

**Playstage
Junior**

www.schoolplaysandpantos.com

THE FANCY DRESS

Party



A musical comedy costume feast

**Written
by
Stewart
Auty**

THE FANCY DRESS PARTY

Cast in order of appearance:

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Postman

Mr Sticker

Shopkeeper

Delilah, shopkeeper's assistant (*bored, disinterested and offhand*)

Dragon

Knight

Caveman

Astronaut 1

Astronaut 2

Highwayman

Diver

Pirate

Wizard

TV Chef

Magician

Elvis Presley

DJ/Cowboy

Biker Ken, Leader of the

Pack

Clown

Barbie

Explorer

Witch Doctor

24 speaking parts

Songs require whole class/group to sing, so two benches at the side of the hall can accommodate those required to sing but not on stage) 13 songs are suggested. Inclusion of these songs is optional. Please feel free to amend the script if you decided to omit any or all of the songs. The full lyrics are given but, in practice, most schools prefer to cut the songs down to about half of their written length. See the following MUSIC page.

MUSIC

Because of the structure of this play, i.e. some songs are just played in snatches and some full length, we recommend that the children mime/join in with original artistes' recordings. There is also the need for a "disco-mix" of tracks at the end of the play, we suggest you find a teenage boy or young man who knows how to mix and edit tracks! You could source the original artiste recording from amongst parents/grandparents. If you cannot source them from amongst the school community, then all of the tracks listed below are available on Amazon as very cheap (mostly around 69p each) downloadable MP3 tracks. These can be purchased, downloaded on to a computer and then burnt on to a CD for performance.

SONGS/MUSIC REQUIRED (or parts of)

Dr Who Theme

Puff the Magic Dragon (*Peter, Paul and Mary*)

Saturday Night At the Movies (*The Drifters*)

Eternal Flame (*The Bangles*)

Wild Thing (*The Troggs*)

I eat Cannibals (*Toto Coelo*)

Urban Spaceman (*Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band*)

Star Trek Theme

It's a Kind of Magic (*Queen*)

YMCA (*Village People*)

The Time Warp (*Rocky Horror Cast*)

Jailhouse Rock (*Elvis*)

Leader of the Pack (*Shangri Las*)

The Witch Doctor (*The Pop Royals*)

Hi Ho Silver Lining (*Jeff Beck*)

THE FANCY DRESS PARTY

(Two NARRATOR come on, either in front of curtains or on to an empty stage)

NARRATOR 1

It is Saturday morning in Letsby Avenue, the home of Mr. Sticker. When his parents christened him William, they didn't realise that people would shorten it to Bill.

NARRATOR 2

Bill Sticker – as in Bill Stickers will be prosecuted. So Bill Sticker had to live with his name, and the ridicule which went with it.

NARRATOR 1

A bit like that soldier Private Woods. You see it on signs everywhere – 'Private Woods keep out!'

NARRATOR 2

I think we should get back to the story.

NARRATOR 1

That's fine by me. Ready when you are.

NARRATOR 1

Now Mr Sticker, Bill to his friends, imagines he's some kind of super-hero.

NARRATOR 2

Yes. If people have problems, he likes to think he can help.

NARRATOR 1

He likes to try and sort things out.

NARRATOR 2

In Letsby Avenue, children were already out on the street in the early morning sunshine.

NARRATOR 1

Is there really a place called Letsby Avenue?

NARRATOR 2

Yes. It's where the police station is. Lets be avin u...get it? Oh never mind.

NARRATOR 1

Oh. The children playing in the street had found a bag of old clothes, and were having great fun dressing up.

NARRATOR 2

Mr Sticker wants to go out too, but he always waits for the postman.

The curtains open, or THE POSTMAN comes on to the stage and mimes knocking on the door)

NARRATOR 1

The jolly postman knocks on the door of No. 23, Bill Sticker's house, and hands him his mail.

(MR STICKERS enters)

POSTMAN

Good morning Bill.

MR STICKER

Good morning to you, jolly postman. I hope there's something of interest in my mail today.

POSTMAN

Here you are. Quite a few letters. Let me see. Bills, bills, bills.

MR STICKER

That means they're all mine, but are there some for Ben?

POSTMAN

Who's Ben?

MR STICKER

Ben Evans. He's my new lodger - he lives in the flat upstairs. So I call him Evans above!

POSTMAN

Oh, that's very funny. Bill and Ben in the same house. (*sings*) Bill and Ben, Bill and Ben, flowerpot men.

MR STICKER

Be careful about making fun of my name or I shall start calling you Pat. You haven't got a cat called Jess by any chance?

POSTMAN

(*Laughs*) That's a good one! See you later, Bill. (*POSTMAN exits*)

NARRATOR 1

What Mr. Sticker sees outside his house often gives him an idea for an adventure.

NARRATOR 2

And today he had seen the children in their dressing up clothes.

(*POSTMAN returns*)

POSTMAN

Oh, I nearly forgot this letter. It looks important. It's a fancy envelope.

MR STICKER

What's this? An invitation to a Fancy Dress Party?

POSTMAN

Oh, that could be fun! Can I come with you?

MR STICKER

The invitation is for one person only. Sorry. I must visit the shops and find myself a fancy dress costume.

(*Exit POSTMAN*)

NARRATOR 2

So Bill went shopping. He went to the Fancy Dress Shop in (*enter local town*) but everything was so expensive.

NARRATOR 1

Disappointed, he turned to go home, and decided to take a short cut along (*enter local street name*).

NARRATOR 2

On the corner, he noticed a charity shop he had not seen before.

(SHOPKEEPER and ASSISTANT wheel onstage "the charity shop". See PRODUCTION NOTES at the end of the play.)

MR STICKER

I don't remember seeing this shop before. I'll go inside and see if there is anything for me to wear at the Fancy Dress Party.

(The female assistant, wears earphones and is clearly distracted by her music. She is also waving her hands around to dry off her newly applied nail polish)

SHOPKEEPER (*to assistant*)

Go on! Move forward! You're supposed to serve customers!

ASSISTANT (*annoyed*)

What? My nails aren't dry yet.

SHOPKEEPER (*irritated*)

Ohhh! Can I be of assistance, sir?

MR STICKER

I have just received an invitation to a Fancy Dress Party. I wondered if I might find something to wear here?

SHOPKEEPER

Well, you have come to the right place, sir. We have all sorts of things to suit every occasion, in different sizes, a veritable cornucopia of costume choice.

ASSISTANT

Yeah, there are lots of costumes here.

SHOPKEEPER

She's such a dreamer. Always listening to her music too, if that's what you can call it. *(To assistant)* Show the customer what we have to offer. *(She can't hear him so he shouts)* I said 'Show the customer what we have to offer!'

ASSISTANT

No need to shout. I can hear when I want to.

SHOPKEEPER

You are a strange girl. Whatever next. Show the gentleman ...

ASSISTANT *(bored)*

Well, you could have this, *(points)* or this, or this, or that. It's up to you, really. Doesn't make any difference to me.

SHOPKEEPER

I'm sorry she's so offhand. I've tried to get her to be more amenable.

MR STICKER

There is so much to choose from. Perhaps you could advise me?

SHOPKEEPER

Make a suggestion! Try to be more helpful!

ASSISTANT

Well I wouldn't know what to suggest. I'm only work experience, you know. Can't be expected to know the full range of stock. As if I was interested anyway.

SHOPKEEPER

She seems to spend all day in a dream. Says daydreams are better than reality.

ASSISTANT

More people should believe in daydreams. There's too much stress nowadays.

SHOPKEEPER

Please ignore her. The Christmas Fairy outfit is very topical at the moment, sir. *(He takes a tutu with wings off the clothes rail)*

MR STICKER

I don't think so.

ASSISTANT *(suddenly interested)*

I think you'd make a very good fairy. Look, there's a magic wand too!

SHOPKEEPER

Now you've gone to the other extreme!

MR STICKER

What else have you? Something different, something unusual?

SHOPKEEPER

This might interest you sir. It's only just come in.

ASSISTANT

An old coat? A tatty scarf? But what is it? There's just a long coat, and an even longer scarf.

SHOPKEEPER

This floppy hat is part of the costume too. See if you can guess who it's supposed to be. Try it on.

ASSISTANT *(taking off her earphones and "turning up the volume")*

Here! Listen to this weird music!

(Dr. Who theme plays for a few bars)

MR STICKER

How do I look?

SHOPKEEPER

Excellent sir! You look wonderful sir. Suits you, sir, oh, it suits you.

Put the hat on!

ASSISTANT

He looks like 'im off the telly. You know, that time traveller guy.

SHOPKEEPER

Doctor Who, the famous time traveller. It definitely suits you, sir.

MR STICKER

World famous, you say? Sounds good to me. I think I'll take it.

NARRATOR 1

As Mr Sticker was about to leave the shop he heard a shout from behind him.

ASSISTANT

Wait! Stop! Can I come with you? Please take me with you. It's so boring here. I need to find others who believe in daydreams. If you can travel through time, why don't I come with you? We will have fun, surely.

MR STICKER

My name's Bill. Please don't call me Shirley.

SHOPKEEPER

I don't mind if she goes with you, sir, honestly! You'd be doing me a big favour!

MR STICKER

You'd better be quick. Follow me.

(NARRATOR 1 helps SHOPKEEPER to remove "charity shop", then he returns)

NARRATOR 2

I wonder what they will find, and who they will meet at the Fancy Dress party? Their adventures are about to begin because out in the street, everything looked different.

MR STICKERS

This isn't like *(insert local town/village name)* at all!