

Spotlight Publications

Sinbad & The Magical Mystery

A pantomime
By Simon Rayner Davis



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Sinbad & The Magical Mystery

CAST (in order of appearance)

Sultan of Baghdad Ruler of All He Surveys
Sultana of Baghdad His wife
Grand Wazir His Prime Minister
Princess Yasmin His daughter
Prudence)
Jude) Handmaidens to Princess Yasmin
Michelle)
Mrs Sinbad A poor widow
Sinbad Her poor son
Cap'n Pugh A sailor captain
Dinky Winky A trader
Tipsy Another trader
Yah Yah Another trader
Poo Another trader
Dragunda The meanest and mightiest magician in the world
Deli His incompetent assistant
Beli His equally incompetent assistant
Ringo Slave of The Ring
Chief Sunday Chief of Oomagoolee Island
Monday Witch Doctor on Oomagoolee Island
Lady Madonna Queen Bee of No Man's Land
Jo-Jo A gorilla
Radio Announcer
Children on the Isle of Juven
Chorus of traders, natives etc.

Place - in and around Baghdad
Time - whenever

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1

Prologue Dragunda's secret hideaway (front of tabs)

Scene 1 The Old Bazaar in Baghdad

Scene 2 Dragunda's secret hideaway (FOT)

Scene 3 The poop deck of the Fairy Queen

Scene 4 Dragunda's secret hideaway (FOT)

Scene 5 Isle of Juven

ACT 2

Scene 1 No Man's Land

Scene 2 Dragunda's secret hideaway (front of tabs)

Scene 3 The galley on board the Fairy Queen

Scene 4 Oomagoolee Island

Scene 5 The Valley Of Emeralds

Scene 6 Somewhere in the Sultan's Palace (FOT)

Scene 7 The Great Hall of the Sultan's Palace

MUSICAL NUMBERS

All songs by Lennon & McCartney.

Please note that all new lyrics (by the author) are contained in a separate Lyric Booklet

ACT 1

Overture(Optional)

Song 1 FROM ME TO YOU

Song 2 I WANT TO HOLD YOUR HAND

Song 3 YELLOW SUBMARINE

Song 4 SHE LOVES YOU

Song 5 WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

Dance WHEN I'M SIXTY FOUR (Instrumental)

ACT 2

Overture(Optional)

Song 6 HELP

Song 7 ELEANOR RIGBY

Song 8 YESTERDAY

Song 9 TICKET TO RIDE

Song 10 YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE THAT GIRL

Song 11 EIGHT DAYS A WEEK

Song 12 (Walkdown Song) ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE (Instrumental)

Song 13 (Finale Song) LET IT BE

N.B. All songs are at the discretion of the Musical Director.

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NOTES ON THE PRINCIPALS

Sultan of Baghdad Gentle, and well-meaning but blind as a bat.

Sultana of Baghdad Dutiful wife who is always pointing the Sultan in the right direction.

Princess Yasmin Principal girl who requires a good singing voice.

Mrs Sinbad Recently evicted, destitute and typical extrovert Dame who seizes the opportunity to sail on an adventure. Much involved with the comic action.

Sinbad Our heroic principal boy determined to rescue Princess Yasmin no matter what task he is presented with.

Cap'n Pugh One Eyed Pugh who would like to think he's in charge but is undermined by his newly acquired crew. Much involved with the comic action.

Dinky Winky, Topsy, Yah Yah & Poo Comedy crew aboard the Fairy Queen. Think comic parodies of the Teletubbies and you won't be far wrong.

Dragunda The evil villain with aspirations to rule the universe.

Deli & Beli The incompetent assistants to Dragunda and comic duo

Ringo A magical character who speaks constantly in rhyme

Chief Sunday & Monday, Grand Wazir & Jo-Jo Small, compact and bijou parts which can be doubled up if necessary or can equally be played by separate actors.

Lady Madonna She rules No Man's Land with a firm grip and takes no prisoners.

ACT I

Prologue

Dragunda's secret hideaway

Dragunda enters at length backing in, having "fought" his way through the opening in the front tabs

Dragunda Where am I? *(He turns to face front)* Ah! I'm here of course! In my secret hideaway. I, Dragunda, the meanest and mightiest Magician in the World will soon be Ruler of the Universe. And no one will ever know until it is too late!

He laughs an evil laugh but stops suddenly on noticing the audience

Here, what are you lot doing here? This is my secret hideaway so go off and find your own hideaway you horrible, smelly looking lot. *(No reaction)* Go on! *(Still no reaction)* Don't you realise who you are up against? Dragunda, the meanest and mightiest Magician in the World! *(He laughs an evil laugh)* Very well, I'll just have to turn you into spotty, little warthogs to make you realise! *(A brief pause)* Although nothing must hold up my plan for becoming the Ruler Of the Universe. I'll have to deal with you lot later because now, I must summon up the Genie of the Ring. *(He flashes a big flashy ring to the audience)* Trouble is, I have to speak in rhyme and I hate that, almost as much as I hate you horrible lot! Anywhere here goes! Abracadabra, hocus, pocus, alakazam and bingo! Summon up your magic powers and bring before me Ringo!

There is a flash and Ringo, Genie of the Ring appears

Ringo I am the Genie of the Ring, and here to do your bidding

Dragunda I want to rule the universe right now -

Ringo You must be kidding!

Dragunda Look, I'm the one in charge out here, and you do what I say!

Ringo Of course, O rubber of my ring, I'm ready to obey

Dragunda *(becoming animated)* That's better! Right, now tell me how to rule the universe.

Ringo *(to audience)* You think his acting's dreadful now, believe me it gets worse! *(To Dragunda)* You need three feathers from three birds.

Dragunda *(going to move)* Okay.

Ringo Hang on! There's more. And they must be obtained by someone honest, strong, and pure.

Dragunda Well I am strong.

Ringo You might be, but you ain't the other two.

And if you undertake this task you'll end up dead -

Dragunda Oh poo!

All right, if I can't do it, then just name me one who can.

Ringo It's lucky, there is one close by.

Dragunda Who?

Ringo Sinbad is your man.

But listen carefully, Dragunda, this is what you need.

The Dodo's feather is the first for your plan to succeed.

That's followed by the Phoenix, and then last the Giant Roc

Dragunda *(animated once more)* And then I'll rule the universe!

Ringo *(aside to audience)* And no doubt run amok!

Dragunda But how can I persuade this Sinbad to do this for me?

Ringo That shouldn't be too difficult from what I can foresee.

He's due to fall in love with a rich princess very soon,

You kidnap her I'll guarantee he'll promise you the moon!

Dragunda You said he's close.

Ringo He's just through here *(indicating the front tabs)*.

Dragunda You have done well.

Ringo I know!

So to the Old Bazaar in Old Baghdad!

Dragunda *(grabbing Ringo)* Come on, let's go!

Dragunda pulls Ringo through the front tabs and off stage as they open to reveal...

Scene 1

The Old Bazaar in Old Baghdad

The scene opens with all the street sellers, traders and hawkers as well as the citizens of Old Baghdad singing to each other

Song 1

After the song has ended the various traders and hawkers mingle with the customers. Mrs Sinbad enters fighting her way through the traders and citizens of Old Baghdad who incoherently moan and grumble

Mrs Sinbad *(looking after them)* Yes thank you! When I want your opinion I'll give it to you!

She turns back and notices the audience for the first time

Oh, hello! I said hello! Is there anybody there? No I didn't think so! Well I expect you're wondering who I am, aren't you? Well, my name is Fatima Sinbad. It is! Mind you, I wasn't always a Fatima. No, before I had my son I used to be a thinima! Oh, please yourselves! Anyway, I live here in Old Baghdad. Or rather I did live here in Old Baghdad. You see I've just been evicted... *(becoming tearful)*. I have! Not that it was much of a

home to be evicted from. Our little hovel was in such a poor state that it had to be done up before the Council would condemn it. We had a fire in our bathroom one night, it's just a shame it didn't spread to the rest of the house! Still, I shouldn't moan. After all, I started out with nothing and I still have most of it. Oh, but what is my little Sinny going to say? Oh, that's my son, Sinbad. He's all I've got in the whole wide world to share my nothing with... *(she starts to howl with sorrow)*

Enter Princess Yasmin and her handmaidens Prudence, Michelle & Jude who walk in and stand in front of Mrs Sinbad

(Moving around them) Here! Do you mind? I was having a conversation with this unruly mob. *(Indicating the audience)* Honestly, the cheek of some people. Still, I can't stand here gossiping with you lot all day

long. I have to go and find my poor little Sinny and tell him the bad news.

She wanders off round the bazaar

Prudence Princess Yasmin, do you think it wise to be wandering around the streets of Old Baghdad?

Yasmin Dear Prudence, I refuse to be locked away in the confines of the Imperial Palace my whole life.

Michelle But your Highness, is it wise when the Sultan and Sultana of Baghdad have expressly forbidden you to leave the Palace grounds?

Yasmin Michelle, if we don't tell them, they won't know, will they?

Jude But Princess, is it really wise to stay here when you don't know what these people are like?

Yasmin Hey Jude, what are they like?

Jude I don't know what they're like.

Yasmin Exactly! And how are we to know if we don't meet them.

Prudence But do you think it is wise, Princess?

Yasmin Dear Prudence, stop asking me if it's wise and just introduce me to one of them.

The three handmaidens huddle together to consider the wise-ness of this

Yasmin (*losing patience and raising her voice*) Now!

The three handmaidens immediately dart about the crowd looking for someone suitable. They settle upon Mrs Sinbad

Prudence Oi! You!

Mrs Sinbad Are you referring to moi?

Michelle Yes! We want to introduce you to someone very posh.

Mrs Sinbad Ooh, do you mean Victoria Beckham?

Jude No, we don't, now just come with us.

They manhandle her over to Yasmin amid her protestations

Michelle Princess Yasmin, common peasant. Common peasant, Princess Yasmin.

Mrs Sinbad Here! That's Mrs Common Peasant to you!

Yasmin Greetings, Mrs Common Peasant, I am Princess Yasmin.

Mrs Sinbad No!

Yasmin Yes!!

Mrs Sinbad No!!!

Maidens Yes!!!!

Yasmin And what brings you to the Old Bazaar in Old Baghdad?

Mrs Sinbad I'm looking for Sin.

Yasmin Um..., you're looking for sin?

Mrs Sinbad Yes, normally he's at home lazing around in bed all day.

Yasmin He?

Mrs Sinbad Yes, he! My son Sinbad, but I know he's not there because we've just been evicted. (*She starts to bawl*)

Yasmin Oh dear. Perhaps I'd better take you home.

Mrs Sinbad bawls even more as the Grand Wazir enters, spots Yasmin and goes directly to her

Wazir Princess Yasmin!

Yasmin Oh! I wondered how long it would be before you turned up, Grand Wazir.

Wazir What are you doing here? You must return to the Palace immediately.

Yasmin No!

Wazir (*gobsmacked*) What?!

Yasmin I said no!

Wazir But your father, the Sultan of Baghdad, has expressly forbidden you to leave the Palace grounds.

Yasmin I know...

Wazir Good!

Yasmin But I'm not going back.

Wazir Do you think that wise, Princess Yasmin?

Yasmin (*turning and grabbing by the collar*) Listen, I've had enough wise cracks for one day, now leave me alone. (*She lets him go*)

Wazir Your father will hear of this.

Yasmin I'm sure he will.

Wazir What do you mean?

Yasmin Because you always tell him everything, Wazir!

Wazir Well you can rest assured he will learn about this. (*He moves to go and then turns back*) And straight away! (*He turns to go once more but turns back to address the handmaidens*) And if you value your jobs you'll return to the Palace straight away as well!

Prudence Do you think it wise to leave the Princess here, amongst these common peasants where anything might happen to her?

Wazir (*considering this for a moment*) Perhaps you are right. You maidens stay here, but don't let her out of your sights. I'll be right back.

The Grand Wazir exits in a huff

Mrs Sinbad Ooh, you really are royalty, your Princessness! But who was that horrible little man?

Yasmin The Wazir.

Mrs Sinbad Yes! Who was that that was 'ere?

Yasmin I've told you! The Wazir.

Mrs Sinbad For goodness sake! All I want to know is who it was that was 'ere!

Yasmin (*speaking slowly and deliberately*) It was the Grand Wazir. You know, my father's right hand man.

Jude (*confidentially to Yasmin*) It must be her age, Princess.

Mrs Sinbad I heard that! I'll have you know I'm looking forward to my twenty ninth birthday.

Michelle I think you're looking in the wrong direction!

Mrs Sinbad Ooh, I didn't come over here to be insulted.

Yasmin No?

Mrs Sinbad No! I can go over there to be insulted any day of the week and that is precisely where I am going now!

Mrs Sinbad meanders back to the traders

Jude Shouldn't we go back now, Princess?

Yasmin Not yet. I want to find out if all the townsfolk are like that last one.

Prudence I certainly hope not!

Yasmin So do I!

Yasmin and the handmaidens all laugh and giggle and move down stage right as from opposite sides backing in from each direction enter Pugh and Dragunda who slowly but surely inevitably bump into each other as they reach the centre of the stage. They both react and shout out and immediately turn to face each other

Dragunda Who are you?

Pugh I am One-Eyed Pugh. Cap'n of the most feared ship on the Seven Seas, the Fairy Queen!

Dragunda (*unimpressed*) Oh really!

Pugh You bump into me again and I'll cut out your tongue and feed it to my pet piranha.

Dragunda (*sarcastically*) Ooh, I'm really frightened!

Pugh You ought to be!

Dragunda Va-va-voom!

He casts a spell which causes everyone onstage to immediately freeze

Listen, you puny little man. I could turn you into the ugliest looking toad just like that, although it seems someone's already beaten me to it! (*To audience*) What shall I do with him?

Dragunda rubs his hands with anticipation and as he does so, there is a flash and Ringo appears

Ringo O lead of many pencils, what is it that you need?

Dragunda I didn't summon you!

Ringo Oh I am sorry, but you deed (*did*).

Dragunda Oh very well now that you're here you can do one small thing.

Ringo Just name it and it shall be done, O rubber of my ring!

Dragunda I want this person (*indicating Pugh*) to be stoned to death immediately, then sliced up into tiny little pieces for my tea

Ringo I can do that, of course I can, but I don't think I should.

You'll frighten everyone away and that would not be good.

And if you do you won't meet up with Sinbad, but what's worse,

You don't find him, you won't be Ruler of the Universe!

Dragunda I s'pose you're right.

Ringo Of course I am!

Dragunda So, what do you suggest?

Ringo I think you should apologise to Pugh, that would be best,

Tell him that you are new here and you don't mean any harm -

Pretend to be a carpet seller!

Dragunda What?!

Ringo Now just keep calm!

It is the perfect cover so that you can blend right in,

And then before they realise you will have snatched Yasmin.

Dragunda Who's that?

Ringo The Sultan's daughter.

Dragunda Oh, you mean the rich Princess.

The one that I'm to kidnap on my magic carpet?

Ringo Yes!

Dragunda That's brilliant!

Ringo I know!

Dragunda Okay, I'll handle it from here.

Ringo I thought you might!

Dragunda Oh just shut up and quickly disappear!

There is a flash and Ringo disappears

Okay! Now let's go back in time to my entrance and run it again.

Alakazam, Alakazee,

Return to the entrance of Old Pugh and me!

He casts the spell and everyone on stage moves backwards and mumbles unintelligible rubbish until the time that Dragunda and Pugh have gone off and begin to back in as before. They both react once more and shout out and immediately turn to face each other

Dragunda Who are you?

Pugh I am One-Eyed Pugh, Cap'n of the most feared ship on the Seven Seas, the Fairy Queen!

Dragunda (*unimpressed as before*) Oh really! (*Then remembering and changing his tune*) Oh really? Ooh, I've heard so much about you.

Pugh You have?

Dragunda Indeed I have. Oh, but I am only a mere carpet seller, not fit to lick your boots.

Pugh You're not? No you're not! Now get out of my way, mere carpet seller. I wish to address the assembled throng.

Dragunda blends into the background as Pugh addresses those on stage

Pugh Roll up, citizens of Old Baghdad. (*No reaction so louder*) I said roll up, you old bags!

Mrs Sinbad Excuse me...

Pugh Granted!

Mrs Sinbad Who are you?

Pugh Allow me to introduce myself. I am One-Eyed Pugh.

Mrs Sinbad One eyed poo more like! You smell terrible (*fanning her face with her hand*).

Pugh (*grabbing her by the collar*) I am One-Eyed Pugh and don't you forget it!

Mrs Sinbad All right, all right! Don't get your patch in a pandemonium!

As she speaks so she twangs his eye patch which causes Pugh to let go her collar

Pugh (*recovering*) You do that again an' I'll hang you from the yardarm.

Mrs Sinbad You can't.

Pugh Why not?

Mrs Sinbad Well I haven't got a yardarm anymore because I've been evicted from my house and all for something I didn't do.

Pugh What didn't you do?

Mrs Sinbad I didn't pay the rent!

She slaps him sending him back across the stage

Pugh I think I'll stay here where it's safer! Roll up, roll up for the trip of a lifetime.

Trader 1 Where is this trip going?

Pugh (*spoken not sung*) Picture yourself on a ship on an ocean

That's set for adventure upon the high seas.

You can be part of this mystical journey

For only one hundred rupees.

Trader 1 Why should we pay you all that money?

Pugh For a trip you'll never forget.

Trader 2 Could you come here a moment, please?

Pugh walks over to Trader 2. As he does so Trader 1 sticks his foot out and Pugh trips over it falling to the floor

There, there's a trip you'll never forget!

Pugh (*as he gets up*) Why you.... I shall cut out your gizzards and batter your brains with it. (*He pulls out a knife*) Now come here!

Pugh runs around after the two traders who flee in fright and run off stage right as Sinbad enters stage left. Pugh, having lost them remains onstage looking for them

Mrs Sinbad (*immediately spotting him and going over to him*) Oh Sinny, there you are! What have you been up to?

Sinbad Oh you know me Mum!

Mrs Sinbad Yes I do, that's why I'm asking!

Sinbad (*generally looking around as he speaks*) Oh, nothing much.

Mrs Sinbad Nothing much?

Sinbad No, nothing much. What sort of day have you had?

He immediately spots Princess Yasmin and is transfixed

Mrs Sinbad Terrible!

Sinbad (*not listening to her*) Oh good!

Mrs Sinbad You remember I said I was worried about us getting evicted from our home?

Sinbad (*lost in thought*) Yes.

Mrs Sinbad Well, our worries are over.

Sinbad Glad to hear it.

Mrs Sinbad (*bawling*) We've been evicted!

Sinbad That's excellent news.

Mrs Sinbad What do you mean, that's excellent news?

Sinbad Whatever you say, Mum.

Mrs Sinbad You haven't been listening to a word I've been saying have you?

Sinbad That's right! Who that's over there (*nodding towards Yasmin*)?

Mrs Sinbad (*looking all around*) Over where?

Sinbad (*moving Mrs Sinbad's head in the right direction*) Over there.

Mrs Sinbad Oh, her! That's the only daughter of the Sultan and Sultana of Baghdad, Princess Has Bin!

Sinbad The daughter of the Sultan and Sultana of Baghdad?

Mrs Sinbad Yes.

Sinbad She's the most beautiful girl in the whole wide world.

Mrs Sinbad Considering you haven't been any further afield than (*local reference*) that's not saying a lot!

Sinbad Oh, she's lovely.

Mrs Sinbad No she isn't. Her manners are atrocious! I shall have one or two words to say to the Sultana about the way she's been raisin her! Raisin her.... Do you get it? Raisin..., sultana...

Sinbad (*ignoring her*) I must go and speak to her! (*He moves to go*)

Mrs Sinbad (*grabbing him by the collar*) You'll do no such thing! You're coming home with me! (*She starts to drag Sinbad homeward but then stops*) Except we don't have a home... (*She starts to cry once more*)

Sinbad Don't worry Mum, something will turn up. (*He moves away to Yasmin*)

Mrs Sinbad Yes, it might for you (*watching him walk away*) But what about poor, destitute me? (*She starts to bawl once more*) Infamy, infamy, they've all got it in for me!

Mrs Sinbad mingles back to the market looking for a shoulder to cry on whilst Sinbad moves downstage left, gazing silently and lovingly at Yasmin who, with the maidens is downstage right

Jude Don't look now, Your Highness, but I think that common peasant is staring at you.

Yasmin Which common peasant?

Prudence Him over there (*indicating Sinbad*).

Yasmin (*seeing Sinbad for the first time*) Ooh! He looks quite a pleasant peasant! I'm going to go over and meet him.

Michelle Your Highness, do you think that...

Yasmin (*interrupting*) And anyone who dares ask me if it's wise just once more will be immediately dismissed from the Palace and find themselves out on the streets with this lot. Do I make myself clear?

Maidens Yes, Your Highness.

Yasmin meanders to centre stage and accidentally on purpose drops her handkerchief

Sinbad Excuse me, Princess Yasmin, but I think you dropped this.

Yasmin (*taken aback that he knows who she is*) How did you know that?

Sinbad I saw you drop it on the floor.

Yasmin No! I mean how did you know who I am?

Sinbad My mum told me!

Yasmin Your mother told you?

Sinbad Yes, over there. (*Pointing to Mrs Sinbad*) I gather you were speaking to her a moment ago.

Yasmin Oh, yes! And what did she tell you about me?

Sinbad That you were the beautiful daughter of the Sultan and Sultana of Baghdad. But anyone could see you were a Princess just by looking at you.

Yasmin (*flattered*) Really?

Sinbad Your eyes.

Yasmin My eyes?

Sinbad That cute little nose.

Yasmin My nose?

Sinbad Those lips.

Yasmin My lips?

Sinbad And your face isn't bad either!

Yasmin If I didn't know you better I'd say you were teasing me.

Sinbad Ah, but would you like to know me better?

Yasmin That would be telling.

Sinbad So, tell me.

Song 2

Sinbad & The Magical Mystery

Plot Summary

The sparkling new version of Sinbad is a traditional family pantomime that is especially suited to groups with lots of women and children, and is full of slapstick, silly jokes and songs by the Beatles with rewritten lyrics that cleverly enhance the plot.

Dragunda, the meanest and mightiest magician in the world, is looking to rule the universe but to do so must obtain three different feathers from three different birds on three mystical islands. However, only someone honest pure and true can undertake such a task which is where our hero Sinbad comes in. Dragunda kidnaps Princess Yasmin and will only release her when Sinbad has captured all three feathers. Along the way Sinbad, his mum Mrs Sinbad, Cap'n Pugh and his crew (who bear more than a passing resemblance to the Teletubbies) encounter adventures on the Isle of Juven, No Man's Land and Oomagoolee Island.

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