

THE SEVEN SIDED DICE

A MUSICAL TALE

Book by
Phil Rean

Music by
Mike Smith

Lyrics
by

John Gilday
Mike Smith
Wilf Tudor
Keith Dawson

(From an original idea by Robin Hayes and Mike Smith)

ISBN 1 898754 04 7

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Granddad

Vicky

Bookworm

Liz-Bet

Marney

Lady Fortune

Fat Chance

Three Reporters

Newspaperman

Four Stationmasters

Estate Agent

Secretary

Princess Tika

Stormtroopers

Miss Scarlet

Mrs Peacock

Mrs White

Colonel Mustard

Professor Plum

Reverend Green

Mr Body

Four Undertakers

Ill Luck

Old Man

Chess Pieces Black and White (32 total)

CONTENTS

	Page
Act One	5
<i>Song One - Once Upon a Time</i>	5
<i>Song Two - Lady Fortune's March</i>	7
<i>Song Three - Seven Sided Dice</i>	8
<i>Song Four - Snakes and Ladders</i>	11
<i>Song Five - All Is Lost</i>	13
<i>Song Six - Monopoly</i>	18
<i>Song Seven - The Reporters Song</i>	19
<i>Song Eight - Lavender</i>	21
<i>Song Nine - Stationmasters Song</i>	23
<i>Music - Lady Fortune's March</i>	25
<i>Song Ten - Go To Jail</i>	26
Act Two	27
<i>Song Ten Reprise -</i>	27
<i>Song Eleven - One Time</i>	28
<i>Song Twelve - A Dying Trade</i>	29
<i>Song Thirteen - Who Done It</i>	34
<i>Song Fourteen - Who Can He Be</i>	36
<i>Song Fifteen - Here Comes The Queen</i>	40
<i>Song Sixteen - Song of The Kings and Queens</i>	41
<i>Song Seventeen - Seagull</i>	42

Act One

Song One - Once Upon a Time (Soprano solo).

Once upon a time ago, that is how they all begin.
Once upon a while ago, not so very long ago.
Tell a tale for you to hear, tell a tale to bring you cheer.
That is how my story's told, let my tale to you unfold.

Once upon a time, once upon a time,
That is how my story's told, once upon a time.

All the world's a tiny heaven, full of joyful things,
Why not lend an ear and listen, while the children sing?
Do you have imagination? Is your heart still young?
Let us fill your expectation, while the story's sung.

Once upon a time, once upon a time,
That is how the story's told, once upon a time.
That is how the story's told, once upon a time.

- Granddad **(To audience)** For a few days now, the children, (that's Vicky, Marney, Bookworm and Liz-Bet) have been nursing an injured seagull that they found while out playing on the beach. There have been times when I feared the worst for the poor old bird. It seems that last night (which was the seventh night of nursing) the bird decided to take his leave. So, when the children went to my old pigeon loft to give their patient its early morning breakfast this morning.....
- Vicky He's gone! He's gone.
- Bookworm Can't be!
- Liz-Bet Maybe he's just gone for a fly around, you know, to get some exercise.
- Bookworm No!.. The door was locked. You did lock it last night didn't you Vicky?
- Vicky Yes. Of course I did. I double check it every night.
- Marney Now I'm no detective, but it takes a pretty smart seagull to get out of a pigeon loft without someone leaving the door open.
- Vicky Oh Marney, shut up.
- Bookworm He has got a point you know.
- Vicky I did lock the door I tell you. **(Getting a little upset).**
- Liz-Bet I believe you Vicky, don't let them silly lads upset you.
- Vicky Thanks Lizy, but I wonder where the poor old seagull has gone? I do hope he is alright.

Granddad Hey, hey, what's all the commotion? I can hear you lot from the kitchen.

Marney Vicky left the door open and the....

Vicky No I didn't.. **(running to Granddad)**. Granddad the seagull has gone.

Granddad There, there... don't be getting yourself all upset. If he was fit enough to fly off, you must have looked after him very well. And you know, you couldn't keep him forever, he needs to be free with all the other birds.

Bookworm Hey look! **(Looking in a nesting box, and taking out two dice)**.

Liz-Bet What are they Bookworm?

Bookworm Dice,... I think, but look they've got seven sides.

Granddad Let me take a look. **(Taking the dice from Bookworm and looking very thoughtful)**.

Vicky Are they yours Granddad? Have you seen them before?

Granddad Well.....

Marney They're kind'a weird ain't they! **(Interrupting and taking the Dice from Granddad)**.

Bookworm I wonder which game uses a pair of seven sided dice!

Liz-Bet Let's go in and play a game. We can play those games in that old box in Granddad's study.

Marney Yeah!...Lets play Snakes and Ladders.

Vicky I wonder where the seagull is now. He will be alright won't he Granddad?

Granddad Of course Vicky. Come on you lot, let's go in and have a chat over breakfast.

Marney **(Rolling the dice on the floor)**. SNAKE EYE...

(Blackout, bright flashes of light, thunder claps, weird noises etc. Scenery change to suggest Game Land. Lighting comes up to reveal, Vicky, Bookworm, Marney and Liz-Bet sitting huddled together down stage right).

Marney Wh.. wh.. where are we? What happened? **(Pause)**

Vicky Where's Granddad?

Liz-Bet Vicky!... I'm scared!

Song Two Fortune's March
(Full chorus - Grand entry of Lady Fortune, Ill Luck and entourage)

A. Here we come now with drums all a-blazing,
Fortunes servants all are we.
We are here now in answer to your calling,
Success and joy, we'll surely bring you see.

You've thrown the dice and it's we who will serve you,
Make your wishes all come true.
We are servants of great Lady Fortune,
Your troubles fly when she comes round to you.

So stamp your feet and clap your hands
And join our marching.
Sing our song and join our ranks two by two.
Fortune's here, sing don't sigh,
Send your troubles flying high,
She is coming to you, coming to you,
Fortune now is nigh.

Repeat section A then repeat all.

Lady Fortune **(With gleam in her eyes and rubbing her hands)**. Look my friends it would appear we have some visitors.

Liz-Bet Vicky!... I'm still scared!

Lady Fortune **(Laughs menacingly)**. Ha...ha... Now, now my child, there's nothing to be scared of! Ill Luck, bring them to me!

Ill Luck Yes, Your Majesty.

Bookworm This is all very strange, I'm sure to wake up in a minute.

Ill Luck Come, come with me to meet Lady Fortune!

Marney I wouldn't mind staying right here if you don't mind mate... er... I mean Sir.

Ill Luck **(Quietly to the children)**. I am your friend. Please do as I say. I will try to explain later.

Lady Fortune So you want to play games do you?

Liz-Bet He wanted to play snakes and ladders, but we're not bothered now... honest!

Lady Fortune Ha..ha.. Snakes and Ladders, one of my favourites. You have chosen well my child. **(turning to the audience)**
From the dizzy heights, of the ladders tall.
To the slimey snakes, then you must fall.
Just children's games, I hear you say
Take them lightly, and you're sure to pay.

The Dice you see before you here.
Are the dice of fortune, fame and tear.
The number seven, maybe true and pure.
But I'll win the game, of that I'm sure
Ha...ha..*(Laughing hysterically)*.

***Song Three - Seven Sided Dice
(Lady Fortune, Solo Soprano and Chorus)***

Seven, six, five, four, three, two, one,
Spin the dice the game's begun,
Seven, six, five, four, three, two, one,
Magic numbers every one.

One's the number on it's own,
And two's the number not alone.
Yes one's the number on it's own,
And two's the number not alone.

Three's the number that makes a crowd,
Four's the number you shout out loud.
Five's the number two to go,
And six the number we all know.

Seven is the number of the seven sided dice.
Seven is the number of the seven sided, seven sided dice.

Yes, one's the number on it's own,
And two's the number not alone.
And three's the number that makes a crowd,
And four's the number you shout out loud.
Five's the number two to go,
And six the number that we all know.

Seven is the number of the seven sided dice.
Seven is the number of the seven sided dice.
Seven, six, five, four, three, two, one.
Spin the dice the game's begun.
Seven, six, five, four, three, two, one.
Magic numbers ev'ry one.

(At the end of the song exit Lady Fortune (laughing), entourage and chorus, leaving Vicky, Liz-Bet, Bookworm, Marney and Ill Luck centre stage).

Liz-Bet I don't like that Lady Fortune.

Marney Too right! She gives me the creeps.

Bookworm One must not always believe what one sees you know. I read in a book that hallucinations are quite common when you are upset or worried about something.

Ill Luck This, I'm afraid, is very real.

Vicky Where are we then?

Ill Luck Game Land! The land of Lady Fortune.

Vicky Lady Fortune?

Ill Luck Yes. You must be very careful when dealing with Lady Fortune. When she plays games, she plays for keeps.

Marney Who are you then?

Ill Luck My name is Ill Luck. I haven't been here very long, and...**(Enter Fat Chance up stage left)**.

Fat Chance There you are. **(Grabbing Ill Luck by his arm)**. You have still got a lot to learn haven't you. Come on, we have some games to play.

Ill Luck **(Shouting to the children as he is being dragged off)**. Play the games to get your freedom, but be very, very careful.

Marney What's he mean, to get our freedom?

Bookworm Take a look around Marney. There is one thing noticeable by its absence. Namely an exit.

Liz-Bet What did Bookworm say, Vicky?

Vicky He said there isn't a way out, Lizzy.

Liz-Bet Have we got to stay here for ever and ever and ever then?

Marney Hope not, I'm starving.

Bookworm It looks like it's our move now... let's evaluate the situation.

Vicky What do you reckon Bookworm?

Bookworm To play a real game, we can bluff, gamble or sacrifice. Lets gamble! Throw the dice Marney.

Marney Hey hold it, lets slow down a bit, I'm not that bothered about playing Snakes and Ladders. I mean why me? ... er... look I don't even like the game much.

Liz-Bet Yes you do!

Marney Well yes, but that was yesterday, I've grown up a lot since then. I like grown up games now, like... erm... r... Marlies and... erm... Scramble.

Vicky Scramble? What's that?

Marney You know, it's that game where you mix up all them words and put 'em back together.

Vicky Scrabble, Marney if you had a brain you'd be dangerous, you mean Scrabble.

Marney I know what I mean!

Liz-Bet Marney, professor of difficult words!

Marney Alright, alright, so I ain't no brain of Britain. I reckon if I use these dice in me catapult, I can get Lady thingy-jig right between the eyes.

(Enter Ill Luck Up stage left)

Liz-Bet Hey, good idea. ***(Rubbing her hands together)***

Ill Luck I don't think that will do any good. You see the dice are hers. And they are magic.

Liz-Bet Magic!... Wow.

Ill Luck Yes the only way, is to beat her at her own game.

Bookworm Huh... and how, are we going to do that!

Vicky Come on Bookworm, give him a chance.

Ill Luck When you play games you must remember the only reason you are playing, is for fun, for entertainment, not to thrash your opponent out of sight, or humiliate them.

Marney Yeah...

Vicky You mean play for the right reasons.

Ill Luck Yes, that's right. Don't let revenge or greed take over, or you will be playing straight into Lady Fortunes hands.

Marney So the catapults out then!

Liz-Bet Don't see why.

Bookworm Come on, let's get on with it. Throw the dice Marney.

Ill Luck No not yet!... ***(Marney throws the Dice)***.

(Effects as before. Scenery change to suggest Snakes and Ladders. During the song the game is played. At the end of the song, snakes exit with Liz-Bet, exit ladders)