

# **What A Knight**

Junior Script

by

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**CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE****Scene One**

Colin Calvin  
 Earl Axminster  
 Earl Axminster  
 Jolly Jake The  
 Jester  
 Keith Klein  
 King Arthur  
 Kitty Cobblers  
 Lester Lugabout  
 Lord Dent  
 Lord Dorking  
 Lord Dudley  
 Maid Molly  
 Princess Alberta  
 Princess Alfreda  
 Princess Almira  
 Queen Guinevere  
 Scratch The  
 Guard  
 Sir Cumference  
 Sir Curity  
 Sir Loinsteak  
 Sir Render  
 Sir Roundsound  
 Sir Veillance  
 Sniff The Guard  
 Squire Salvador  
 Watt Cobblers

**Scene Two**

Earl Axminster  
 Jolly Jake The  
 Jester  
 Kitty Cobblers  
 Maid Molly  
 Merlin The  
 Magician  
 Princess Alice  
 Scratch The  
 Guard  
 Sniff The Guard  
 Squire Salvador  
 Squire Samuel  
 Squire Scott  
 Squire Sebastian  
 Squire Stan  
 Squire Steve  
 Squire Syd  
 Squire Sylvester  
 Watt Cobblers

**Scene Three**

Bad Ben  
 Bad Bert  
 Bad Bill  
 Bad Bob  
 Bad Brian  
 Bernie Blackhead  
 Colin Calvin  
 Ernie Blackhead  
 Keith Klein  
 Lester Lugabout  
 Marvin The  
 Magic Mirror  
 The Black Knight

**Scene Four**

Dusty Dragon  
 Merlin The  
 Magician  
 Princess Alice  
 Watt Cobblers

**Scene Five**

Earl Axminster  
 Jolly Jake The  
 Jester  
 King Arthur  
 Kitty Cobblers  
 Lord Dent  
 Lord Dorking  
 Lord Dudley  
 Maid Molly  
 Princess Alberta  
 Princess Alfreda  
 Princess Almira  
 Queen Guinevere  
 Scratch The  
 Guard  
 Sir Cumference  
 Sir Curity  
 Sir Loinsteak  
 Sir Render  
 Sir Roundsound  
 Sir Veillance  
 Sniff The Guard  
 Squire Salvador  
 Squire Samuel  
 Squire Scott  
 Squire Sebastian  
 Squire Stan  
 Squire Steve  
 Squire Syd  
 Squire Sylvester

**Scene Six**

Bernie Blackhead  
 Colin Calvin  
 Ernie Blackhead  
 Keith Klein  
 Marvin The  
 Magic Mirror  
 Princess Alberta  
 Princess Alfreda  
 Princess Almira  
 The Black Knight

**Scene Seven**

Dusty Dragon  
 Merlin The  
 Magician  
 Princess Alice  
 Watt Cobblers

**Scene Eight**

Bad Ben  
 Bad Bert  
 Bad Bill  
 Bad Bob  
 Bad Brian  
 Bernie Blackhead  
 Dusty Dragon  
 Ernie Blackhead  
 Lester Lugabout  
 Princess Alice  
 Sir Cumference  
 Sir Curity  
 Sir Loinsteak  
 Sir Render  
 Sir Roundsound  
 Sir Veillance  
 Watt Cobblers

**Scene Nine**

All

**LIST OF PROPERTIES****Scene One**

Lute.....	Lester Lugabout
Flags/Banners showing King Arthur’s crest.....	Scene Prop
Three scrolls and three quills.....	Lords Dudley, Dorking & Dent
Mob cap.....	Kitty Cobblers
Apron.....	Kitty Cobblers
Rolling Pin.....	Kitty Cobblers
Hand whisk.....	Kitty Cobblers
Heavy-looking sack of flour.....	Watt
Two trumpets.....	Scratch & Sniff
Three royal pendants.....	King Arthur

**Scene Two**

Cooking table with various ingredients and kitchen utensils.....	Scene Prop
Sacks.....	Scene Prop
Barrel.....	Scene Prop
Tray of scones.....	Scene Prop
Flower in a flowerpot, with string attached to the stem.....	Watt
Eggs.....	Watt
Sock.....	Watt
One toilet roll.....	Watt
Large magnifying glass.....	Merlin
Large bag embroidered with the initials “W.C.”.....	Kitty
Book.....	Kitty
Book.....	Molly

**Scene Three**

Two large banners showing the Black Knight’s crest.....	Scene Prop
Chess table, chess pieces and two chairs.....	Scene Prop
Magic Mirror, covered with a cloth.....	Ernie/Bernie
Instruction manual.....	Ernie
Rope and shackles.....	Calvin/Klein
Two wigs and two skull caps.....	Calvin/Klein

**Scene Four**

Table set with magic-looking objects .....	Scene Prop
Dragon puppet set on table, under a cloth .....	Scene Prop
Quill and scroll, set on table .....	Scene Prop
Book (of spells), set on table .....	Scene Prop
Magnifying glass (as before) .....	Merlin
Magic wand .....	Merlin
Magic shop bouquet of flowers (see production notes) .....	Scene Prop
Pile of labels, either self adhesive or with separate glue .....	Scene Prop
Feather duster .....	Watt
Potion bottles (minimum six) .....	Scene Prop

**Scene Five**

Two pieces of parchment/note paper, handwritten.....	Kitty
Magnifying glass (as before) .....	Merlin

**Scene Six**

Rope and shackles (as before).....	Calvin/Klein
Chess table, chess pieces and two chairs (as before) .....	Scene Prop
Magic mirror (as before) .....	Scene Prop

**Scene Seven**

Workbench .....	Scene Prop
Six potion bottles (as before).....	Scene Prop

**Scene Eight**

Three potion bottles (as before) .....	Sir Cumference
Dragon puppet (as before) .....	Kitty
Large bag embroidered with the initials "W.C." (as before) .....	Watt
Feather duster (as before; in the large bag) .....	Watt
Two swords .....	Ernie & Bernie
Two swords .....	Alice

**Scene Nine**

Throne .....	Scene Prop
Table, with the dragon puppet concealed with a cloth.....	Scene Prop
Large bag embroidered with the initials “W.C.” (as before) .....	Bernie
Feather duster (as before).....	Ernie
Scone, in the large bag.....	Bernie
Sword .....	The Black Knight
Book (as before) .....	Watt
Book (as before) .....	Princess Alice
Miniature sword, produced from scone using sleight of hand .....	Watt
Large bag containing large telescopic sword (see production notes).....	Merlin
Magic wand (as before) .....	Merlin

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

Welcome to ***What A Knight!*** I am sure you will enjoy rehearsing and performing this musical comedy, but to aid you in your production it may be helpful to consider the following production notes.

### **CASTING**

The script is written for 44 speaking characters, as listed previously. These range from principal parts to small supporting roles. For productions with fewer cast members, condensing and doubling of characters is possible. This can be done in numerous ways, but the following example reduces the cast number to 28:

- Remove Princess Almira (reallocating lines) to leave just 2 princesses
- Remove Sir Veillance (reallocating lines) to leave just 5 knights
- Combine the Squires and Bad Guards into just 2 parts each, both doubling with each other
- Combine the Lords into just 1 part
- Double up Dusty Dragon with Marvin The Magic Mirror

To expand the cast, unlimited chorus parts may be used as additional courtiers, squires and an off-stage choir for backing on other songs. Dent is a decrepit old man who simply echoes the other Lords' words with a croaky voice. Dusty Dragon is a fun part that was written as a large dragon puppet worked and voiced by a hidden performer. However, it would work equally effectively with a small performer in a dragon costume actually on stage. A modern (and slightly easier) approach may be to have the puppet performer in full view on stage, dressed in similar colours or all in black as in Avenue Q. One final point here - the word "scone" (a small British cake of Scottish origin) is often pronounced in various ways, but for the purposes of this production should at all times be pronounced to rhyme with "stone"!

### **COSTUMES**

This show is full of traditional medieval, Arthurian characters, and there are countless films and books to draw upon. Mock chain mail costumes are easily available to buy or hire and are essential for the Knights and Arthur. The Mirror works well as a face poking through a hole in some shiny silver material stretched across the decorated wooden frame of a full-length mirror. Remember, an authentic look will transport the audience to the dark ages - plenty of chain mail, tunics, tights and dresses and you can't go far wrong!

### **STAGING**

This production can be staged effectively with simple scenery to suggest the inside of a castle. A backcloth of grey stonework can be embellished with castling, turrets, flags and shields. Camelot and Rook Castle can be identified by a change in lighting and a large central banner set at the back that can be rotated for each location to show the appropriate coat of arms. Merlin's Workshop can be a small flat, painted with potion bottles and books, set centre stage behind a wooden workbench. If you are using a puppet for Dusty Dragon with a hidden performer, the puppet would sit on the table and be worked from behind through a discreet hole in the flat. When Dusty is at Rook Castle, the puppet is carried and

worked by Alice but voiced by the original performer offstage. Merlin also uses three magic tricks - a collapsing wand, an instantly appearing bouquet of flowers and a collapsible sword that grows telescopically. These can be made, but are all available to purchase at little cost from good magic or joke shops.

## **MUSIC**

All the music required to stage this production, including sound effects, is found on the Backing Track CD. A vocal recording is provided as a guide and to enable the swift learning of songs. The backing tracks without vocals are ideal to use in rehearsals and performances, and the three scores give vast flexibility if you have the luxury of a live pianist. Directors may, if they wish, allow a choir or separate character to accompany or replace a soloist in a song or section intended for a soloist. This is sometimes necessary if certain cast members are unable to perform the solo themselves fully or if a larger chorus or choir is required to be employed more fully throughout the show.

## **AND FINALLY...**

This is a fun show to rehearse and perform, so remember to enjoy yourselves and your audience will, too! My best wishes for a successful and enjoyable production.

***Craig Hawes***