Act 1, Scene 1 – Village Square

[Fairy Fafnee, an aloof, condescending and foul-tempered magical creature emerges from behind the curtains and regards the audience with utmost disdain.]

Fafnee Oh, you're here. Great... [sighs] Well I suppose we'd better get this out of the way then. Hello everyone, my name is Fairy Fafnee and I have the task of narrating tonight's panto to you. Yay for me. My name is Fairy Fafnee. As you will see, I'm known for being very sweet-natured and kind – even with those whom I consider to be inferior to me, which is exactly everyone. Maestro darling, are you waiting for a royal invitation or something? Come on, let's start the music!

Song 1 – Royal Visit Day (Topsy Turvy – Hunchback of Notre Dame)

Fafnee COME ONE, COME ALL

ALL THE GENTRY AND THE BRUTES

WE WON'T JUDGE YOUR ATTRIBUTES

COME ONE, COME ALL

FOR THIS TALE OF LAUGHS AND HOOTS

THERE CAN BE NO SUBSTITUTES [The curtain starts to open.]

IT'S THE TALE OF PUSS IN...

All BOOTS!

[As the curtain opens and we see the Village of (Town Name) which includes a working windmill. Several Villagers including Rosette, Josette and the tom-boyish Jenny are preparing for a feast as Fafnee walks among them. Some people are hanging up bunting while others are carrying flowers and dishes of baked goods. On the trap is a small monument.]

Fafnee Welcome to the village of (*Town Name*); a town of pathetic peasants and penniless plebs.

Villagers Hey...

Fafnee Oh it's true and you know it – a wretched little village where despondency, depression and despair are the order of the day. Every day that is, except for today.

Rosette ONCE A YEAR WE GET A VISIT FROM THE KING

Josette ONCE A YEAR WE HAVE TO CLEAN UP EVERYTHING

Jenny ONCE A YEAR WE GET TOGETHER, DANCE AND SING

Rosette/Josette FOR TODAY IS ROYAL VISIT DAY

Villagers 1&2 IT'S THE DAY WE GET A TASTE OF ELEGANCE

Villagers 3&4 LOOK OUR BEST;

Villager 5 I EVEN CHANGED MY UNDERPANTS

Fafnee EVERYTHING IS A-OKAY ON ROYAL VISIT DAY

All ROYAL VISIT!

Fafnee EVERYONE IS SO INVITING

All ROYAL VISIT!

Fafnee EVERYTHING IS SO EXCITING

CELEBRATE AND SING YOUR CARES AWAY

THAT'S THE WAY ON ROYAL VISIT DAY

[The Musketeer enters looking important.]

Musketeer Presenting; his Royal Majesty, Ruler of the Kingdom of High Rise, Builder of Walls, Banisher of Foreigners, and Grower of Unconventional Hair – King Trumpadon the Orange! [The Villagers burst into applause and whoops as King Trumpadon enters along with a couple of Guards.]

Trumpadon Wow... Wow... Thank you. It's a great pleasure for you guys to have me here today in the town of... [He leans to the **Musketeer** who whispers in his ear.] (Town Name.) I'm afraid the Queen's running late, but she'll be here real soon, okay.

Rosette Long live the King!

Josette Long live the Queen!

Jenny Yeah, whatever.

All ROYAL VISIT!

Trumpadon EVERYONE WILL COME TO SEE ME

All ROYAL VISIT!

Trumpadon DON'T YOU ALL WISH YOU COULD BE ME?

All RAIN OR SHINE WE DO IT COME WHAT MAY

Rosette ALL YEAR LONG WE HAVE BEEN WAITING

Josette IT'S BEEN QUITE EXCRUCIATING

All FINALLY IT'S ROYAL VISIT DAY

[Everyone gestures as the monument opens up and Queen Shalayna bursts through.]

Shalayna Hello everybody! How nice to see you all! How are you poppets? [Villagers 6&7 each give her a big bunch of balloons.] Oh thank you – how very, very nice of...

[Shalayna starts levitating as the balloons pull her up.] Oh no! What's happening?

Someone help me!

All ONCE A YEAR WE THROW A PARTY HERE IN TOWN

Shalayna What's going on?

All ONCE A YEAR WE TURN HAL QAMEL UPSIDE DOWN

Shalayna Please let me down!

All ONCE A YEAR WE DRINK UNTIL OUR SORROWS DROWN

Shalayna Don't just stand there!

All ONCE A YEAR IT'S ROYAL VISIT DAY

Shalayna What's wrong with everyone today?

All IT'S THE DAY WHEN WE PUT ON OUR SUNDAY BEST

GATHER UP AND WELCOME OUR MOST ROYAL GUESTS

ONCE A YEAR WE GET TO PARTY

DANCE ALL NIGHT AND EAT SO HEARTY

TO THE VILLAGE SQUARE WE MAKE OUR WAY

AND CHEER THE KING AND QUEEN WHO COME

ON ROYAL VISIT DAY

Shalayna ROYAL VISIT

Fafnee PLUSH AND POSH AND SO EXQUISITE

All ROYAL VISIT DAY!

Fafnee Everyone in the village was very excited to see the royal party arrive. Everyone, that is, except for –

Shalayna Whoa-whoa! What do you think you're doing?

Fafnee I'm narrating the show love.

Shalayna But I'm stuck up here.

Fafnee I can see that. I can also see your underwear. Now stop interrupting. I'm about to introduce the main character of this show.

Shalayna Well why didn't you just say so? Go ahead. Tell them all who the star of the panto is.