

EXTRACT

falling stars

a play

for young people

by

Alex Broun

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Cast

SNOW WHITE

WICKED QUEEN

BIG BAD WOLF

CAPTAIN HOOK

PETER PAN

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

WHITE RABBIT

NODDY

LANCELOT

TINKERBELLE

Time

The present.

Settings

Scene 1: A meeting room, Storybook Land.

Scene 2: A street in a city.

Scene 1.

THE WICKED QUEEN, PETER PAN, CAPTAIN HOOK, LANCELOT, SNOW WHITE, NODDY, BIG BAD WOLF, TINKERBELLE AND ALICE IN WONDERLAND. SIT AROUND A LARGE TABLE. THEY CHAT AMONG THEMSELVES.

SNOW WHITE STANDS.

SNOW WHITE: Excuse me. Quiet down please.

EVERYONE CONTINUES TALKING.

SNOW WHITE: Excuse me. I'd like to ...

EVERYONE STILL CHATTERS.

BIG BAD WOLF: (STANDING) Oi! Shut up.

SNOW WHITE: Thank you. In my capacity as President I'd like to welcome all my fellow storybook heroes and villains to this "The 125th Annual General Meeting of the Fictional Characters Collective."

APPLAUSE.

SNOW WHITE: I'd like to thank of all of you who voted me in as your new President.

WICKED QUEEN: I didn't.

ALICE: I did.

SNOW WHITE: I'd now like to call upon our terribly happy and gay secretary to read out the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting. Noddy.

NODDY: (STANDING ON CHAIR) I have to stand on here because I'm very small.

CAPTAIN HOOK: Not to mention happy.

NODDY: At the last Annual General Meeting it was decided to allow 2 weeks holiday per year with pay to all our members.

APPLAUSE. NODDY SITS.

SNOW WHITE: Is that all?

NODDY: Yes.

SNOW WHITE: Short meeting. Well, thank you Noddy. I now call upon, all the way from "Little Red Riding Hood" and "The Three Little Pigs" - the Big Bad Wolf.

LANCELOT: Doesn't look extremely bad to me.

PETER PAN: Doesn't look very big either.

WICKED QUEEN: Oooh, he is.

BIG BAD WOLF: Quiet. Well, according to figures received from Mr Storybook himself last week, our livelihood is even more greatly under threat than we expected. Sales on all our books have dropped drastically.

MURMURS FROM ALL THE CHARACTERS.

BIG BAD WOLF: "Alice in Wonderland" down 35%. "Peter Pan" down 40%.

CAPTAIN HOOK: It'd sell better if it was called "Captain Hook."

BIG BAD WOLF: Not to mention the wonderfully exciting, incredibly famous, family favourite, starring yours truly : "Little Red Riding Hood", which has dropped a mammoth 83%. Worst of all is "Noddy in Toyland" which hasn't sold a copy in the last two years.

NODDY: Blame Big Ears.

BIG BAD WOLF: Reasons for the slump are believed to be connected to the 20th Century and a creature known as the 'Movie' who is locking children in big back rooms and forcing them to watch strange little pictures on big white screens. Consequently they are unable to read our books.

LANCELOT: Who is this foul beast 'Movie'? Let him feel the point of my strong, silvered blade.

ALL: Lancelot!!!

BIG BAD WOLF: The 'Movie' is being aided by the dreaded Vince, King of the Video Games and his dastardly band of Silicon chips.

NODDY: What's a Silicon chip?

SNOW WHITE: A type of pretzel.

NODDY: Oh I've never had one of those. Are they nice?

ALICE: Very nice.

BIG BAD WOLF: Lurking amongst this band of Pretzels are the infamous assassins Donkey Kong, Pacman and the most feared of all - Super Mario 2.

GASPS OF TERROR. THE WHITE RABBIT ENTERS

WHITE RABBIT: Oh my fur and whiskers. I'm late. I'm late. For a very important meeting. Oh hi everybody!

ALICE: Sit down silly.

BIG BAD WOLF: The situation seems hopeless, however I am currently working on a device which could defeat the 'Movie' and the terrible 'Vince, the Video Game King.' It's called a television.

CHEERING.

SNOW WHITE: Thank you Big Bad Wolf.

WICKED QUEEN: Oooh, he's so handsome.

SNOW WHITE: Wicked Queen please. Control yourself. The situation does seem desperate. I'll open the meeting to discussion from the floor.

LANCELOT PUTS UP HIS HAND.

SNOW WHITE: I call upon the heroic Lancelot from Camelot.

LANCELOT: I shall go forth unto the common and challenge this Super Mario 2 to a jousting match to the death.

CHEERING.

SNOW WHITE: I don't think you can joust with a Video Game.

LANCELOT: Oh.

PETER PAN PUTS UP HIS HAND.

SNOW WHITE: Peter Pan of Never Ever Ever Ever Land.

PETER PAN: That's Never Never Land. We should go to all the libraries in the 20th Century and steal all the children's books. Then they'd have to buy new copies.

ALICE: Grow up Peter.

WICKED QUEEN: We should -

SNOW WHITE: Hand.

THE WICKED QUEEN PUTS UP HER HAND.

WICKED QUEEN: I said we should -

SNOW WHITE: Wait for it. The Wicked Dog. Sorry, Queen.

WICKED QUEEN: Why don't we poison all the Silicon chips and then feed them all to the Video King?

SNOW WHITE: What a great idea? Next.

WHITE RABBIT PUTS UP HIS HAND.

SNOW WHITE: The White Rabbit.

WHITE RABBIT: Me?

SNOW WHITE: Yes you. The one with the tea fetish.

WHITE RABBIT: Why don't we invite all the children to a Tea Party and then drug their tea and make them read our books?

SNOW WHITE: I think you've been hanging out with The Mad Hatter too long. Any other suggestions.

CAPTAIN HOOK PUTS UP HIS HOOK.

SNOW WHITE: Captain Hook, straight from the Crocodiles tummy.

CAPTAIN HOOK: I suggest, my fine feathered friends -

NODDY: I haven't got any feathers.

CAPTAIN HOOK: That we embark on a voyage across the seven seas to the 20th Century and render this Captain Video his come uppance.

LANCELOT: (STANDING) Splendid idea.

CHEERING.

WHITE RABBIT: But how do we get there? Your boat sunk remember.

CAPTAIN HOOK: Oh yeah. So it did.

PAUSE. TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

SNOW WHITE: Tinky, do be quiet we're all trying to think.

TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

SNOW WHITE: Tinky please.

TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

SNOW WHITE: I'm beginning to get angry Tinky.

PETER PAN PUTS HIS HAND UP.

SNOW WHITE: Yes Peter.

PETER PAN: I think what Tinkerbelle's trying to tell us is that she can sprinkle her magic flying dust on us to transport us all to the 20th Century.

TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

SNOW WHITE: All that from one Tinkle.

ALICE: Well why didn't she just say so? Goodness me.

NODDY: She's almost as silly as Big Ears.

TINKERBELLE TINKLES ANGRILY AND STARTS SPREADING DUST ON EVERYONE.

PETER PAN: Now all we have to do is say the magic chant and we shall all be transported to the 20th Century.

SNOW WHITE: Fine. Everybody ready. Close your eyes. 1. 2. 3.

ALL: Coca Cola, MacDonalds and Schweppes
If you want to get to 1983 then take these steps.

THEY OPEN THEIR EYES.

WHITE RABBIT: I don't think it worked somehow.

TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

PETER PAN: Tinkerbelle says we all have to do the Magic Movement.

ALL: Do we have to?

TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

PETER PAN: Tinkerbelle says yes we do.

ALICE: What pray tell is the Magic Movement.

PETER PAN DOES IT.

ALICE: That's quite rude.

TINKERBELLE TINKLES.

PETER PAN: Tinkerbelle says form a circle and hold hands.

THEY ALL FORM A CIRCLE AND HOLD HANDS. TINKERBELLE STANDS IN THE MIDDLE. AS THEY CONTINUE THE CHANT THEY DO THE MAGIC MOVEMENT.

WICKED QUEEN: I feel stupid.

SNOW WHITE: Shut up Wicked Queen.

PETER PAN: Ready. 1. 2. 3.

ALL: KFC, Toyota and Hoyts
Jump up and down and shake your joints.
7-Up, Neighbours and E-Street
Let's all just hope we land on our feet.

BLACKOUT. WE HEAR VIDEO NOISES.

Scene 2: A Street in 1983.

THE WICKED QUEEN, BIG BAD WOLF AND CAPTAIN HOOK ARE LYING ON THE GROUND. THE WICKED QUEEN WAKES UP.

WICKED QUEEN: Time travel sure isn't all that it's cracked up to be. Hey, where is everybody else? Maybe something's happened to them. Maybe the journey ruined Snow White's hair. I'll be fairer than her now. Wolfy, Hook. Get the mirror.

THE BIG BAD WOLF AND HOOK WAKE UP AND GET THE MIRROR.

WICKED QUEEN: Mirror Mirror on the wall
Who is the fairest of them all?

WOLF AND HOOK: Her lips blood red, her hair like night
Her skin like snow, her name Snow White.

WICKED QUEEN: Even in the 20th Century I can't beat her. I can't understand it. Look at her with her seven little dwarves. She's such a wimp.

- BIG BAD WOLF: A goody-goody.
- CAPTAIN HOOK: Pretty little wench though.
- WICKED QUEEN: Oh shut up.
- BIG BAD WOLF: Hey Wicked Queen, now that we've been separated from those do gooders we can commit copious amounts of dastardly crimes.
- WICKED QUEEN: Yeah. Like what?
- BIG BAD WOLF: We could get rid of Miss Snow White and then you shall be the fairest in the 20th Century.
- CAPTAIN HOOK: Swoggle me eyes, you reckon? What about Cindy Crawford?
- WICKED QUEEN: What about her? I'm far more glamorous.
- BIG BAD WOLF: And Hook, you could finally be rid of Peter Pan, the little green man.
- CAPTAIN HOOK: Maybe we could have him keelhauled 'neath the Manly Ferry.
- WICKED QUEEN: Drop the nautical bit Hook. But Wolfy how are we going to destroy those do gooders you know we are forbidden by Mr Storybook to ever really hurt one of them. I poisoned her with an apple once and he got that Prince to kiss her and make her better.
- CAPTAIN HOOK: Same for me. I had Peter at me mercy and then that old crocodile appeared. You even got fried by Three Little pink Pigs.
- BIG BAD WOLF: They got lucky. Never fear my fellow villains. We shall seek out Vince, King of the Videos and with the help of my secret device, the Choogilicki -
- WICKED QUEEN: The what?
- BIG BAD WOLF: Choogilicki.
- CAPTAIN HOOK: Funny name landlubber.
- WICKED QUEEN: You're not one to talk about funny names Captain Hook.
- BIG BAD WOLF: By using the Choogilicki we shall place King Vince under our power and force him to destroy Peter Pan and Snow White, and anybody else we feel like.
- WICKED QUEEN: A brilliant plan Wolfy.

CAPTAIN HOOK: If she wants to be the most beautiful in the land you're going to have to kill quite a few. But across the seas, how shall we find this Captain Vince?

WICKED QUEEN: King Vince, Captain Big Nose.

BIG BAD WOLF: We'll just have to get someone to show us where he is.

CAPTAIN HOOK: (INDICATING GIRLS IN THE AUDIENCE) What me 'earty? You mean one of these scurvy wenches.

BIG BAD WOLF: Or maybe one of those older ones up the back.

WICKED QUEEN: No, they're all to dumb. We'll have to find him ourselves. Let's go.

CAPTAIN HOOK: Ah hah. Shall we sing a song as we go?

BIG BAD WOLF: Why not?

ALL: We're off to see the Vince,
The Wonderful King of the Vids,
If ever, oh ever there was a King

THEY EXIT.

SNOW WHITE, LANCELOT, PETER PAN, WHITE RABBIT, NODDY
AND ALICE IN WONDERLAND ENTER.

WHITE RABBIT: My ears hurt.

SNOW WHITE: What Angel wakes me from my flowery bed?

PETER PAN: Do they have Angels in the 20th Century?

NODDY: We have Angels in Toyland.

ALICE: And fairies.

LANCELOT: (KISSING SNOW WHITE'S HAND) My fair Snow Flake.

SNOW WHITE: That's Snow White buster.

LANCELOT: The Wicked Queen, the Big Bad Wolf and Captain Hook can not be found. My heart aches for I fear the Pretzels have already devoured them. Oh shock, horror - dismay even.

ALL: Lancelot.

WHITE RABBIT: Lancelot, why don't you take your horse and sword and save them from the wicked, despicable Pretzels?