Lumberjacks as Little Bill watches.)*

LITTLE BILL: And watch out for that ...

**TRACK 50:**

**SFX CHAIR BREAK**

LITTLE BILL: *(Pause)* ...chair!

*(He reacts, shaking his head in despair, then exits following his brothers.)*

**TRACK 51:****CASE MUSIC #3**

*(Simon and Mother Hubbard enter on the opposite side.)*

**MA HUBBARD:** Tell me again, Simon. What did Goldie say on the phone?  
**SIMON:** She said to meet her here - she'd found the answer to all our problems.  
**MA HUBBARD:** *(Spotting the cash suitcase)* Isn't that Goldie's suitcase? *(She opens it.)*  
**SIMON:** It looks like it.  
**MA HUBBARD:** Yes, look. It's stuffed full of cash...  
**BOTH:** *(Incredulously, after a pause)* Cash?!  
**SIMON:** That clever girl has found the money we need to pay the ransom!  
**MA HUBBARD:** We must find her and thank her. She can't be far away. Bring the suitcase, Simon.  
**SIMON:** Goldie! Goldie!

**TRACK 52:****CASE MUSIC #4**

*(They exit with the cash suitcase, following the Billy Goats and calling for Goldie. Inspector Drain and his squad enter from the opposite side. Plod is carrying his suitcase of nuts.)*

**DOUGHNUT:** Did you have to bring that suitcase, Plod?  
**PLOD:** I need my nuts close at all times, just in case I fancy a nibble.  
**CHIEF:** Just put it down and search for clues.

*(Plod places the nuts' suitcase in front of the table and they all begin to search for clues.)*

**FUZZBUT:** What did that anonymous phone call say, again?  
**FLATFOOT:** It said "Get down to the Porridge Pot at midnight!" The source of all this trouble must be around here somewhere.  
**DOUGHNUT:** Then we need to find that source!  
**PLOD:** *(Holding up a giant bottle of tomato ketchup from behind the table)* Found it!  
**DOUGHNUT:** Not that sauce, you fool!  
**CHIEF:** Whoever it is, they won't be expecting the boys in blue to be here. We have the element of surprise.  
**PLOD:** Really? Would he like some of my nuts?  
**CHIEF:** Who?  
**PLOD:** The elephant of surprise.

**CHIEF:** *(Losing patience)* Not the elephant of... oh, never mind! Come on, let's try the back room.

**TRACK 53:**

**CASE MUSIC #5**

*(They exit, following Simon and Mother Hubbard and leaving the nut suitcase in front of the table. Plod takes the giant sauce bottle. Goldie and Jack enter from the opposite side. Goldie is carrying her clothes suitcase. She spots the nut suitcase by the table and points at it.)*

**GOLDIE:** There it is! Junior said he'd leave the evidence in a suitcase for us. The recipe book and plans must be in there!

**JACK:** He's a smart cookie, that bear. I'll take it and search for your Marigold; you wait for me here.

*(Jack exits with the nut suitcase, following the Police. Goldie puts her clothes suitcase in front of the table, then hears a noise and looks offstage, startled.)*

**GOLDIE:** *(Panicking)* Oh no, someone's coming. I'd better hide!

*(Goldie hides behind the table as Plod enters carrying the sauce bottle. He grabs the clothes suitcase.)*

**PLOD:** Whoops, nearly forgot my nuts! *(Holding up the sauce)* And I won't be needing this!

**TRACK 54:**

**SFX SAUCE & SNORING**

*(Plod drops the sauce bottle behind the table and walks straight out with the clothes suitcase. Goldie stands up, looking dizzy. She sways and falls to the floor at one side of the stage, unconscious. We hear snoring as the Bear Family enter. They move to the table and spot the eaten porridge.)*

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Picking up the sauce bottle)* What on earth? Someone's been eating our porridge!

**MAMA BEAR:** *(Pointing offstage)* And look over there! Someone's broken Junior's chair!

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Listening to the snoring)* And it sounds like someone's been sleeping in my restaurant!

*(Junior spots Goldie on the floor and runs over to her, very concerned.)*



**JUNIOR:** Goldie!  
**MAMA BEAR:** Goldie?  
**PAPA BEAR:** Well done, son! You've found the culprit!  
**JUNIOR:** No, Dad, you don't understand...  
**PAPA BEAR:** I understand perfectly! This sneak thief has broken in, stolen food and vandalised our restaurant!  
**JUNIOR:** *(Trying to wake Goldie)* Goldie, wake up! It's all gone wrong!  
**MAMA BEAR:** I'll call the Police!

**TRACK 55:** **POLICE PLAY ON #2**

*(The Police enter, with Plod carrying the clothes suitcase. They line up as usual.)*

**MAMA BEAR:** That was quick!  
**CHIEF:** Sound your whistles, boys!

*(The PCs in turn blow their whistles and stand to attention, with Plod at the end proudly producing a long bugle call - the others stare at him in astonishment.)*

**TRACK 56:** **SFX WHISTLE #3**

**PAPA BEAR:** *(Sternly, pointing at Goldie)* Arrest this girl! She's a thief and a vandal!  
**CHIEF:** I knew we were on to something, boys!  
**PAPA BEAR:** *(Spotting the clothes suitcase in Plod's hand)* Wait a minute, that's my suitcase. Where did you find that?  
**PLOD:** It's not yours, Sir, it's mine!  
**PAPA BEAR:** I think I'd know my own suitcase! It's full of my... *(Stopping himself)* I mean, it's full of... very personal things.  
**CHIEF:** Really? Well, let's have a look.

*(Papa Bear looks horrified as the Chief opens the case and pulls out a large pair of knickers.)*

**DOUGHNUT:** *(Pointing at the knickers)* You're right Sir, very personal!  
**PLOD:** *(Confused)* Where's my nuts?

*(Mother Hubbard and Simon run in. Simon is holding the money suitcase.)*

**MA HUBBARD:** What's all the commotion?

**PLOD:** *(Snatching the money case)* That's my suitcase! It's full of nuts!

**SIMON:** *(Snatching it back)* That's my suitcase! It's full of cash!

*(Little Bill enters, followed by his brothers.)*

**LITTLE BILL:** That's our suitcase!

**MIDDLE BILL:** It's the cash to pay the Lumberjacks to cut down the forest.

**BIG BILL:** *(Getting carried away)* So Papa Bear can build a giant factory and fulfil his evil master plan to take over the world! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

*(He gives an evil laugh as the others look at him in astonishment. He then realises his mistake.)*

**BIG BILL:** Whoops. Sorry, boss.

**MAMA BEAR:** *(Crossly)* Is this true, dear?

**CHIEF:** Well, Mr. Bear?

**PAPA BEAR:** You can't prove a thing! You have no evidence!

*(Jack enters with the nut suitcase.)*

**JACK:** Oh yes we have - right here in this suitcase! *(Opening the nut case)* Inspector Drain, I think you'll find all the evidence you need right here.

**CHIEF:** Nuts?

**PLOD:** You pinched my nuts!

**JACK:** It must have been a case of mistaken identity!

*(Plod grabs his nut suitcase as the Lumberjacks enter. Woody carries the recipe suitcase and is cross.)*

**WOODY:** Mr. Bear, we were expecting payment in cash. Not a load of secret plans and a recipe book!

**ALL:** Recipe book?

**MA HUBBARD:** My recipe book!

**MAMA BEAR:** *(To Mother Hubbard)* Your recipe book? *(To Papa Bear)* I thought you said it had been in the family for years?

**PAPA BEAR:** It has been... just not my family! But we're forgetting Goldie Lox. She's the criminal, and I want to see justice!

**JUNIOR:** *(Angrily)* You leave her alone, Dad! She's innocent! And Tom-Tom! And Peter! You organised everything and told me to keep quiet. But now it's time I told the truth! *(Softer, to his mother)* Sorry Mum.

**MAMA BEAR:** I've never been more proud of you, son!

*(Happy Valley Folk enter, running and screaming.)*

HV FOLK: Aagh!  
 MAMA BEAR: What is it girls?  
 HV FOLK: *(Pointing off)* It's a cow!

*(Marigold enters.)*

MA HUBBARD: Marigold! Oh, I've missed you! *(She sobs, runs over and hugs Marigold.)*

*(Goldie wakes up and is greeted by Simon, Jack and Junior.)*

SIMON: Goldie! You're awake!  
 GOLDIE: Did I miss anything?  
 JACK: Not much. Just a recipe book being found!  
 JUNIOR: And a dodgy dad getting what he deserves!  
 SIMON: And Mother Hubbard crying because Marigold's come back.  
 GOLDIE: Silly old cow!  
 MA HUBBARD: I beg your pardon?  
 ALL: Not you, Marigold!  
 CHIEF: Well, Mr. Bear. I've heard enough! Arrest him, boys!

*(The Police bring Papa Bear to the front and gather round him.)*

DOUGHNUT: We are the best!  
 FUZZBUT: And you are a pest!  
 FLATFOOT: We're not impressed!  
 PLOD: So you're under arrest!  
 CHIEF: What on earth was that?  
 ALL POLICE: Poetic justice!

*(All freeze in position as the lights change. Pip enters with his newspaper once more. Rusty and Dwayne enter with their microphones.)*

PIP: Read all about it! Read all about it! Nursery Crimes solved! Papa Bear and Billy Goats arrested! Read all about it! Read all about it!  
 RUSTY: Well, folks, the crime wave is over and a new day is dawning on the friendly folk of Happy Valley. Quite a result, Dwayne!  
 DWAYNE: That's right, Rusty! It looks like this story has a happy ending at last!

*(Jack moves forward to address the audience one last time.)*

**JACK:** And of course, how else could it have ended? After all, this really is... a “happy ever after” kind of place!

**TRACK 57:**                      **HAPPY EVER AFTER (SONG)**

**ALL:** CAN YOU SEE ALL THE JOY AND LAUGHTER?  
WE LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!  
SKY OF BLUE, NO CLOUD IN VIEW,  
AND THE SUN WILL NEVER END!  
(SUN WILL NEVER END!)

ARE YOU GETTING THE VIBE WE'RE SENDING?  
WE'VE DISCOVERED A HAPPY ENDING!  
WE CAN BUILD A LIFE FULFILLED,  
WHERE THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO MEND!

SKIP THE OTHER CHAPTERS, CUT TO THE CHASE!  
LIFE'S A GAME OF CHANCE, BUT WE HAVE THE ACE!  
PUT A NEVER ENDING SMILE ON YOUR FACE!  
'COS IT'S A HAPPY EVER AFTER KIND OF PLACE!

THERE'S A LESSON IN LIFE WE'RE LEARNING  
EVERY DAY A NEW PAGE WE'RE TURNING  
LIFE'S A PLAY, OR SO THEY SAY,  
AND THE WORLD IS JUST A STAGE!  
(WORLD IS JUST A STAGE!)

NOW THE END OF THE TALE IS NEARING  
ALL OUR TROUBLES ARE DISAPPEARING  
WHO COULD GUESS THE HAPPINESS  
AS WE TURN THE FINAL PAGE?

SKIP THE OTHER CHAPTERS, CUT TO THE CHASE!  
LIFE'S A GAME OF CHANCE, BUT WE HAVE THE ACE!  
PUT A NEVER ENDING SMILE ON YOUR FACE!  
'COS IT'S A HAPPY EVER AFTER KIND OF PLACE!

SKIP THE OTHER CHAPTERS, CUT TO THE CHASE!  
LIFE'S A GAME OF CHANCE, BUT WE HAVE THE ACE!  
PUT A NEVER ENDING SMILE ON YOUR FACE!  
'COS IT'S A HAPPY EVER AFTER KIND OF PLACE!

**TRACK 58:**                      **BOWS & COMPANY PLAY OUT**

*The company take their bows and exit. Curtain.)*

