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DICK WHITTINGTON



A PLAY WITH MUSIC

**Written by
LYNN
BRITNEY**

DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT

CAST LIST

Dick Whittington

Landlady of the tavern

1st villager

2nd villager

The Cat

Pie man

Lady selling cherries

Lavender seller

3 London Rats

Mrs Fitzwarren

Mr Fitzwarren

Alice Fitzwarren

The bells of London (at least 4, singing but not speaking)

Captain John

3 Sailors

Kubla Khan

The Khan's courtiers (3)

3 Chinese Rats

29 speaking/singing parts. Some could be doubled up or more non-speaking parts could be added.

DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT

SCENE 1.

A country village square. Dick is sweeping outside a tavern with a broom. Two villagers are sitting drinking some ale.

1st VILLAGER

You've missed a bit over there, Dick.

DICK (sighing)

Thank you.

(He moves over to another spot and sweeps some more)

2nd VILLAGER

Are you looking for some more work, Dick?

DICK

Yes. I'll do anything. Since my parents died I've been trying to get as much work as I can to pay the rent that's owed on my cottage. It's very hard though.

2nd VILLAGER

I know. There's not much work in this village, since the crops were harvested.

The landlady appears.

LANDLADY

If you've finished out here, there's some empty barrels of beer that need loading onto the cart out the back. Then, I'm afraid, that's all the work I have Dick. I'll pay you the two pennies I owe you and you are free to go and find some more work.

(The landlady goes back inside again)

DICK

Now what am I going to do? I've tried everywhere else. There's just no work to be had.

1st VILLAGER

You should go to London and make your fortune. There's plenty of work there.

DICK

London is a long way away.

2nd VILLAGER

Oh yes. Over 100 miles. It will take you two weeks to walk there. But they do say that London is such a rich place that the streets are paved with gold.

DICK

Really!?! Paved with gold? Then London must be a very rich place indeed.

1st VILLAGER

It certainly is. I hear tell that there are so many people in London that the houses are all on top of each other and you can hardly see the sunlight.

2nd VILLAGER

Lots of businesses in London. Lots of places a young healthy lad might find some work.

DICK

Then I shall go to the City of London and turn myself into a rich man!

1st VILLAGER

Well you won't know until you try, will you lad?

The Landlady appears with the money.

DICK (To the Landlady)

I'm going to London to make my fortune!

LANDLADY

Well bless me! London's over a hundred miles away. How are you going to get there?

DICK

I shall walk. I have no money for a coach.

LANDLADY

I have an idea. You load those barrels onto the cart and I will put together some food for you, for your journey. Then the cart driver can take you as far as the nearest town. That will save you some twenty miles, at least.

DICK

Thank you mistress! Thank you for your kindness.

LANDLADY

Here's your money.

(The four characters on stage line up and sing the following rhyme, to the tune of "See Saw Margery Daw")

See saw Margery Daw

Dick shall have a new master

He will earn more than a penny a day

If he can work a bit faster.

See Saw, Up and Down

Which is the best way to London Town?

One foot up and the other foot down

That is the best way to London Town.

(Repeated, while the characters skip off stage.)

End of scene 1/