

SCENE TWO: *The Trolls' Den (several days later)*

SOMEONE walks across the stage and says, "several days later". TROLL 1 and TROLL 2 enter.

TROLL 1: I'm a troll, foll de roll... *(Pauses)* ...how does the rest of it go?

TROLL 2: I'm a troll, foll de roll, I'm a troll, foll de roll...

TROLL 1: ...Oh yes! And I'll eat you for supper! Although I'd rather have a nice cheese sandwich and a packet of crisps, personally.

TROLL 2: That doesn't fit the song though, does it?

TROLL 1: No.

They BOTH pause and sigh heavily. They are very bored.

TROLL 1: I'm bored.

TROLL 2: Me too. I thought it would be exciting being a troll, but there are long periods when it can be very boring indeed.

TROLL 1: Same as any job, I suppose.

TROLL 2: I suppose so.

They BOTH pause and sigh heavily again.

TROLL 1: Could I scare you for a bit?

TROLL 2: Okay.

TROLL 1 jumps around, screaming, shouting and pulling faces at TROLL 2. TROLL 2 pretends to be frightened and screams weakly occasionally. Neither of them notice HONEST JOHN BEGOOD enter.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: *(Politely)* Excuse me.

TROLLS 1 and 2 jump with fright and scream loudly.

TROLL 1: *(Clutching his heart)* You shouldn't creep up on people like that!

TROLL 2: *(Nudging TROLL 1)* Especially as we're trolls and very fierce and we could turn nasty.

TROLL 1: Yes! I'm a troll, foll de roll...

TROLL 2: It's too late for that now.

TROLL 1: Oh.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to make you jump. I'm looking for Witch Fisticuffs.

TROLL 1: Oh, her.

TROLL 2: Oh, her.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: Yes, do you know her?

TROLLS 1 & 2: *(Together)* Nope, never heard of her.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: *(Disappointedly)* Oh.

TROLL 1: *(Whispering loudly, aside, to TROLL 2)* Are we supposed to eat him now?

TROLL 2: *(Whispering loudly back)* Yes, but I'm not really very hungry, are you?

TROLL 1: No. I had a big breakfast and I couldn't touch another thing.

TROLL 2: We could just scare him a bit.

TROLL 1: Good idea.

TROLLS 1 and 2 scream and shout and pull faces at HONEST JOHN BEGOOD who just stands watching them.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: You're very good at that, aren't you?

TROLL 2: Thank you. We get lots of time to practise.

TROLL 1: But we always do it better in rehearsals, don't we?

TROLL 2: Yes, I wonder why that is.

TROLL 1: Just one of life's little mysteries I suppose.

They all look at each other and shrug.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: Anyway, Witch Fisticuffs?

TROLL 2: Oh, yes. Well we don't know anything about her, but there are some witches who live on the other side of the forest. They might know her.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: Right. And which way do I go?

TROLL 1: I'm not sure, really. I suppose you just keep going through the forest in that direction (*Points*) until you come out the other side.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD: Thank you. You've been most helpful.

TROLL 2: You're welcome.

HONEST JOHN BEGOOD exits.

TROLLS 1 & 2: (*Together, waving*) Byeeee!

TROLL 1: Nice lad. I'm glad we didn't have to eat him.

TROLL 2: Me too. (*Pause*) It's not the eating I mind so much, it's the killing in the first place.

TROLL 1: Ooh, yes! Yuck! I hate the killing bit, too!

TROLL 2: Maybe we could find a way of scaring people without having to kill them and eat them.

TROLL 1: Good idea! I could threaten to sing to them.

TROLL 2: Or I could show them my scar.

TROLL 1: That's not scary, it's just nasty.

TROLL 2: *(Nodding)* Nasty and scary.

TROLL 1: No, just nasty.

TROLL 2: Singing it is, then.

Both TROLLS exit, chatting together, with TROLL 1 saying, "I might even try a bit of opera," and TROLL 2 saying, "Now that would be scary..."