

Alice in Wonderland by Tom Hitchcock

SAMPLE SCRIPT

Character List

Alice: Female heroin, Clever and brought up properly with a bit of grit

White Rabbit: Rabbit

Tweedle Dee: Brother of Tweedle Dum, Work as a double act

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March Hare: Mad Hare, crazy/hysterical.

Mad Hatter: Same as the Hare

Dormouse: Always sleeping, but does occasionally have moments of brilliance

White Queen: Softly spoken and gentle. Sister to Queen of Hearts

Step Mother: Normal step mother, caring and loving, dislikes her husband

Father: Stupid, old man, can't remember what time of day it is, let alone where to put his legs in a pair of trousers.

Caterpillar: Ever Knowledgeable. Speaks the Queen's English

Cheshire Cat: Think Cat - Red Dwarf/ Imitating a real cat.

Queen of Hearts: Possible drag. Evil baddie,

King of Hearts: Feeble man, over powered by his wife.

Ace: Loved by all women, adored by men, a real smoothy.

Joker: Descriptions in the title.

Number Ten: Politician, weasely, and sides with whoever is winning

Neil: Security surveillance system. Ageing Hippie.

Rowena the giant baby: Description in the title, guard for the queen,

2 of Hearts: Hapless Guard

4 of Hearts: Hopeless Guard

6 of Hearts: Stupid Guard

8 of Hearts: Useless Guard.

Act One Scene One:

The show starts with the song " White Rabbit " by Jefferson Airplane and a shadow puppet display to the music, with various cut outs of the characters from the story Alice enters from the back of the hall carrying a book.

Alice: Oh what a beautiful morning, I do love to come and hideaway down here in the garden. It's a fabulous place you know, nobody bothers me, especially my step mother.*(stopping half way down the aisle)* Oh hello everybody, didn't see you all there, how did you find my secret garden? hope you haven't trodden on the flowers. George the gardener will be after you otherwise!!

The white rabbit runs across the stage.

Alice: Um, did you all see that? (*Audience react and say YES*) A large white rabbit just ran across the garden.

The white rabbit runs across the front of the stage and exits

Alice: There it is again. A funny looking white rabbit, I've never seen anything like it before in my life. It was even wearing a waist coat and everything. I must be dreaming. Yes that's right, I'll wake up in a minute.

Rabbit runs to middle of the stage, stops. Faces audience and taps foot impatiently.

Rabbit: Hey, what are you looking at?

Alice: I beg your pardon?

Rabbit: Are you Alice?

Alice: Yes, I am, and you are?

Rabbit: We're late, We're late for a very important date. Follow me.

Alice: Wait. Wait, excuse me, I have answered your question, but you haven't answered mine and that's just rude! Who are you?

Rabbit: There's no time to waste, I'm the White Rabbit, now follow me. We're late! (*Jumps through a hole in the scenery.*)

Alice: Wait, hang on. Oh dear, he's gone. Well, boys and girls do you think I should follow him? (*Audience reaction*) I'm not sure if I should, I mean the hole is pretty small, and dark (*She leans in closer to have a look*)

Rabbit: (*Pops head back through hole.*) Come on come on, hurry up Alice, we've got to go, we're late, we're late for a very important date!

Alice: Oh all right, I'm coming. Boys and girls if you see my Step-mother and father do tell them where I have gone. Thank you. Bye, bye. (*She exits through the hole and drops her book on the floor.*)

Enter step Mother and Father from the back of the hall.

Step Mother: Alice, Alice, where are you dear?

Father: Alice, Alice? Who on earth is Alice?

Step Mother: What did you say?

Father: Honestly. Boys and girls can you help me, when ever somebody asks who "Alice" is can you say.... Alice, Alice, who on earth is Alice. Good let's give it a go. After three, Three.....(*Audience reaction*). Well done there, (*To Step Mother*) Now where were we? Ah yes, - who's Alice?

Step Mother: It's your daughter you silly old fool. Honestly don't know why I married you.

Father: (*Under his breath*) That's exactly what my father said to me about you!

Step Mother: What?

Father: Hmm, I said the flowers are looking gorgeous today aren't they? (*To the audience*) Well I'm going to let you all into a little secret, my dear departed wife used to love sitting in this part of the garden. Oh she thoroughly enjoyed it, called it her secret garden. When our daughter was old enough, she would take her down here and tell her ridiculous stories about mystical places, where rabbits could talk, and inanimate objects were alive. Now what did she call it? Hmmm, ah yes that's it, Wonder Bra.

Step Mother: No, no, you mean Wonderland! Now stop boring the boys and girls with silly tales of your past. No-body's interested.

Father: Well during the war...

Step Mother: Nobody wants another nautical nightmare from you. I've already had the maids clear up the mess in the bathroom from your re-enactment of a battle on HMS Sink-a-lot. Now has anybody seen Alice today? Have you? (*Asking a flower*) Have you? (*Asking another flower*) Have you (*Asking Father*) No won't bother asking you, you can't even dress yourself let alone know what day it is.

Father: I am not jealous of any man, even if he does know where to put his legs in a pair of trousers!

Step Mother: Boys and girls, I shall ask this only once, and I would like a straight answer, no messing about. Have you seen Alice today? (*Audience react*) She's gone where? Now, honestly, I did ask you not to mess about and give silly answers didn't I. Well, darling, I'm not sure where she is, we shall have to keep looking. That lot out there are useless.

Father: Oh no they're not.

Step Mother: Oh yes they are.

Father: Oh no they're not

Step Mother: Oh yes they are! Now enough. Enough of this nonsense. We must keep searching for Alice.

Father: AHA!

Step Mother: What?

Father: A book, thingy's book to be exact.

Step Mother: By thingy do you mean your daughter Alice?

Father: Yes her as well, you're far more intelligent than you look dear.

Step Mother: I don't know why she reads these silly little books. Right come along. The search continues to find your daughter.

Father: Who's daughter?

Step Mother: Yours!

Father: I have a daughter?

Step Mother: God, I could spend the rest of my life having this conversation! Just hold my hand and follow me!

Curtains close. End of Scene One

Scene Two.

Front of curtains Rabbit runs across the front of the stage, from SL to SR. with Alice in tow.

Alice: Please tell me what's going on. Who are you and what's this all about?

Rabbit: There's no time to explain. Just hush now and follow me.

Alice: Where are you taking me? I demand to know!

Rabbit: Shhsss, don't speak too loudly, she will hear you.

Alice: Who will hear me? Look what's going on? I refuse to move another inch unless you tell me. *(Stops centre stage)*

Rabbit: Oh please, don't do this to me. Look, you are THE Alice.

Alice: But....

Rabbit: But what? Do you not know who Alice is?

Alice: Alice, Alice , Who on earth is Alice? *(Stamping her feet)*

Rabbit: Is that some sort of rhetorical question?

Alice: I want to know, what's going on and why I'm down in this hole. Come to think of it, why am I having a conversation with a talking rabbit? I must be dreaming!

Rabbit: This is real. I'm not an un-educated rabbit like what your used to. I'm sophisticated, I have a degree at St Andrews -if it's good enough for Prince William it's good enough for me!

Alice: I didn't mean to ruffle your fur. I just don't understand why I am here.

Rabbit: It's simple. You're in Wonderland. You have a very important job to do. We need your help.

Alice: Wonderland? We?

Rabbit: Do you remember as a child, your mother would read you stories about a magical place called Wonderland. Guess what - its real and you're in it! The characters which she used to tell you about are all real and in desperate need of your help!

Alice: What? Characters like, the Mad Hatter, Cheshire cat, the White Queen and the Queen of Hearts?

Rabbit: *(Does a jig to rid him of the curse, whilst saying)* Arrgh Hot potato off the shore, butter will make a mends. Shhhsss, *(Speaking quietly)* don't mention her name.

Alice: Who's name?

Rabbit: The Q.O.H

Alice: Queen of Hearts?

Rabbit: *(Does a jig)* Arrrgh Hot potato off the shore, butter will make a mends.

Alice: Will you stop that.

Rabbit: I will if you stop saying her name.

Alice: *(Coyly)* You silly Rabbit.

Song: Alice and Rabbit sing: "Trouble" by Taylor Swift

Rabbit: Don't you go gooey on me with that Rabbit talk. I might be white and fluffy, but I have big pointy teeth and an evil streak a mile wide if needed. We must be on our way before we're seen. Follow me. Rabbit exits stage right.

Alice: Hang on, I don't know about all this. Am I dreaming or is this real? Only one way to find out I guess! Wish me luck boys and girls.

Alice exits stage right.

Three cards enter, one is an Ace, one is a Joker, and one is the Number Ten.

Joker: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, (*Pause*) I said good evening ladies and gentlemen, (*Pause*) Ahh you are alive, that's always a bonus, let me tell you a story - my dog has no nose, how does he smell..... he can't - he has no nose! Don't go anywhere, I've got another. A farmer was milking his cow when a bug flew into the barn and straight into the cows ear. The farmer didn't think much about it, until the bug squirted out into his bucket. I guess it went in one ear and out the udder....Thank you...On a serious note I have a confession to make to you all, I was a war baby... Yep... it was terrible, my parents took one look at me and started fighting. I have a query for you all, if Spielberg makes a sequel to ET, will he call it ETC?

Ace: Hey, hey, wait a minute, no more of your ridiculous jokes here, coz you are in the presence of me - a truly great man! I am ACE! Ace by name Ace by nature!

Number Ten: (*In awe of him*) What a guy.

Ace: What did you say?

Number Ten: Nothing, nothing at all, in fact before I say anything, I'd have to consult the other half of my cabinet.

Joker: Wait a minute you brought half a cabinet with you?

Number Ten: No, but I have to consult it before I say anything.

Joker: You consult a cabinet?

Number Ten: Yes. Joker: (*Laughs hysterically, then mimes talking to half a cabinet putting on a posh voice.*) Hello, my names Number Ten, (*Turns and faces the other way*) Nice to meet you, I'm half a cabinet.

Number Ten: I really don't think that's funny

Ace: Hey man chill, Have no fear Ace is here.

Number Ten: (*In awe*) What a guy. Joker: What an idiot!

Queen of Hearts: (*From off stage*) Cards, Cards! Where are my Cards!

Number Ten: Sounds just like Margaret Thatcher (*Cheeky grin*)

Ace: She's in a good mood again!

Queen of Hearts: (*From off stage*) If you don't get my cards here in the next five seconds o' husband of mine then I shall chop off your head!

King of Hearts: (*From off stage*) Yes dear right away dear. Cards, you hoo Cards (*whistles for them like whistling for a dog*) Cards, here boy.

Joker: We'd best go.

Scene Three *Curtains open to reveal the inside of Q.O.H. palace. The Queen is on her throne, barking out the orders, the king is running around the stage, on and off, Four cards are guarding her - 2, 4,6 and 8.*

Queen of Hearts: Cards, Cards, where are you?

King of Hearts: I'm getting them for you dear.

Joker: *(To the King)* Here you go your majesty, here's some cards *(Hands him a deck of cards)*

King of Hearts: You're lucky the Queen didn't hear you, otherwise you'll be for the chop. Mind you *(Getting high and mighty)* I am King around here and what I say goes!

Queen of Hearts: *(Fuming)* What did you say? You disgusting little earth worm. You're a pathetic excuse for a man if ever I saw one! *(In a calming tone)* Ace on the other hand is my kind o' guy.

Ace: Why thank you your majesty. Most kind of you to say so.

Number Ten: What a guy

King of Hearts: But... But...But...

Queen of Hearts: Oh you snivelling wretch shut up! *(Pointing at the audience)* That's right, I'm in charge here. Wonderland is under my control. Anybody who dares argue with me gets their head chopped off. GET IT! *(Audience boo and hiss)*

King of Hearts: *(Said quickly)* Off with his head, off with his head!

Queen of Hearts: That's right dear. Off with all of their heads!

Number Ten: If I may interject your majesty,

Joker: Please not in here!

Number Ten: *(Ignoring Joker)* If we chop off their heads, they won't be able to tell others how magnificent you are.

Queen of Hearts: Yes you may have a point there Number Ten. *(To audience)* Alright you disgusting lot, listen up! I shall say this only once! You may have survived for the moment, but by the end I will have chopped off at least one of your heads! But alas where are my manners?

(SONG, "Killer Queen" by Queen.)

There's a flicker on the castle wall and Neil's face appears. Can either be done by projector or by an actual person sticking their head through a hole in the scenery, idea is that this character is computer generated.

Neil: Hey Guys! What's happening man?

Joker: Morning Neil. Not a lot, king's just had his manhood taken away from him again by the Queen.

Neil: That's the third time this morning! Now, what was I going to tell you? Oh yeah, I have some really breaking news for you.

Queen of Hearts: Breaking news. What is it you idiotic machine.

Ace: This had better not be about the knave of hearts stealing all the tarts.

Joker: Why? Jealous? None left for you then you womaniser?

Number Ten: Don't answer him Ace.

Joker: *(Sarcastically)* Yes pay no attention to the nasty man!

Queen of Hearts: The next person who speaks will have his head CHOPPED OFF!
(Calmly and softly) Now Neil, do proceed with your breaking news.

Neil: Well your majesty, Alice has arrived in Wonderland.

Number Ten: Who is Alice?

Joker: Come on boys and girls, Alice , Alice , who on earth is Alice?

King of Hearts: Well you see, Alice is the only one who

Queen of Hearts: Damn, damn, damn, off with everyone's head! How can this be? Are you sure? I mean is it really her?

Neil: Oh yes your majesty, one hundred percent certain it is her.

Ace: Is she the one who can.....

Number Ten: Yes she is.

Queen of Hearts: Right here's what we're going to do. Firstly you three *(Pointing at Ace, Joker, Number Ten)* will assemble all the decks of cards and get them prepared. You will then search for Alice and destroy her.

Joker: What? Alice? Why?

Queen of Hearts: Honestly Mr Joker. You're not exactly Mr Current Affairs are you? Alice, is the only one who can bring an end to my reign in Wonderland. If she joins forces with my goody two shoes sister, then MY number maybe up.

Joker: One, one, eight, got your number!

Queen of Hearts: Off with his head!

Joker: But ma'am, this is what you employ me for - to make you laugh.

Queen of Hearts: I shall make this exception for you once, but if you fail, you know what will happen!

Number Ten: Last time he was threatened with beheading he was let off,

Ace: Why's that?

King of Hearts: Because he cried like a girl all the way to the block!

Queen of Hearts: Enough you insolent pests! Ace, I want you to follow that White Rabbit where ever he goes, don't let him out of your sight. If he goes down a warren you follow him! Got it?!

Joker: Talk about an ace in a hole.

Ace: Anything for you Queenie baby.

King of Hearts: My dear, what would you like me to do?

Queen of Hearts: Oh go and hang yourself out on the line to dry, that's about as much use as you're going to be.

King of Hearts: *(In a sulky mood)* Yes dear whatever you say dear

Queen of Hearts: Jump to it you horrible lot. Don't come back until you have her!!!

Cards all exit.

Queen of Hearts: Soon, I shall have that girl exactly where I want her! Those stupid creatures of Wonderland will never succeed! I shall forever reign Wonderland! Come husband, we have work to do!

King and Queen exit, leaving the four cards on stage.

2 of Hearts: What are we meant to do?

4 of Hearts: Guard the Queen. That's our job.

6 of Hearts: But she's not here!

8 of Hearts: What do you mean not here? She's sitting on the throne!

6 of Hearts: She can't be, she went before she came on stage!

4 of Hearts: Must have been her nerves

4 of Hearts: No, no, you mean that throne!

6 of Hearts: Oh

2 of Hearts: So, what are we meant to do?

4 of Hearts: I've told you before - Guard the Queen!

2 of Hearts: Yeah, yeah, I get that, but and this is a big but...

8 of Hearts: It is not! The Queen has a lovely dainty bottom!

2 of Hearts: Behave. Now where was I? Ah yes that's it. Now I know that we are guards, right. An because we are guards we are meant to guard the Queen, yeah?

6 of Hearts: The answer is in the job title - yeah.

2 of Hearts: That might be so clever clogs, but she isn't here is she!

4 of Hearts: Where did she go?

6 of Hearts: Haven't a clue, wasn't watching!

8 of Hearts: Think I'm getting the hang of this guard malarkey!

2 of Hearts: Wait, wait, you're missing the point, what I'm saying is, if she isn't here, and we're the Queen's guards, and therefore need to guard the Queen, right, then what do we do now if there is no Queen to guard because she's left?

8 of Hearts: Not Right!

2 of Hearts: No, She's left

8 of Hearts: When?

2 of Hearts: I'm not going over this again!

6 of Hearts: How on earth are we meant to know what the Queen wants us to do?

4 of Hearts: Yeah, none of us are Clare's voyants!

Queen of Hearts: (*Off stage*) Two, Four, Six, Eight....

All: Who do we appreciate!

Queen of Hearts: (*Off stage*) Get Alice NOW! The cards run off.

Curtains close End of scene

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