

**[Sound of Police Car Siren]**

*In whizzes Sergeant Ping on a scooter with POLICE written on. He circles stage and then from opposite side comes PC Pong. They crash into each other Cymbals!*

**Ping** Watch where you're going PC Pong. You don't want to go back to the Police Academy do you?

**Pong** Sorry Sarge, I get a bit excited when the sirens start.

**Ping** I am not surprised. This is the first crime we've had all week. Its not like the good old days when we there was loads of villains on the streets. Breaking and entering, streakers, armed robbery, opium smuggling, panda rustling, murders, streakers ...

**Pong** You said streaker twice, Sarge?

**Ping** I know, I liked the streakers best of all *Sighs*  
All we've had this week is Aladdin and his mates putting a football through the Police Station window. Nearly woke me up, it did. Look, Inspector Chu wants our arrest rate increased or we'll be sent off to Morchard Bishop vice duties! And you know how boring that is ...

**Pong** I know, it's a bloomin' shame. I can't make ends meet on my police salary. It'd be nice to get our panda cars back too. I'm fed up with these scooters. They're not too great in a chase, not that we have any. Remember how much fun we used to have, nicking people every day, Sarge?

**Ping** I certainly do Pong. Seemed like we never stopped laughing!

**SONG - Laughing Policemen**

*Sound of a big crash of glass*

**Ping** What's that, Pong?

**Pong** I can't smell anything Sarge? Mind you I was walking across Down's Farm paddy field this morning, just after they let the buffaloes out ....

**Ping** No, no, you numbskull! What's that noise? Reckon Aladdin's at it again, Constable?

**Pong** Bet he is. Tell you what, Sarge. Lets hide and nick him when he comes by. It'll be a nice easy arrest and get Chu off our backs?

*Ping and Pong try to hide and bump into each other constantly  
Enter Aladdin S.L. with a bunch of children*

**Aladdin** Right gang, I think we are safe here. Let's have a kick about before the big match next week. Right, who's going to be Man U ...

*Ping and Pong come out from hiding and addresses Aladdin*

**Ping** Ello! 'Ello! 'Ello! What's going on here then?

*Knees bend. Aladdin mimics him leading to an extensive series of knee-bending for a while, until Ping gets angry*

**Ping** Enough of this nonsense, Sunny Jim. We've caught you red-handed this time, my son! Pong ! Where are you? Get out here and nick this young hooligan.

**Aladdin** But Sergeant Ping, we were only having a kick-around when the ball accidentally went through your window. It could have happened to anyone. Its not exactly a crime?

**Pong** But we haven't had any arrests all week so I'm afraid you're going down!! Now let's get you off to the cells. And ..eh, wait a minute, what's going on ...

*Children start running around Ping and Pong creating a diversion while Aladdin hides behind the two of them; Benny Hill music*

**Ping** Where's he gone? Quick! Get him Pong!

*Ping and Pong scoot round stage looking for Aladdin - children creating chaos to keep Aladdin safe until he is able to hide. Ping and Pong are exhausted and after crashing into each other again, stop the chase.*

**Pong** Have we caught him yet, Sarg?

**Ping** What do you think? Anyway, I'm knackered.

*Shouts at children*

Oi, you lot, which way did he go?

*Children all point S.R. Ping and Pong scoot off-stage in pursuit. Aladdin re-emerges from hiding*

**Aladdin** Well done, guys! That's got rid of the coppers. Now let's get on with the match.

**Child 1** We'd better not, Aladdin. They will be back again soon.

**Aladdin** Why's that then?

**Child 2** They are escorting the Royal Procession, Aladdin. The Emperor and the Empress are taking Princess Ting-a-Ling to the Baths for her regular Royal rub-down.

**Aladdin** That's cool! I saw her in Herro magazine and she was gorgeous. I'd like to meet her for real.

**Child 3** But you can't, Aladdin. The Emperor says any of us peasants caught speaking to the Princess will be heading for a beheading at the hands of the Lord High Executioner.

*Mimes a gruesome head chop*

**Aladdin** Well, if she's as beautiful as her picture, it's a chance I'm willing to take. Just imagine falling in love with Princess Ting-a-Ling. I am already dreaming of her falling asleep in my arms and .....

**SONG- I'd Love to Fall Asleep**

**Child 4** Look out everyone, I think I heard someone coming! Its probably those idiot policemen again.

**Child 5** Yes we had better all hide or we will be in trouble!

*All look to hide, They all collect to one side. Along comes Wishee-Washee with his Panda*

**Child 6** All clear, everyone, its only Aladdin's daft brother.  
*Wishee is dragging a panda along by a long leash*

- Wishee-Washee** Hi everyone! What's going on? Ooh I say - what's that lot down there doing looking at us? I'm Wishee-Washee and this is my pet panda, Chi Chi.  
*Panda rubs tummy hinting he's hungry*
- Wishee-Washee** What's the matter? Are you still hungry. I can't get bamboo shoots fast enough for you, can I? Would be nice if you could manage to eat something else, but never mind. Or get a girlfriend, but we all know that never works ..  
*To audience slowly and quietly*  
Tell you what - I'll plant a small Bamboo shoot here in this pot and let it grow into some more big ones and if I label it POISON nobody will try and pinch it, especially my mum, Widow Twanky. She loves eating bamboo shoots. Come to think of it, she loves eating anything.  
*Plants bamboo shoot in pot S.R.*  
*To audience*  
Right - would you lot like to keep an eye on our Bamboo shoot? If anyone tries to steal it, I want you to shout out Wishee Washee to let me know. Let's give it a try.  
*Tests out audience - may need 2 or 3 goes to get them shouting [Child: Wishee Washee sign]*  
Good - we can go for our stroll now - but remember - shout if someone snoops around the shoot.  
  
*Chief Minister Om Bong enters ahead of royal party*
- Chief Minister Om Bong** Make way, make way for the His Supreme Wonderfulness the Emperor Ming, the magnificent Empress Ming Bling and their lustrous daughter Princess Ting a Ling Ming Bling. Now listen up. No-one must speak to the Princess! The sentence for disobedience is instant death *To audience:* So you'd better shut up, all right?  
*Royal party enters (Emperor, Empress, Ting-a-Ling, Tiger Lily)*
- Child 7** Hey! Considering he's the Ruler of All China, he's not very big is he!
- Child 8** Well, he's only a 6 inch Ruler!!  
*Giggles from the children*
- Emperor** *Looking disappointed:* There isn't much populace around is there? I thought there were a billion of us? I need to see the beatific faces of my worshipping subjects every day, just to know how superb I am.
- Chief Minister Om Bong** *Bowing obsequiously:* Your Massive Stupendousness, I can only imagine that are all shy and are hiding from the bright shining light of your brilliance. ...*To Ping and Pong without Emperor hearing:* You two imbeciles, go and find some peasants to worship the Emperor. Get a move on!  
*Royal party exit S.R. as if proceeding along street*
- Ping** Come on constable, we'll try the local first. Aunty Vera will know where we can find some happy drunks.. Er ..I mean loyal subjects to come out and wave a few flags around
- Pong** Right ho, sarge! Might have to stay a while to find a few though, eh? Sort of undercover, if you know what I mean ...  
  
*P&P exit into the pub called the PEKING INN.*  
*Sound of a back-firing car and Widow Twanky enters in her laundry delivery van*
- Widow Twanky** Ooooooh - hello everyone! I'm Widow Twanky and I'm delivering some laundry round town. Its hard work and I'm starving! What can I find to eat round here? Mmmm! That looks tasty even though it says POISON. I've got some Tums just in case. It looks like a lovely (*emphasise*) bamboo shoot ...

*Moves towards pot and audience shout Wishee Washee. [Child: Wishee Washee sign]*

*Wishee Washee appears*

**Wishee Washee** Hey! Mother - leave that Bamboo Shoot alone.

**Widow Twanky** But I'm so hungry, Wishee. I could eat anything. What I'd like best of all would be a great big Devon clotted cream ice cream with a massive flake and hundred's and thousands ...

**SONG - Ice Cream**

*Widow Twanky goes into her laundry after singing*

*Out of the pub come P&P somewhat drunk. Burps, lip-wiping. Slight stagger.*

**Ping** Well Constable Pong, we're in trouble. Couldn't get anyone out of the pub. Beer's too good and there's a darts match on. Good job Aunt Vera let's us have a slate.

**Pong** Too right Sarge. Chips are good too. Watch out! The Royal Procession is coming back.

**Chief Minister Om Bong** Make way, make way for the His Enormous Cuddlyness the Emperor Ming, Her Supreme Sereneness the Empress Ming Bling and Her Lovely Untouchableness, The Princess Ting-a-Ling. *To audience*: But don't even think about chatting her up, alright?

*Royal entourage enter from S.R*

**Emperor** Right my dears *(to Empress & Ting-a-Ling)*, we'll take a rest here. Your Mother and I are spitting feathers so I think we will pop into this charming little hostelry for some light "refreshment". I do like to slum it with my subjects from time to time.

*Emperor and Empress enter Beijing Inn*

**Ting-a-Ling** I am going to wait outside for a while. And I'm fed up with being fussed over by you two. Can you leave me alone for a bit?

**Ping** Are you sure your Highness? There's some funny looking characters round these parts.

**Pong** Too right Sarge. Get a look at that one! *Looks at audience*

**Ting-a-Ling** Don't worry, Sargeant, Father will be fine as long as I do not talk to anyone. I'll just sit here quietly. Why don't you nip off for a quick pint?

*P&P head for the pub again not looking too unhappy about this*

*Aladdin is hiding in the corner and makes a sound by mistake*

**Ting-a-Ling** Who's that? Who's there?

*Walks over and discovers Aladdin*

Who are you? Why are you spying on me?

**Aladdin** I'm Aladdin and I'm sorry but I just had to see you for real. Everyone says you are hot and I can understand why now!!

**Ting-a-Ling** But you'll be executed if you are found talking to me. You are taking a big chance. Chop Suey's itching to get chopping.

**Aladdin** I'll take my chances. Don't worry. And I can see now why your Dad wants to hide you away. You're gorgeous!

**Aladdin Act 1 Sc 1 In PEKING City: Market Place**

**Ting-a-Ling** When you lose your head you won't be so cocky. And I want to marry a rich Prince, not some peasant. *Pause* But you're cute! *Longer pause and eye contact*  
No! I must not talk to you. You had better get out of here and fast!

**Aladdin** In a jiffy, Princess but first, time for a song.

**Ting-a-Ling** Well all right, but then you really must go. Tiger Lily, wait over there for a while. *To Aladdin*: Don't worry. She won't say anything. She's mute.

**SONG - Sweetest Song in the World**

*Emperor, Empress, Ping and Pong roll out of the pub, a little more drunk than before; rubbing eyes. Deep in conversation but suddenly Aladdin is spotted.*

**Chief Minister Om Bong** Your Sweet Apple Crumbliness, I do believe this young peasant here has been talking to the Princess.

**Emperor** Do what? *To Om Bong*: That's not good is it? What's the penalty?

**Chief Minister Om Bong** Instant death your Fantastic Cleverness. Shall I summon the Lord High Executioner, Chop Suey?

**Emperor, Empress** Ooh, yes please. We love a good execution. Haven't had a really good one for ages.

*General noise and Aladdin rushes around, escaping P&P at first but then caught; Benny Hill music again*

**Ping, Pong** Your nicked, tinkerbell ....now keep still.

**Chief Minister Om Bong** Summon Chop Suey, the Court Executioner!

*Chop Suey comes in with an enormous axe  
Widow Twanky rushes out of Laundry*

**Widow Twanky** What's going on?

**Chief Minister Om Bong** This boy here is to be executed! The rules are clear, no commoners talk to the Princess without royal permission. Get your chopper ready.

*Widow Twanky is distressed; Chop Suey to front of stage - gruesome*

**Chop Suey** There's nothing Chop Suey likes more  
Than spurting blood and lots of gore  
There's nothing Chop Suey more likes  
Than severed heads laid out on spikes ...

**Widow Twanky** But, your Highnesses, give him a chance. He's a good boy really, my only son. Well there is Wishee Washee, but ....*(pauses briefly on that thought then falls at Emperor's feet, grovelling)*

**Emperor** You are too late madam! His head must go. Sargeant Ping, Constable Pong, take him away and chain him up securely. I don't want him escaping and trying it on with my daughter again. Chop Suey. Get your blade sharpened.

**Chop Suey** There's nothing Chop Suey likes more ...*Interrupted*

**Aladdin Act 1 Sc 1 In PEKING City: Market Place**

**Emperor** All right, that's enough of that. Gives me the creeps. Now clear off and get on with it.

*P&P drag Aladdin off stage kicking and fighting  
Wishee Washy comes out of Laundry*

**Wishee Washee** Mother - what's going on. I'm sleepy.

**Widow Twanky** Oh Wishee, they've taken Aladdin. He's going to be de-noodled.

*Widow Twanky cries and falls into Wishee's arms  
The two wander back into Laundry*

**Ting-a-Ling** Father, forgive him. He couldn't help himself. And I think I have fallen in love with him.

**Emperor** Well that does it. He's certainly going to get it now. My daughter in love with a common laundry boy. Whatever next! He's for it and that's that. Now come on everyone, back to the Palace. Its time for the Countdown.

**Everyone goes off; End of scene**