

Act 1

Scene 1.1: Front of Curtain [Stage Right]

Unit 1-

Kropemann enters

Km: Good day to you fine people all, a tale to you I'll tell,
I'll take you to an ancient time, where magic forces dwell,
But first I'll introduce myself, for I'm a spirit too,
The Kropemann is how I'm known unto the likes of you.
I am protector of the wilds, and where the waters flow,
Do harm within the river lands, my wrath you'll come to know!
We start our tale with young Pressyne, a fairy kind and pretty,
She has loved a mortal man, and twas a tragic pity,
She's hunted by the King of Dark, and to the woods must flee,
And she comes to the water's edge, what happens next You'll see!

Open Curtain - [Scene: Beside the Alzette]

[Exit Km - Pressyne enters with baby]

P: Come little one, we should rest. Perhaps they will not find us here. Any way I can go no further.

[she sits on rock]

Ah, Melusina, my little one. I gave you my magic powers, but your father was mortal man, for I loved him, and therefore the Dark King has cursed us both and he wants to take you from me.

Dark King: [voice off] Pressyne! Pressyne! Give ... me ... your ... daughter.

P: Oh No! The Dark King is here! Whatever can I do?

DK: Cursed with a mortal father. I ... will ... take her ... and I will keep her lost in the darkness.

Voices, sounds from the water

P: O yes, the spirits of the water, perhaps they will help us! O water spirits. I call upon you!

WaterSpirits: Who calls us from the mortal world?

P: I am Pressyne. I am no mortal but my daughter Melusina is born of a mortal father and she is in terrible danger. Please will you help us?!

WS: We can help you.

P: O thank you!

WS: But there will be a price!

P: What? I'll do anything.

WS: Not you, your daughter. She will be cursed to take on the tail of fish once every week. But during that time she must be hidden from any mortal man. Or we cannot save her from the darkness.

[rumbling sound]

P: I do not have a choice. I must save my daughter.

WS: We send you the protector of the Alzette, The Kropemann!

[Enter the Kropemann]

WS: He is a fierce spirit, wise and good, and he has all the powers of the forests and the rivers to keep her safe.

Km: Madam. I promise you I will protect this baby girl.

[Pressyne hands over baby then turns away as if crying]

P: [she turns back] Wait! [puts hand on baby and tinkling sound effect] Bless you my Melusina. May you be safe and grow up to be a Golden and Blessed Child.

U2

[spot on Km]

Km: Thus, Melusina started life, a babe in fearful danger,
He mother handed her to me, who seemed to her a stranger,
My job it was to keep her safe, I knew it once I'd seen her,
What destiny awaits her now we'll see – our Melusina

Scene 1.2 [Countryside]

U3

Opening Song – Land of Make Believe

Intro [Kropemann to baby]

***Stars in your eyes, little one
Where do you go to dream
To a place, we all know
The land of make believe***

[All Chorus enter – Kropemann exit]

[verse 1 unison all the chorus]

*Shadows, tapping at your window
Ghostly voices whisper will you come and play
Not for all the tea in China
Or the corn in Carolina
Never, never ever
They're running after you babe*

[Refrain – sung in harmony]

*Run for the sun, little one
You're an outlaw once again
Time to change, Kropemann
He'll be with us while he can
In the land of make believe*

[verse 2 unison]

*Something nasty in your garden's waiting
Patiently, till it can have your heart
Try to go but it won't let you
Don't you know it's out to get you running
Keep on running
They're running after you babe*

Repeat refrain

[A few bars of instrumental As fits the dancing].

Repeat refrain

Scene 1.3 [Countryside]

U4

[Siggy runs on and looks around, holding bow. Jean enters running]

Jean: Okay, the horses are just having some grass, sire. Did you catch that stag?

Siggy: No, my friend; he got away from me. Never mind. Just this one hare so far

Jean: That was an excellent arrow; though, sire. Very impressive.

Siggy: Well, I've practised enough. I really wanted to find a stag, though. Ah, well. This is some beautiful countryside, though isn't it? The King wants me to take a look around, see if I can set up an outpost. Maybe this could be a realm of its own. What is it – Lu ... Lu ... Lunckie-land.

Jean: Luxembourg. Well, sire, it is a fine part of the world. But they do say it is pretty lawless around here.

Siggy: I wonder if that's true. All the people we've met seem very nice.

Jean: Yes, but apparently there's villains and bandits about.

Siggy: Well that's a pity. They wouldn't last long if I was in charge! Anyway, let's be getting on.

[Mel's singing is heard. Siggy stands and looks off, towards it]

Siggy: What is that?

Jean: I've no idea, shall we go, Sire?

Siggy: Go see to the horses. I want to know what that is.

Jean: Indeed, Sire.

[Both exit]

Scene 1.4 [Beside the Alzette]

U5

[Mel alone by the water. Siggy enters during song]

Song: Out Here on My Own

U6

[Mel makes to leave]

Ziggy: No, don't go!

Mel: I'm sorry. I thought I was alone. I must go.

Ziggy: Oh, don't be sorry, it was the loveliest thing I have ever heard. Who are you? My name is Siegfried.

Mel: I am Melusina. I am [sighs, she is unsure what to say] I am ... pleased to meet you.

Ziggy: And I am so very pleased to meet you. You live around here?

Mel: You could say that.

Ziggy: I was just out hunting, but I have been sent by the King to look around. I didn't know I would find someone like you.

Mel: You are a nobleman?

Ziggy: Yes. I am a Count of the Lorraine.

Mel: But no, I must not talk to a man, not even a noble one. I have to leave. [exits]

Ziggy: Please, miss. I just want to talk to you. You are enchanting. [goes to leave] I will come back! I will find you again!

Scene 1.5 [Town square]

Curtain 2/3 closed

U7

Enter Jo & Jemmy

Jo: Hell everybody! How are we all today? Gosh, you're an interesting looking bunch.
(*approaching any older female audience member in the first few rows*) Hello my dear, my name is Josephine. What's your name (eg. Janet) Well, Janet I think it's safe to say blue is not your colour, my love. Perhaps tangerine my suite you better? Or beige perhaps? Quieten down that garish make-up a tad. I do like your hair though. Not a colour one sees in nature much, is it? (*to the audience:*)

Well as I say, my name is Josephine. Jo to my friends. You lot can call me Josephine. Aha – only joking, you can call me Jo too. I'm something of a celebrity around these parts. I was the first woman in Luxembourg to swim the length of the Alzette in Wellington boots, the first woman to eat her own weight in Stollen and the first female astronaut in Luxembourg. Yes, that's right. I've sat on Etienne Schneider's rocket and been blasted into outer space. That was a thrill and a half, I can tell you. I landed on one of Luxembourg's new asteroids.

And I'm also the landlady of the best bar in Luxembourg. It may not be the swankiest place in town but it's by far the most fun. It's named after me, obviously "Stuff Josephine" I have judges, doctors and politicians amongst my clientele. Even the Prime Minister used to pop in for a quickie. Back then he was a callow youth called Xavier Bettel. We'd have to chuck him out at closing time, he got so drunk. He'd bang on the door shouting "Let me in, let me back in to Stuff Josephine!" – oh, happy days (*sighs*)

Curtain full open

(JP enters SL with horse)

JP: Morning, my little kumquat.

Jo: Oh, here he is! My so-called husband Jempy and ... ooo ... he's brought my lovely horse with him. He bought me Wilhelmina for my last birthday. She's such a sweet thing. I call her Willy for short. (*stroking Wilhelmina's head and main*) And how's my little Willy this morning? (*horse does little dance*)

JP: Hello Jempy.

Jo: No, you stupid big oaf . You're Jempy and I'm Jo. (*looking at audience*) Dumb as a box of frogs, my husband. I tell you, if it weren't for the fact that he has an enormous bank balance I would never have married him.

JP: I know. The first time we met you said you'd never seen such big assets.

Jo: Yes, words to that effect. my love. Words to that effect

Jo: Just so as you remember who you are (and who I am), everytime we come on stage I want all the boys & girls to shout "Hello Jo!". Can you do that boys & girls? (*they try*) And when you come on they'll do the same thing for you.

JP: What, when I come on they're going to shout 'Hello Jo?'.

Jo: No, no, I mean ... never mind, I'm sure they'll do it right. Anyway, what are you doing here with my Willy?

JP: I'm taking her out for a walk. (*pats horses head*).

Jo: (*bored*) Really. Wilhelmina is my horse so if anyone should be taking her out it should be me.

JP: But my love, you never take her out. She gets terribly lonely cooped up all day in the barn.

Jo: Poor Wilhelmina. (*patting her head*) I promise to take my little Willy out much more often in future. [*Wilhelmina does little dance again*]

JP: You always say that, but you never do! Anyway, we're probably going to have to sell her soon. (*Wilhelmina stops dancing dead*)

Jo: What do you mean sell her?

JP: I checked our money situation this morning. We've got 5 euros to our name! [holds up 5 Euros, Jo takes it]

Jo: Oh! This is terrible!

JP: Tell me about it!

Jo: Okay then. Since this is a pantomime. I will.

U8

SONG: Money, Money, Money.

Jo: I work all night, I work all day, to pay the bills we have to pay
 Jp: Ain't it sad
 Jo: And still there never seems to be a single euro left for me
 Jp: That's too bad

Jo: when I was young I had a plan
 to find myself a very rich man
 but it all proved to be quite tricky
 I should've married ... Ray Hickey!

All: *Money, money, money*
Must be funny
In the rich man's world
Money, money, money
Always sunny
In the rich man's world

Jo: *Aha aha*
All the things I could do

All: *If I had a little money*
It's a rich man's world

Jo: *A man like that is hard to find but I can't get Ray off my mind*
 Jp: Ain't that sad
 Jo: He thought that I'd be too much trouble, although he seemed to like my stubble
 Jp: Just a tad

Jo: But you are here, you'll have to do,

It Looks like I am stuck with you,
Though times are hard, the weather's chilly. I guess I'll have to sell my Willy.

All: *Money, money, money*
 Must be funny
 In the rich man's world
 Money, money, money
 Always sunny
 In the rich man's world

Jo: *Aha aha*
 All the things I could do

All: *If I had a little money*
 It's a rich man's world

U9

Jo: So Jempy, how in Hollerich did we get so poor? You had thousands when I married you.

JP: You've spent it all drinking crémant behind the bar at "Stuff Josephine", my sweet. 5 bottles of Bernard Masard a night and the money soon disappears Down your throat, as it happens

Jo: I resemble that remark! I hardly drink, as well you know. And when I do it is for purely medicinal purposes.

JP: You must be the healthiest woman in Luxembourg then. No, there's nothing to do but sell the horse. Come along, let's go down the market.

Jo: Oh, the shame, the ignominy! Forced to sell my Willy down the market. Bye bye boys & girls
(sniffs)

Enter Big Baddie

U10

GS: Oh dear, what a terrible, horrible day. And where is that stupid assistant of mine? I told her to meet me here, let me have a look? Oh, look there's a load of silly people. [to audience] What are you lot doing here? I thought I this would be a quiet spot to meet my assistant. Well listen just you lot mind your beeswax. Don't listen to anything we say, will you it's private. Oh; it doesn't matter, I'm sure you're too stupid to understand anyway. Bah!

[enter Girl Baddie]

GS: There you are! You're late I told you to meet me at 5 o'clock sharp.

B: Don't hassle me okay? I was playing on my phone and fell asleep. I accidently downloaded a nap! [starts texting]

GS: Stop looking at your phone. We've got to do some planning. And be more polite. I'm your boss. Call me Mr. Groschlect.

GB: Whatever. [keeps looking at phone]

GS: Now, listen. Apparently, there's some new Count been sent by the King to take charge around here.

GB: So?

GS: So?! I hear he's planning to crack down on crime.

GB: Oh. That's good.

GS: Good? That's terrible. Crime is what we do, you silly girl. Well, it's what I do. You don't do much except twittle on your snap-gram-book.

GB: Oh yeah. I got a really good Insta of you stealing from that farmer earlier on.

GS: You did what? You're not supposed to put photos of things like that up for everyone to see, you stupid ... argh! Let me have a look.

GB: Here. It's good, isn't it?

GS: No, it's not good. How am I supposed to commit crimes when people know what I look like? Luckily, I always carry a bag full of disguises with me. [puts on flimsy disguise]. And one for you. [hands her disguise]

Hey, did you find anything for lunch?

GB: Just this. [hands over banana]

GS: Oh no, not a b-banana, I blinkin' hate b-bananas. The worst thing in the world. Long yellow yucky things. Oh never mind. I asked you to find us some accomplices. We need a b-bunch of desperados willing to do what they're told, even if it's a little bit bad. And we need to get a b-bunch of signatures for our application to the join a proper gang of baddies. It's called the Northern Association of Scoundrels, Thieves and Yobbos! We need to show there's a lot of people in our gang, or they won't let us join. Did you find any? I bet you didn't.

U11

GB: As a matter of fact, I did. Let me show you. [exit. Enter with minions]

Minions: [wave to audience] Bello!

Minions: [with movements] Boom nama wija, boom kalay kalay.
Shimmy bimmy loo loo, hippy hippy ray!

GS: Oh, my Latvian Grandmother! These creatures are ridiculous. And I can't understand a word they're saying.

GB: Oh, that's just what they are like.

GS: Hmmm. Well, we'll have to see about that. Come over here, I need to explain a few things.

[GS indicates upstage with banana]

Minions: Banana! [they go to side of stage with Ms]

[enter Jo]

U12

Jo: Hello everybody! Well, I hope Jempy is going to get a good price for that horse. I hate to see her go but what can we do? Look at this. 5 euros. That's all we have left in the world.

GS: [steps forward] There, look. This is a perfect opportunity to get some practise in. A silly old lady with some money. Anybody ought to be able to grab that. I'll distract her while you steal her money.

[GS approaches Jo]

GS: Excuse me, madam?

Jo: Yes?

GS: I was wondering if you can give me directions to the nearest shopping centre.

Jo: Oh, I'm not sure. I can't tell shopping centres apart. Once you've seen one you've seen a mall.

[GB and minions try and steal money. Jo protests. Siggie and Jean enter one side.]

Siggie Hey! You leave that lady alone, you bandits!

[they run the other way. Wilhelmina the horse runs on and chases the baddies and minions]

Mins: Caballo! [they run away, noises 'O' etc. Jo goes to Wilhelmina.]

Siggie Are you alright? We heard there were such terrible bandits in this part of the world. We'll have to put a stop to their sort.

Jean: Lucky this horse came along. Obviously a very excellent horse.

Jo: ahh. Now what would I do without my Willi?

[Jo nods.]

[Jempy enters.]

Jempy: Hello everybody! Oh, I say, what's been going on here?

Siggie: Some terrible old bandits tried to rob this fine gentlewoman.

Jempy: A fine gentlewoman? Where?

Jo: Oy! It's me you great banana!

[Min1 runs on] Min1: Banana?!

[Min2 runs on and pulls Min1 off]

Jo: Obviously these fine noblemen can recognise a woman of quality when they see one.

Jempy: Quality?

Siggie: Never mind. Any way we wouldn't have been able to save her without this excellent horse. She saved the day.

Jempy: Oh Wilhelmina. There you are! I thought I'd lost you when you ran away from me.

Jean: Do you know who owns this most excellent horse?

Jempy: Well we do for the moment. I was on my way to sell her when she got away from me. But now I've found her again I suppose I'll have to take her back to the market.

Siggi: You can't sell a fine horse like this.

Jempy: Oh, yes, we can. [etc]

Jo: Oh, alright. She did save me from the villains. But we've still only got 5 Euros.

Siggi: Madam, if I'm ever in a position to help you with that I promise that I will.

Jo: Yes, well I thank you kindly, sire. But one day is not much use to me. Come on, Jempy, let's go see if we can think of a way to earn some money.

Scene 1.6 [Beside the Alzette]

U13

Mel sits on a rock.

M: O, my Count. Woe is me, that I should fall in love with a mortal man.

Sings [It Must Be Love]:

**I never thought I'd miss you
Half as much as I do
And I never thought I'd feel this way
The way I feel
About you
As soon as I wake up
Every night, every day
I know that it's you I need
To take the blues away**

***It must be love, love, love
It must be love, love, love
Nothing more, nothing less
Love is the best***

Enter S

S: My sweet Melusina. I know I would find you. I love you.

M: O Sir. My noble Count. I love you too.

Sing duet

Siggy:

**How can it be that we can
Say so much without words?**

Mel:

**Bless you and bless me
Bless the bees
And the birds**

Siggy:

**I've got to be near you
Every night, every day
I couldn't be happy
Any other way**

Both:

***It must be love, love, love
It must be love, love, love
Nothing more, nothing less
Love is the best
Nothing more, nothing less
Love is the best***

U14

S: Please, my lady. Promise you will marry me.

M: I will marry you. But on two conditions.

S: O what joy! Any conditions, anything you ask. Just tell me.

M: One is that you must leave me alone on Saturday night. You must not look for me.
You must not try and see me at all.

S: Oh okay. Seems odd. Is that when you do your hair? You shouldn't worry about that,
you know.

M: No. Look don't ask, just agree, okay?

S: Okay. I agree.

M: And the second thing is that I will not leave this valley. You have to give up your
castle in the Ardennes and come and live here.

S: What, right here? I mean I love you, but there's only a few rocks.

M: Ah. Well, I think we can do better than that. O Spirits of the water! I call upon you!

[spirits enter] Build me a mighty castle!

Scene 1.6 [Beside the Alzette – Castle Build Scene]

U15

Song: We Built This City on Rock and Roll

Scene 1.7 [podium and crowd]

U16

Buergermeeschterin: Good Burgers of this fair land. I happily announce that we welcome our new lord by order of the King. And he and all of us are blessed by some magical power with this fine castle fortress that will finally allow Luxembourg to be properly defended and to be a power of its own!

[clapping]

BuergerM I present to you - Count Siegfried!

Siggi Ladies and Gentlemen. I want to thank you for your fine welcome. I hereby pledge to you that I will do my very best to serve this fair land, and her people. But I will not do this alone. Along with you fine people, and my trusted friends, I will have my most lovely bride to be – Melusina!

U17

[crowd cheers] We Built This City on Rock and Roll (reprise)

CURTAIN

Scene Change/Interlude: Minions in Auditorium

OPEN CURTAIN

Scene 1.8 [Inside Castle]

U18

S: So here we are, Melusina, my sweet, and Jean, my right-hand man. Everything really seems to be happening now. We have a lot to do!

M: Yes! Won't it be fun!

J: Quite right, sire.

[enter Jo and Jempy]

Jo: Hello, everybody!

Jempy: Hello, everybody!

Siggi: Oh, hello, Madam. Sir. How delightful to see you again! I trust you are well.

Jo: Oh, yes. Right. You've got this great, huge castle and you will be needing people to help you look after it, won't you?

S: Yes, I suppose so.

Jo: And you did say, that if you could help us earn some money then you would.

Jean: You did say that.

Jo: So. Stands to reason, you'll be wanting to take us on as your trusted staff to run your castle for you. We'll do it for food, board and a fair wage. Plus tips.

S: Well ... um ...

Jo: And since it will be too much work for just Jempy and me, I have brought a few of my relatives. All girls.

Jempy: You would not believe how many female relatives she has got. Cousins, and second cousins and nieces and in-laws and out-laws and ...

Jean: Outlaws?

Jo: Oo, yes. Auntie Eglantine. But let's not talk about her. [calls off-stage] I'm telling you; you could not find a more useful bunch of girls.

Siggy: Um, well yes, I suppose we could do with er ... maids and suchlike.

U19

[Enter *female relatives* – song *Sisters Are Doing It*]

[Marie-France:]

*Now there was a time when they used to say
That behind every - "great man"
There had to be a - "great woman"
But in these times of change you know
That it's no longer true
So we're coming out of the kitchen
Cause there's something we forgot to say to you (we say)*

All:

***Sisters are doing it for themselves
Standing on their own two feet
And ringing on their own bells
Sisters are doing it for themselves***

M-F:

Now this is a song to celebrate
The conscious liberation of the female state
Mothers, daughters and their daughters too
Woman to woman We're singing with you

All:

***Sisters are doing it for themselves
Standing on their own two feet
And ringing on their own bells***

***Sisters are doing it for themselves
Sisters are doing it for themselves***

U20

Jo: So, this is Marie-France, Marie-Lynne, Marie-Céleste, Marie-Paule, Marie-Thérèse, Marie-Chantelle, Marie-Anne, Marie-Claire, Marie-Angélique, and Marie-Christine.

M-F: Hi, I'm Marie-France, I'm the plumber.

Siggy: Right. Um ... Okay. Good.

M-Claire: Marie-Claire, electrician.

Siggy: Uh-huh. Excellent. One moment. [walks downstage – beckons to Jean] Jean. What's an electrician?

Jean: Well, sire, I think electricity is some modern, new-fangled thing that some people have to make rooms more cheerful.

Siggy: A good thing?

Jean: I think, yes, mostly. If you don't get too close.

Siggy: Oh, like parrots?

Jean: Ummm. ... maybe?

Siggy: [back to Marie-Claire] Yes, electrician. We like that, big fans.

Marie-Claire: Yes, I can put you in some big fans.

Marie-Chantelle: Hi, I'm the carpenter.

Siggy: Ah! Yes, good.

M-Paule: I'm the gardener.

M-Celeste: Blacksmith.

M-Therese: Car mechanic.

Siggy: Ok, no idea but I'm sure that's good.

M-Anne: Bricklayer

M-Lynne: I'm a dec ...

Siggy : Yes, yes. All excellent, yes. And all of these are your family?

Jo: Of one sort or another yes.

Jean: And they are all called Marie something?

Jemmy: Yes. Family tradition. All the women are called Marie something. And all the men are called home from the pub.

Jean: Interesting. I must remember that.

Jean: But this is our only daughter. Marie-Christine. She's a bit different.

Siggy: Okay. How so?

Jo: Well, she's a bit less practical. She does all the book-learning and stuff, and also [mumbles].

M-Chris: Mother, stop mumbling, I have skills too. I'm a hairdresser, beautician and seamstress.

Mel: Oh, that sounds perfect. Would you consider being my lady-in-waiting?

M-Chr: That would be fantastic. I would love that, ma'am.

Mel: So that's settled. Just one thing - how do you feel about ...er, fish?

M-Chr: How do I feel about fish? Um. They're fine. You know. Fishy.

Mel: Don't hate them? Not afraid or anything?

M-C: No. no. But why do you ask?

Mel: No special reason. Let's go look at my chambers. [exit all except Siggy & Jean]

[Enter Big Baddie & Girl Baddie]

U21

GS: Excuse me, sire.

S: Yes?

GS: Firstly, your Grace, oh most eminent one, I wanted to congratulate you on your engagement and on the construction of this most wonderful and awe-inspiring castle. The likes of us humble folks, cannot imagine how you can possibly be so great as to build such a magnificent construction literally overnight.

GB: Yeah, how did you do that? [Seems a bit ... fishy. [GS back hands her]

GS: So, I am to understand this good lady Josephine, and her lovely family; good, decent, hard-working folks all; have offered themselves to staff this great citadel. And I commend your inestimable wisdom for having agreed to this undertaking which it is worthy of ...

S: Yes, yes. What do you actually want?

GS: Well, I can't help thinking that these fine, honest, salt of the earth people,

S: Spit it out!

GS: Well, I was going to say, I think they are more on the, let us say, practical side of things. I think you need some local help that would be more on the managerial side.

S: [unsure] Right ...

GS: So, my assistant and I would like to be of service in that regard. We have experience in planning and strategy.

GB: Yeah, we do. Him especially, he's a right strategic idi... [GS backhands her]

S: I'm not sure. I hadn't really thought about it.

J: I think, sire, we could use some local people on the administration side of things.

S: Oh, alright then. Oh, I say. We need some plans for how to deal with the robbers and other villains. Can you help with that?

GB: Like; totally! Absolute expert!

GS: Thank you, and if you are agreeable, we would like to take a look around this magnificent construction.

GB: We want to see if we get any ideas.

GS: [sharp look] For how to help you, sire.

S: Yes, yes. Off you go.

CURTAIN

1.9 [Front of curtain – dressing table]

U22

[MC is brushing Mel's hair]

MC: So, what do you think, Ma'am. Shall I put your hair up all pretty? I am good at that.

Mel: Oh, do, that would be super. Thank you; Marie-Christine. It's so nice to have you here

MC: It's nice to be here, Ma'am.

Mel: I never really had many people around before. Not humans.

MC: Not humans? What else is there? Like, pets?

Mel: Not really. Thing is I have a pretty odd story. I grew up by the Alzette, my friends were fish, animals and water sprites.

MC: Oh, is that why you asked if I liked fish or not?

[GB walks on. She sees them, and turns to walk back off, but hears the lines about secrets, smiles and turns back to listen]

Mel: Partly. Marie-Christine. Can I trust you? To keep a really important secret?

MC: Oh, yes, ma'am.

Mel: Promise, double promise, to never tell a soul.

MC: Absolutely. Double promise, quad ... quid Four times promise.

Mel: I ... well, I am a bit ...er magic.

MC: Oh, yes, ma'am. Thought as much. What with the giant castle appearing overnight. It was either you or one of those two gentlemen. And I didn't think it could be them. They're French.

Mel: There's a bit more to it than that. You see, I was nearly caught by a terrible, evil power when I was little. I escaped but with a curse on me.

MC: Oh, dear. I am sorry, what curse exactly?

Mel: I have to find a secluded place every Saturday night, away from the gaze of any man. And I have to sit in water. [sigh] Because my legs get turned into a fish's tail.

MC: Oh. [long pause] Bit annoying that.

Mel: And if I should get disturbed by a man. Well, the curse will banish me to be locked away in the underground darkness only to be saved by a golden key. I know that's it, but I don't know quite what it means.

[GB looks shocked. Then she turns to audience with big smile on her face before walking off during next lines]

MC: Well, I should think it means you'll be banished to the d ... [sees Mel's look] I don't know, either.

Mel: Oh, Marie-Christine. It's terrible ! I never thought I would fall in love and have to deal with ... everything. [cries]

MC: There, there, ma'am. It'll be okay.

Mel: Do you think so?

MC: Yes, yes. Definitely. Oo, can we tell my Mum? She's really good with problems.

Mel: Yes, I suppose so. But secret from the men, remember?

MC: Yes, most things are with her. And don't worry. It'll be fine.

Mel: I do hope so.

U23

Song : Live To Tell

[Verse 1]

I have a tale to tell

Sometimes it gets so hard to hide it well

The light that you could never see

It shines inside, you can't take that from me

[Chorus]

A man can tell a thousand lies

I've learned my lesson well

Hope I live to tell the secret I have learned

Till then, it will burn inside of me

[Post-Chorus]

The truth is never far behind

You kept it hidden well

If I live to tell the secret I knew then

Will I ever have the chance again?

OPEN CURTAIN

Scene 1.10 [Inside Castle]

U24

Jean: So Sire, I've been thinking about getting down to work. We want to see if we can sort out this great new country. Get rid of the bad sorts; the thieves and ruffians. And set to making this place happy and prosperous. Get some proper business going. Make the country some money.

Siggy: Hey, Jean. Steady on with the money talk. We don't want Luxembourg to be known for being interested in that!

J: Any way I've started working on a list of places, you know all the towns and villages, so we can make a plan.

Siggy: Umm, yes, well. We shall see about that. We've got lots of things to worry about.

Willi: Yoo hoo! [enters] Hello, it's me!

Siggy: Go see who that is, will you?

[Jean goes over]

Jean: Umm, hello. May I ask who you are?

Willi: I'm Willibrod! Just tell him it's Willi.

Jean: Sire, it's umm... well apparently, it's Willi.

Siggy: The horse?

Jean: Are you a horse?

Willi: What? [looks down at himself] No.

Jean: Not the horse, sire.

Siggy: I don't know. There's altogether too many Willies around here.

Willi: [goes over] Ah, you have to know Willi, ya silly! I am a No, *the* Bishop!

Siggy: What, sorry?

Willi: I'm a Bishop, darling. I heard you're setting up a new country. So, you'll be needing a spiritual foundation. Proper respect for Mother Church at the heart of the nation.

Siggy: Oh, yes – quite right. And you can do that, can you?

Willi: Yep. I'm a fully-frocked high-representative of the Holy Church. We can do wonders here, build a Cathedral, everything.

Siggy: Okay, yes. You can be in charge of that, that's excellent. Jean will help.

Jean: Ah, yes. I even thought of the best place for a cathedral. Echternach.

Willi: And not only that. You see there's church-type people all over the place but just, you know, sitting there. Maybe, sometimes they get up and go for a walk. A bit of pilgrimage, you know. But we need something better, something unique. We're going to have everybody... dancing!

Siggy: Oh, really?

Willi: Yes! Like this! [To Eric] You over there, play me some music, if you would. [Music. Fancy dance moves]

Siggy: Um, that seems a bit complicated to me.

Willi: Oh, OK; More like this. [Music. Simpler dancing]

Siggy: It's still a bit complicated.

Willi: Come on then. We'll just do this. [Procession side-to-side dance. Music]

Siggy: Yes, that would do. [Music continues over this line. Music and dance blends into Song]

U25

Song: Dancing in The Street

[Verse 1]

**Calling out around the world
Are you ready for a brand-new beat?
Summer's here And the time is right
For dancing in the street**

**They're dancing in Echternach,
Down in Esch-Alzette,
Up in Diekirch and Clervaux**

**All we need is music sweet music
There'll be music everywhere
There'll be swinging swaying
And records playing dancing in the street**

[Chorus]

**Oh, It doesn't matter what you wear
Just as long as you are there**

**So come on every guy grab a girl
Everywhere around the world
They'll be dancing
They're dancing in the street**

[Verse 2]

**It's just an invitation across the nation
A chance for folks to meet
There'll be swinging Swaying
And records playing Dancing in the street**

[Chorus]

**Oh It doesn't matter what you wear
Just as long as you are there**

So come on every guy grab a girl
Everywhere around the world
They'll be dancing
They're dancing in the street
They'll be dancing
They're dancing in the street

U26 – Exit Willi and nuns.

U27

[enter GS & GB quietly]

Siggy: See, Jean. I just wasn't thinking of the church-y side of things. There's just so much to take care of.

So ... you are working on a list of all the towns and villages that are here. Let's have a look.

J: I'll carry on by myself, sire. I'll leave you to enjoy your evening I'm sure your lovely fiancée will be joining you shortly.

Siggy: Ah, well no. You might as well stay. This is Saturday evening when she's doing her private er ... thing. She's not to be disturbed. Want to play scrabble?

J: Private thing, sire?

Siggy: Yes, she has every Saturday evening in her chambers, and I am not allowed to go in. But it's fine. It's absolutely fine that she does that.

GS: [coughs] Erm. If I may your Grace.

Siggy: Oh, it's you. What do you want?

GS: Well, your Grace. I couldn't help overhearing about your fiancée's er ... proclivities.

Siggy: Proclivities? She doesn't have any proclivities! Her teeth are excellent!

GS: No, your Grace, I mean her habits. Of disappearing on Saturday evening.

Siggy: Yes, well, as I say, she's entitled to her own time, it's absolutely fine with me. No problem with it.

GS: And I'm sure we all find that level of trust, entirely admirable. When you could easily just visit her chambers and find out what is the truth of the matter. And it would be your right as the Seigneur here, the Lord of this mighty castle and ruler of this land. But you refrain. So admirable.

Siggy: Look here, if you are going to suggest, my fiancée has any untoward secrets or anything of that sort then I won't hear it.

GS: No, no. I would never suggest such a thing. No. But I'm wondering. You know what women can be like.

Siggy: What?

GS: Well, I am wondering if Miss Melusina has a problem, she is afraid to burden you with. Something that wouldn't really bother you, you'd want to help - but she thinks she should keep the worries to herself.

Siggy: Really? Like what?

GB: Just girl things, I'm sure. She's worrying about ...which earrings to wear or something.

GS: The point is you can just nip along and clear up the matter once and for all.

Siggy: But I promised I would leave her alone.

GS: Yes, but you are the ruler of this entire country. You have to take decisions for the benefit of all. You are the lord of this castle too.

Siggy: I'm not sure. [to audience] Should I?

GS: All you want to do is check on your lady. It's just being responsible.

Siggy: You're right. I will go and check on her.

CURTAIN

Scene Change/Interlude: Sisters in Auditorium

Scene 1.11 [Mel's Chambers]

CURTAIN OPEN

U28

[Mel is in the bath and has a fish's tail. M-C and Jo are in the room. Splash noises]

Jo: Well, I must say, it's a very *nice* tail.

Mel: Oh, don't be silly. It's awful.

MC: She's right, it's very pretty. I'm sure if Count Sigfried were to ...

Mel: No! Don't even say that. He mustn't! It will be terrible if he ever finds out. There's fearsome magic, that would be bring down who knows what terrible things.

Jo: Well he shan't. It'll be just between us. Just a girls' thing. It's like when I shave my legs. That would put any man off. You wouldn't imagine ...

MC: Thanks, Mum but that's quite enough of that. How is the water? Do you want some more hot?

Mel: No, it's fine, really. I'm used to the river, remember. Sometimes it would be freezing in there, so just being indoors is luxury to me.

Jo: I will just pop out and get some more towels, though. Make myself useful. [exits]

MC: Hey, I suppose you won't get wrinkled in the water, with a tail like that. That's an advantage.

[enter Siggy.]

Siggy: I say, Mel. I just want to see if you are okay!

Mel: No! Siegfried I told you! No!

[explosion – Mel is gone. Big splash noise]

Siggy: Melusina?

MC: O Sir, you weren't supposed to come!

[enter Jo]

Jo: So I've got [sees Siggy] Here what are you? Oh no!

Siggy & MC: Oh, No!

[All on Stage Freeze. Enter Kropemann and chorus]

U29

Km: Alas the worst has happened now, she's kidnapped by the curse.

The dark it seems has claimed our girl, it's all turned to the worse.

But we have more to tell about, before her fate is sealed.

We'll take a break but come back soon, and all will be revealed!

U30

Song : Land of Make Believe (reprise1)

Run for the sun, little one

You're an outlaw once again

Time to change, Kropemann

He'll be with us while he can

In the land of make believe

Act 2

Scene 2.1 [Town Square]

Unit 31

Kropemann: The people walk in sadness now, a curse has struck the land,
Our Melusina's disappeared, and evil is at hand.
They wish to find and rescue her, to save her from despair,
But where to seek the fair princess? She could be anywhere!

Song: Road To Nowhere

U32

[a capella]

Well we know where we're going
But we don't know where we've been
And we know what we're knowing
But we can't say what we've seen
And we're not little children
And we know what we want
And the future is certain
Give us time to work it out

All [Verse 1]

We're on a road to nowhere Come on inside
Taking that ride to nowhere We'll take that ride
I'm feeling sad this morning And you know
We're on the road to who knows where
Here we go, here we go

[Verse 2]

We're on a ride to nowhere Come on inside
Taking that ride to nowhere We'll take that ride
Maybe you wonder where you are I don't care
Here is where time is on our side Take you there, take you there

[Chorus]

We're on a road to nowhere x3

[Bridge]

There's a city in my mind
Come along and take that ride
And it's all right, baby, it's all right
And it's very far away
But it's growing day by day
And it's all right, baby, it's all right
Would you like to come along

**You can help me sing the song
And it's all right, baby, it's all right
Would you like to come along
You can help me sing the song
And it's all right, baby, it's all right
We're on a road to nowhere**

[Chorus]

We're on a road to nowhere x3 [end a capella]

Scene 2.2 [Inside Castle]

U33

Siggy: Where are those women? I need those women here I once. I must know what happened!

Jean: Yes, Sire. They are coming. [pause] Sire, I know this is maddening but we must keep our heads and work out properly what is to be done. We will find her, Sire.

Siggy: Yes, we will. By all the Powers known to mankind we will! And I will have every man, women and child searching until we find her.

[enter Jo and Marie-Christine]

Siggy: Ah, Ladies, now ...

Jo: Don't you, now ladies, us, you great idiot! All you had to do was keep away from your fiancée's chambers, like you promised but no, mister fancy-schmancy-I-know-better, well you don't know better, you're a great big fat stupid ar..

Jean: Madam!

MC: Yeah, Mum. Steady on!

Siggy: I was only trying to keep an eye on her, as is my duty and my right. I was making sure she did not have troubles she was keeping from me.

Jo: Well, she has troubles now, my lad, and so do all of us, what with ...

MC: Mum! Be quiet! Sire. Melusina just asked that you trust her over this one thing. She could not explain more, but she just needed you to listen and do as she asked. And you didn't.

Siggy: No. I ... was foolish.

Jo: I should say foolish, you

MC: Shush! We all have to work together to find her.

Jean: Indeed we do. Miss, may I ask exactly what she said to you?

MC: Well, she said if she was discovered by her fiancé when she was ..er, you know, then she would be taken down into the darkness.

Jean: What does that mean?

MC: I don't think she knew.

Jo: Oh, no! I'm sure she's been taken somewhere terrible like Thionville!

Siggy: Don't be silly. Anyway, she can't go too far from the Alzette.

Jean: Listen. Why don't we take my list of places and divide them up; then we search those places until we find her, or a clue at least.

Siggy: Fine idea, OK.

Jo: Hang on , I'll get Jempy; He can help. [Exit]

Jean: OK, let's look at this list; We'll only take some of the more promising places – um, these aren't in any special order, so let's see.

[enter Jo and Jempy]

Jean: Dudelange.

Jempy: Oo, not going there, it's haunted. It's haunted by a ghostly white dog, which is a soul come back from purgatory, that will chase and chase you.

Siggy: OK; Jean, you and I will do that one.

Jean: Echternach

Jo: Oo, no. You must be joking. It's haunted. By a ghostly hare with only three paws which is the transformed spirit of an old wizard, who is very annoyed about his missing foot and by golly he'll get ya.

Siggy: [sigh] OK, Jean. That one's for us.

Jean: Erm, Bettembourg.

Siggy: Is there a ghost there? A ghostly cow, perhaps?

Jo: Oh, no. No ghost there.

Jempy: Nope. [pause] It's a werewolf.

Siggy: Oh, for goodness sake.

MC: I'm sorry. They are both really superstitious.

Siggy: Well I'm afraid we don't have time for that. Jean, is there a place near here they can go? And I don't want any nonsense about ghosts, werewolves or any other scary monsters.

Jean: Well, someone needs to check the Grund.

[Jo and Jempy look at each other]

Jo: That's the worst one.

Jempy: That's where the Stierchen bridge is. And that has a terrible ghost.

Jean: And what is it? A ghostly pint of beer?

Jo: Oh well, it comes in many forms. But worst of all, most grown-ups can't even see it.

Jempy: That's right. It can only be seen by children, horses and drunk people.

Siggy: Enough! You will go check the Grund and report back. Marie-Christine, would you go with them? You seem like a level-headed sort. But you two, I don't want to hear any of your stories. Children, horses and drunk people indeed. [Jo, Jempy & MC go to leave] And take that horse with you, prove to yourselves that this Stierchen ghost is just a silly story.

U34

[Exit Jo & Jempy. Enter GS & GB]

GS: Sire. We just wanted to tell you how sorry we are to hear of the most terrible occurrence with your betrothed, the dear, sweet, darling Miss Melusina.

GB: Yeah, really. Like, it's sad and stuff.

GS: So are wondering if we can be of any service at this most unfortunate time.

Siggy: Oh, I don't know. All I am thinking about is finding my lady. We are heading out to make a search.

[GS & GB exchange looks and disguised smiles]

GB: That's very ... like, you know, whatever. I mean like, it's a good idea and stuff.

GS: I concur with my assistant, here. It is most wise and indeed appropriate of you to conduct a thorough search.

Siggy: Yes, yes. Any way, we will be getting along. Jean, are you ready?

Jean: Indeed, sire. Ready and at your service.

GS: You know, Sire, it seems logical for my assistant and I to, ah, hold the fort as it were.

GB: Oh, yeah. Because it's, like, a fort. Very good!

GS: [slaps her] Shush! I mean we'll stay here and look after things here while you're gone. And I'm sure you'll be back with Miss. Melusina in no time.

Siggy: Um, what? Oh, yes, I suppose. I hadn't thought about that.

GS: Excellent idea, sire, well done! You won't regret this. Now you can get along to your important search, without any worries.

Jean: Without any worries?!

GB: No, we meant like ... what's going on here. Nothing to worry about. It'll all be just fine and awesome, and everything will be just how you want it to be if you ... I mean, *when* you get back.

GS: With Miss. Melusina.

GB: Yep, that. You get back, with Miss Melusina, everything is fine here. Everything Is ... fine.

Siggy: Ugh! Just stay here, don't do anything. And we'll be back as soon as we can.

[exit S & Jean]

[GS and GB high five and start laughing]

CURTAIN

AUDITORIUM INTERLUDE – Minions and sisters

CURTAIN OPEN

U35 [Grund/Stierchen Bridge]

[Enter Jo, Jempy, MC and Willie]

Jo: Hello, everybody!

Jempy: Hello!

MC: Right. Here we are. We should take a good look around see if we can find any trace of Miss Melusina, or any clues where she might be.

Jempy: But what about the ghost? It's supposed to be terrible and dangerous.

[Willie makes leg wobbles]

Jo: Yeah, see, look at that. Even the horse is worried.

MC: Ummm, well. I know that the Stierchen Ghost has been a legend as long as anyone remembers. But are we quite sure the ghost is even real?

Jempy: Is it real?! Of course it's real. What a thing to say!

MC: Well, a ghost that can only be seen by children, horses and drunk people, does sound like it might be a bit, well, made up.

[Willie increases leg wobbles]

MC: Still, we'll soon find out.

Jempy: What do you mean? I'm not a horse, or a child. And I haven't had a drop! [to audience] No, I had 2 bottles.

Jo: I should jolly well hope not. I haven't had a drop, either. [to audience] Not a drop. Just 6 glasses. [to Jempy]

MC: I meant if it's there, the horse will see it.

[Willie goes to hide behind Jempy]

Jempy: Oh, look. She's scared.

MC: Listen, we have to make a search. And I don't think any ghost is going to show up. But if it does we'll need to see if anyone can help us. *[out]*

Jo: So, are there any children here?

Jempy: Oo good.

Jo: And are there any drunk people?

Jempy: So, we need you to help us. If you see a ghost you have to tell us. Can you do that?

MC: Right off we go. Proper search.

Jempy: OK, excellent. Here we go. *[they start walking]* Wait!

Jo: What?

Jempy: I have no idea what we are looking for. I mean, if Miss. Melusina is here, just hiding under the bridge or something then fine, but somehow I doubt that.

MC: Well, then we look if there are any clues.

Jo: Oh, yes. Charred scraps of paper with secret messages. Mysterious but wise women that have enigmatic smiles and know things we can only imagine. Treasure chests with rusted hinges that we can prise open to find ancient talismans.

Jempy: Oh, I see, right. *[looks left and right]* OK, I've looked. There none of those things here.

Jo: Now don't be silly. We have to look properly.

U36

[GHOST BUSINESS & REACTION]

Scene 2.4 *[Clearing. Three witches stand around a cauldron]*

U37

Witches dance

U38

W1: Hubble, bubble, *[W2 and W3 join in]* toil and trouble.

Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

W1: *[chanting]* Eye of newt and toe of frog, *[drops items]*

W2: Wool of bat and tongue of dog. *[drops items]*

W3: Adder's fork and badger's ... whatever this is. I don't know but it's gross. *[drops items]*

W1: *[chanting]* Then we stir the cauldron so.

W2: Round and round the cauldron go.

All W: Grant us power oh Demon King, King of Dark - and Everything! *[they cackles]*

W3: Umm ... Sorry, but what are we laughing about?

W2: Agh! Buggandra, will you get a grip, please?

W3: Don't bully me, Viperia! You've haven't been here long any way. You and your new-fangled potions.

W1: Shush! No quarrels when we're spooking!! By the pricking of my thumbs likely mortal this way comes.

U39

[enter Siggy & Jean]

W2: Hail!

W1: Hail!

W3: Hail!

Siggy: Who is this I see before me? Strange women indeed!

Jean: Sire, I believe I know of these apparitions. These are the dancing witches of who I have heard tell. The weird sisters of the woodlands.

W3: Here! Who are you calling weird? Rude! [W2 thumps her]

W1: Hail, Count and Duke and Nobleman,

W2: Founder of a glorious land!

Siggy: What do you want?

W1: We wish for nothing, but to guide you, oh Nobleman.

W3: We have knowledge of what you seek.

W2: Your lost lady.

Siggy: Melusina! You have her?

W2: Oh Sir, no.

W1: She has gone down to the darkness.

Siggy: But where?

W3: Turn!

W2: Turn!

W1: Turn! Return to your castle, Count. She is there.

Siggy: She's not, I was looking there and ...

W2: Look down!

W1: Down!

W3: Down!

Siggy: Oh, Jean! Underneath the castle. The caves! Why didn't I think of that?

W1: One thing more you must know.

W2: She only can be freed by a Golden Key.

Siggy: A Golden Key? But where do I find such a thing?

W3: We've told you all we can.

Siggy: I will find it. I will free my lady. Come Jean, we must get back at once. [they exit]

W2: Good luck, oh, Nobleman! [they laugh]

W3: Sorry, I still don't know why we're laughing.

W1: Oh, Buggandra!. He doesn't know if he goes down there, he will be trapped along with his lady.

W3: And what about this Golden Key?
W2: Ach! We discussed this.
W3: Oh yeah, I remember! [they all laugh and exit]

Scene 2.5 [Outside the Castle]

U40

Siggy: Jean, my friend. I will go into the Casemates and find my Lady. But I will go alone.
Jean: Sire, surely I should go with you.
Siggy: No, I feel I must go alone. It is ... well, it is my fault she is there.
Jean: But Sire, that doesn't mean ...
Siggy: No, it is my order. You should go see what is happening inside the castle. I'm sure nothing much, but you will sort it out if there is anything. [pause] Look, friend, what I have for her. I asked them to make a special crown for her. It is gold, but for her love of nature, I made it a crown of leaves, look.
Jean: Very fine, Sire.
Siggy: And I will find my lady and bring her out of those caves to wear this crown on our Wedding Day.
Jean: Indeed, you will, Sire. And you will find that golden key. I am sure.
Siggy: Oh, the golden key. The curse just gets more complicated. I don't know how I will find it, but I know that I will.
Jean: Perhaps your lady Melusina will know.
Siggy: Perhaps she will. Stay well, Jean, and I will most definitely see you soon. After all; how could I manage without my very best friend?

U41

SONG : Count on Me

[verse]

Siggy:

*If you ever find yourself stuck in the middle of the sea,
I'll sail the world to find you*

Jean:

*If you ever find yourself lost in the dark and you can't see,
I'll be the light to guide you*

Both:

*Find out what we're made of
When we are called to help our friends in need*

[chorus]

Both:

*You can count on me like one two three
I'll be there*

*And I know when I need it I can count on you like four three two
You'll be there
'Cause that's what friends are supposed to do, oh yeah*

[dance interlude to tune of verse]

Both:

Count on me like one two three

I'll be there

And I know when I need it I can count on you like four three two

And you'll be there

'Cause that's what friends are supposed to do, oh yeah

Oh, oh

You can count on me 'cause I can count on you

Scene 2.6 [Inside Castle]

U42

GS: This is perfect! Those stupid posh boys and their stupid friends have gone. And my new friends from the Northern Association of Scoundrels, Thieves and Yobs are coming today! Everything is going so well! Now, where is that silly girl? Hey, girl!

GB: Yeah?

GS: I keep telling you to call me Mr. Groschlect. Or Sir. And now I am in charge of the whole castle, it is even more important. Else I shall find another assistant.

GB: [loud sigh and eye raise] 'Kay.

GS: Okay, what?

GB: Okay, [sarcastic] Sir. Never call me by *my* name, do you?

GS: Your name? Who cares about that? [He walks away with his back to GB who sticks her tongue out] Now, today is a very important day. My new friends are arriving. [turns back] Everything must be perfect. Where's the little [sweeping gesture]

GB: Dustpan?

GS: No, no, the little [waving gesture]

GB: Tea towels?

GS: No, no the [finger walk]

GB: Oh, the [minion impression. Shouts off] Hey, to ta!

[enter minions]

U43

M1: Hola!

M2: Bola!

M3: Loo! [the minions all laugh]

GS: Right you lot. In a line! [they line up in inept fashion] Okay, some new people are coming. Proper henchmen. Not like you load of stupid little yellow idiots. [minions look at each other with sad faces] And I expect you lot to behave. Right? [Mins nod, make noises] And if you get told to do something, you do it. [more nods, noise]

[door bell]

GS: That must be them. Let them in. [GB goes the minions all try to follow] No, not you lot. You stay there. [Ms confused noises] You girl.

GB: Say please and don't call me girl like that.

GS: I'll say what I like. I'm the boss now.

GB: Not of me. I quit. You're a rubbish boss, and quite honestly, I don't like all this bad stuff you want to do.

U44

[She exits and NASTY's except British enter holding a banner saying N.A.S.T.Y.]

GS: You cannot get the staff. But no matter, I have some proper associates, now.

FrenchN: Allo! I am representing ze French nasties!

GermanN: Ja Wohl! I am respresenting ze tcherman nasties!

BelgianN: [Drinks beer] Hein? Quoi?

FrenchN: Zis is Belgium.

GS: But of course it is.

IrishN: How are yah! I'm from Ireland, like. I like your gaff.

GS: My what?

IrishN: Your gaff!

GS: I am not! Hey, who are these guys?

FrN: They are there to help out if things get rough. But they don't talk so much. Not the diplomatic type.

GS: And the rest of you are?

BelgN: [looks around] Hein?

[Enter BritNasty1 and BritNasty2]

BN1: Hello!

BN2: Good Day! [BN1&2 make posh-British-type Brrr-noises]

BN1: So, we're the British Nasties.

BN2: Sorry, we're late. But you know what they say O tempora omnia omnibus!

GS: What does that mean?

BN1: The bus was late.

BN2: Any way, we're here now. Super, eh! [BN1&2: Brrr noise]

BN1: Leave everything to us, we know all about how to run things. Don't we Tarquin?

BN2: Absolutely we do, Marmaduke. Learned it at school, didn't we old chap?! Very good school!

BN1: I should say. [BN1&2 do handshake with arms under their legs, with Brr-noise]

BN2: Right! So move over. We'll tell you what to do.

FN: Listen, you stupid little peoples. You are not in charge here. You have to follow the rules same as everybody else.

BN1: We what, sorry?

GN: Jawohl! You are not in charge. We vorks togesser.

BN2: But this is terrible. You know what, we shall leave!

BN1: Yes! We shall leave. And then you'll be sorry!

FN: No, it's okay. We don't really mind if you leave.

BN2: But ... but ... we really mean it, you know.

GN: Ja; ja. It is not a problem. Off you go.

BN1: Well, this is jolly rum of you. [BN1&2 : make Brrr-noises, but sounding cross]
[Other nasties shrug]

BN2: Well, we're leaving. Hey, Marmaduke, how should we leave, old bean?

BN1: Gosh. That's a tricky one. Let's go over here and discuss it for three years.

BN2: Or longer.

GN: [to GS] Any way. You have to complete your paperwork. [hands over giant bundle of papers]
No hurry. Zis vil wait [looks at watch] 27 minutes.

FN: Ve hear from the letter you wrote you vant us to help take over zis littul castle an den rule ze country in ze name of all sings bad and nasty. Some stupid nobleman is trying to bring order and safety and must be stopped. OK. Zis Is vorzy (worthy) aim. We help you. [to GN] Oui?

GN: Jawohl!

IrN: Yeah, we'll bash the lot of 'em.

BlgN: Oui, hein?

GS: Right! Let me explain my plan to take the whole land, come here. [they huddle. Minions look at each other and join huddle]

U45

[enter Jo, Jempy & MC]

Jo: Hey! Who are all this lot?

Jempy: I don't recall the Count saying you could invite all your mates round.

GS: It doesn't matter what the Count said. He's not in charge anymore. Grab them!

[enter Jean]

Jean: Ok, so the Count asked me to check on ...[sees the baddies] Hold up! What's going on?

GS: And him! [they grab Jean] Ha! Now listen. I have looked around this castle and there's a very nice deep dark dungeon. Take this lot and throw them in. Right to the bottom!

[Minions giggle]

M1: Bottom!

[exit]

FN: Okay. So, the nasties are ready to take over the country. But first we will teach you the movements of the movement.

GS: The movements? What do you mean?

FN: Ach! I will teach you. And all you out there in the audience. Okay, stand up. [etc... teach the N.A.S.T.Y. movements]

U46

Song: N-A-S-T-Y [to tune YMCA]

French Nasty :

[Verse 1]

**People, might be time to feel down
I said, people, pick yourself off the ground
I said, people, cause we have come to town
We don't care if you're unhappy
People, there's nowhere you can go
I said, people, we will take all your dough
You can stay there, and I'm sure you will find
You can't beat us, so you'll join us.**

[Chorus]

**Cause we're the fellas who are N.A.S.T.Y.
Better believe it that we're N.A.S.T.Y.
We will swindle your ma, steal your house and your car.
And that's just the way that things are.
Why don't you join us and be N.A.S.T.Y.
Just drop your scruples and be N.A.S.T.Y.
You can get be a thief too, do most everything wrong,
Be a villain and you'll get on.**

[Verse 2]

People, are you listening to me?

I said, people, what do you want to be?
I said, people, time to turn to the bad
But you got to know this one thing
No man does it all by himself
I said, young man, put your pride on the shelf
And just join us, we're N.A.S.T.Y.
Being rotten's such a good time.

[Chorus]
Cause we're the fellas who are N.A.S.T.Y.
Better believe it that we're N.A.S.T.Y.
We will swindle your ma, steal your house and your car.
And that's just the way that things are.
Why don't you join us and be N.A.S.T.Y.
Just drop your scruples and be N.A.S.T.Y.
You can get be a thief too, do most everything wrong,
Be a villain and you'll get on.
[repeat chorus]

We are N.A.S.T.Y.!

Scene 2.7 [Casemates]

U47

[moving walls – music, growling noises]

Mel: Oh, my Siggy! Will I ever see you again? Will I ever be able to get out of here?
[she walks off – enter Siggy]

Siggy: Oh, Melusina my love. Where are you? I have to find you. I will find you! No matter how long it takes.

U48

[they find each other]

S & M: Oh, my darling!

Mel: I thought I'd never see you again.

Siggy: I was terrified I'd lost you. But I would never have given in until I found you again.

Mel: But what do we do? I don't know how to get out of here.

Siggy: Ah, well I do.

Mel: Really?!

S: Yes; We have to find the Golden Key.

M: Yes, I know that. But what is that? And where is it?

S: You mean you don't know?

M: No, no idea.

S: Oh. I was sure you'd know. [pause] Never mind. I'm sure we'll solve it.

[growl]

S: What is that?

M: I don't know that either.

S: Have no fear my love, whatever it is, I will defeat it.

[growl louder. Walls move to show Kropemann]

U49

M: Oh, it's you! [hugs]

Km: Miss Melusina. I heard you were in distress.

S: What Who on earth?

M: This is the Kropemann. He is an old and very wise friend.

S: Pleased to meet you. Do you know how we can get out of here?

Km: Ah, yes, I do.

M: Oh, thank goodness!

Km: You have to find the Golden Key.

S: We know that. But where is it?

Km: Oh, I don't know.

M: Oh, no!

S: I thought you were wise.

M: He is. But some things are just hidden. Magic curses are made to be impossible.

S: Well, we don't just give up. Perhaps we just have to look very carefully around these tunnels.

M: But they go on for miles. And they keep changing. [sigh. She sits] It's hopeless.

[Siggy sits]

S: Hey, I brought something to show you. [Mel looks at him with sadness. Siggy brings out the crown] I made this for you. It's a crown befitting a countess and a lady to rule a country. I made it with leaves since you love nature so much. It's for you to wear on our wedding day. And you will my Melusina.

M: I don't know, Siggy. [pause] But thank you for this.

[she stands and holds up the crown looking like Gelle Fra. There is a rumble, and a golden light, and then the effect of walls breaking open]

Km: Miss Melusina! You broke open the walls!

S: My love! It is you! You are the Golden Key!

M: But that's amazing! I don't really understand.

WaterSpirit: Melusina! You have found your power at last. That was a gift from your Mother before she had to leave you. The darkness is broken. You are free!

[rumbling and crashing noises. Enter Jo, Jempy, M-C and Jean]

U50

Jo: Oo bleeding heck! I am so glad to be out of the dungeon. [sees S & M] Hey, it's you lot.

Jempy: Oh, thank goodness. We thought you were lost.

Siggy: Well we were.

Jempy: Fair point.

M-C: We got locked in the dungeon. It was horrible.

Jean: But the walls just broke open. Suddenly, like magic!

Siggy: No, not like magic.

Jean: Well it looked that way.

Siggy: Not *like* magic, it *was* magic. It was Melusina.

Jo: Ah. Well done, dearie. I knew you'd do it.

Jean: We have to get back up to the castle. The awful villain Groschlect has taken over and brought in a bunch of no good bullies. We have to take it back before he tries to take over the country.

M-C: Are you sure we'll be able to? He got us all thrown in the dungeon.

Mel: Kropemann, my friend, what do you think?

Km: Your powers and mine Miss Melusina, I am sure we can do it.

Siggy: Okay, we'll see. Let's go back up to the castle.

Scene 2.8 [Inside Castle]

U51

FrenchNasty: So, listen I think it's time to go and steal something for lunch.

GermanNasty: Ja. Let us go see if they haff any sausages.

FrenchNasty: You and your stupid sausages. I want something refined.

BelgNasty : ' I don't care so long as I get frites.

IrishN: Well, yeah, chips, but proper big ones, like.

FrenchNasty: Oh, you peoples just 'ave no taste!

BelgNasty: Don't be so rude!

[general shouting about food]

GS: For goodness sake, you stupid nasties. We all have to stop fighting each other. And get on with the fighting other people! Let's settle the plan and start our countrywide reign of nastiness and criminality!

FN: Before lunch? Are you mad?

U52

[enter Sisters]

Marie-France: Hello! We have come to tell you that Oh!

Marie-Claire: Who are you lot?

FN: Oh, look. Ladies! And we were just wondering who would make lunch!

Marie-F: Oo! You chauvinist pig! Don't you dare! [she hits the nasty with a utensil]

GN: Now, girls. Don't be silly! You'll never win!

M-Cl: We'll see about that [all the sisters start fighting with their implements]

[enter Minions – they start hitting the Nasties]

GS: No, you stupid little idiots! You are fighting the wrong side!

[Enter Sigggy, Mel, Jean, MC, Jo, Jp Km]

Sigggy: Now you bunch of no good villains. We won't have your lot ... oh, Josephine it's your relatives!

Jo: Yeah, good for them. Go girls! [she takes a weapon and joins in hitting the Nasties]

Mel: Kropemann, my friend? [he nods. They raise their arms – storm effect. Groschlect and nasties cover their ears]

GS: Ow! Stop!

Km: Do you surrender?

GS: Emmm Maybe.

[A different storm effect.]

GS: Owww! OK. OK! Surrender!

Mel: But I'm not doing anything.

Km: Nor am I.

U53

[enter Witches. Storm ends]

Witch1: That was us.

GS: But aren't you on the side of the baddies?

W2: We were. But there was a crack of lightening, and the mist faded away, and ..

W3: The dark power lifted! And we all just felt Good.

W1: The good power seemed to come from here, so we came to see what was going on.

W2: Yes, and we found these stupid Nasties.

B-meisterin: And we came from all the villages around to see what all the noise was. And Mr. Groschlect. We don't want you and your nasty friends.

W1: Nor do we. Right, witches?

[they raise their arms again and make a magic noise. The nasties (but not Groschlect react)]

FrenchN: O! But I 'ave turned bon! Zis is very bizarre.

GermanN: Und I also. Hallo everybody! I luff you all!

[the other nasties look around and smile and nod, and start hugging each other and the good guys]

GS: Nothing happened to me! I'm still the same.

W3: Yes, you are, aren't you!

Siggy: Right then. We shall put you in the dungeon for a proper punishment.

Jean: Sire, the dungeon was broken.

Siggy: Okay; once we've built the walls again.

M-F: Well, we can help you with that!

Siggy: Oh, yes, you women all have all the skills for rebuilding the place! Super! When can you start?

M-Cl: Here's one of our cards, we'll give you a quote.

Siggy: What, sorry?

M-F: Oh well, we aren't working for you anymore. We're working for ourselves and you can hire our company. M&M S a.r.L building and decorating.

M-Cl: We're doing it for ourselves.

Jean: So, you are M because you are all called Marie something, right?

M-F: That's right! Marie-France, Marie-Claire, Marie-

Jean: Yes, yes. But what is the second M for?

[the Minions all jump up and down saying 'nos, nos', and go to hug/high five sisters. GB enters at this point but stays hidden]

Groschlect: Those things? You're working with them?

[Girl Baddie moves to the front]

GB: Yes! They are very hard workers if you treat them nicely.

Groschlect: You! What are you doing here? With this lot?

GB: You never did know my name, did you? It's Marie! And I want to be in charge of building your prison. It's going to be awful!

[sisters mutter agreement]

GS: But ... But ...

Mins: Heh, heh, Butt!

Mel: Well, I think it's super you've got your own business. We'll be happy to have a quote and hire you properly. Won't we Siggy?

Siggy: Umm ... yes. Certainly.

Mel: So that's settled. Everything has turned out super in the end!

Siggy: Well, no my love there's still one thing.

Mel: What's that?

Siggy: Our wedding!

[cheers]

Scene 2.9

U54

Song: Xanadu (Luxembourg)

Siggy:

**A place where nobody dared to go
The love that we came to know
They call it Luxembourg**

**And now, open your eyes and see what we have made is real
We are in Luxembourg**

**A million lights are dancing and there you are, a shooting star
An everlasting world and you're here with me, eternally**

Luxembourg, Luxembourg

**(Now we are here) in Luxembourg
Luxembourg, Luxembourg
(Now we are here) in Luxembourg
Luxembourg, your neon lights will shine for you, Luxembourg**

**The love that echoes of long ago
You needed the world to know
They are in Luxembourg**

The dream that came through a million years

**That lived through all the tears
It came to Luxembourg**

**A million light are dancing and you are, a shooting star
An everlasting world and you're here with me, eternally
Luxembourg, Luxembourg**

(Now we are here) in Luxembourg
Luxembourg, Luxembourg
(Now we are here) in Luxembourg
Luxembourg, your neon lights will shine for you, Luxembourg
Now that I'm here, now that you're near, in Luxembourg

FREEZE – PHOTO EFFECT

U55

Walk Downs