

Sheriff Take him to the dungeons!

Robin is led offstage. The men flee to the forest, and Marian is left to the Sheriff's clutches.

END OF ACT ONE

INTERVAL

ACT TWO

Scene 1

Sherwood Forest. The Merry Men are not so merry as Robin is still missing, and so is Friar Tuck.

Will Scarlett Come on, guys, we can't just sit around here looking miserable all day. We need cheering up!

Little John Quite right, Will!

MUSIC #10 : WILL, JOHN & THE MERRY MEN

Will Scarlett Watcha gang! Oh dear, things haven't exactly gone to plan. It's been a week since...

Little John Watcha Will!

Will Scarlett ...the archery contest when Robin was trapped by the Sheriff's guards and thrown in the dungeons. He hasn't managed to escape and we can't come up with a good plan to rescue him. To make matters worse, Friar Tuck's been missing all that time too and Little John's cooking makes a Bush Tucker Trial look like Masterchef!

Little John Right men, gather round. Now with Robin and Friar Tuck currently on the missing list, it's fallen to Will and me to take charge. What we need is a fool-proof plan to get Robin back, so if anyone has any ideas, let us know what they are now.

Silence.

Will Scarlett Come on, men, any suggestions you might have, just shout them out. No suggestions will be treated as stupid.

Merry Man We could build a time machine!

Will Scarlett Apart from that suggestion. Now come on, men, anything else?

Friar Tuck enters, looking rather dishevelled and covered in kisses from Nurse Nora. He drops to his knees and starts to pray once onstage.

Friar Tuck Oh, thank you Lord, for helping me escape the beast and return safe back to the forest.

Little John Tuck, you're back! What happened?

Friar Tuck Oh, John, please help me up and I shall tell you all about it. *(He holds an outstretched hand and John helps him up).* Gather round, men, and I shall tell you all about the monster they call Nurse Nora. *(The men huddle round).* First of all, she lured me to the kitchens with the promise of pies and cakes and such... mmmmmm. But once we were there, she grabbed hold of me and... *(By this point the men have grouped around Tuck and the conversation is lost all except for three reaction sounds from the men each one bigger than the last).* And she continued until this morning when I managed to escape the castle.

Will Scarlett Well, Tuck, it sounds like quite an ordeal but we're glad to have you back. Now then, where were we? Does anyone have any suggestions for rescuing Robin?

Bill We could try to find King Richard and bring him home. I'm sure that if he knew what was happening to his people, he'd return, set Robin free and return us to our former glory.

Will Scarlett Bill that sounds like a splendid idea, and since you have the foresight to hatch such a plan, I think it'd only be right that you were the one to see it through. I suggest you leave tomorrow at sun up.

The men cheer and go back to their former business.

Bill Very well, Will. Do you think that I might be able to take Little John along with me? I'd prefer not to travel alone and there's safety in numbers.

Will Scarlett You're quite right, Bill. But I'd prefer it if Little John stayed with us; if we come up with a plan, we'll need him here. Alan, would you travel with Bill to find King Richard?

Bill But I...

Alan Of course I will. Oh, we'll have a great time and I'm sure I'll come up with some lovely songs on the way! I'll go and pack right away. *(He exits)*.

Bill *(Calling him over)*. Little John? I'll be leaving soon to try and find King Richard... Before I go though, I just wanted you to know, well I just wanted you to know that I really admire you and, well I think you're a lovely man.

Little John Well, I'm not sure what to say really, Bill, that's really a smashing thing for you to say. I think you're a lovely man too.

Bill John, there's something I need to tell you before I go.

Little John OK, well, go ahead.

Bill Erm, well you see, it's just that, well I'm... I'm a woo... I'm a wooo...

Little John ...a woodsman?

Bill Yes, that's right... a woodsman.

Little John Well thanks, Bill, that's great to know. Now, we all need to head off to town to get some supplies. So, take care, Bill, and I'll see you when you return.

Bill OK, thanks, John. Goodbye.

John offers his hand but Bill grabs and hugs John. We can see from her face she loves him.

Little John Oh! Erm thank you, Bill... that was, erm, nice. Now come on, men, let's head off to the town. Green Army!

The men say goodbye as they all exit, leaving Bill alone onstage.

MUSIC #11 : BILL-INDA

Scene 2

The Castle Dungeon. There is a skeleton chained in the dungeons wearing the same costume as the person was wearing in Act One, Scene One. Robin, who is behind bars, is all alone in the dungeon and longing for Marian.

MUSIC #12 : ROBIN (POSSIBLE UV NUMBER WITH SKELETONS)

Nora enters carrying a tray of food for Robin.

Nora Here you are, Robin; you've got a lovely bowl of slop with yesterday's sausage, and some mouldy bread.

Robin Thanks.

Nora Oh cheer up, Robin, it could be worse.

Robin Really? How?

Nora Well, you could be locked up in there with Jedward *[or contemporary equivalent]*.

Robin Thanks, Nora!

Nora Sorry Robin. I'm afraid, I've come with bad news. You haven't got a window in there have you?

Robin: No, why?

Nora I thought as much! The Sheriff has told Marian that if she doesn't marry him then it's curtains for you.

Robin How can he do that? I'll never let him have Marian, I'd rather die than let that happen!

Nora Oh, I'm sorry Robin, really I am. *(She blows her nose, SFX: Foghorn)*. Look, if it cheers you up, Marian's managed to work out a way to come and visit you; she'll be along any minute. I've got to go and distract the guards.

Nora exits. Marian enters shortly after. She hugs Robin through the bars.

Maid Marian Oh, Robin!

Robin Marian, you shouldn't be here... it's too dangerous for you.