

EXCERPT from ROBIN HOOD from ACT I Scene 3

Previously, ROBIN having returned home after a long time away has renewed old friendships and begun to rekindle his affections for MAID MARIAN. On learning that the SHERIFF with the help of GUY of Gisborne is conscripting local men against their will into his private army, and taking them away from the land and their families and generally treating the populace badly, ROBIN goes to the Castle with FRIAR TUCK to talk to the SHERIFF and try to free his friends! The SHERIFF agrees to see ROBIN, thinking he might be an ally with finances from which he might benefit, tries to trick ROBIN into believing his friends are there by their own free will and thinks he can get ROBIN on his side. He finds out fairly quickly that he is mistaken...

SHERIFF: *(Draws his sword)* Guy, draw your sword. You have made the wrong choice Robin of Locksley! You'll never leave here alive!

ROBIN: Oh yes, we will!

SHERIFF: Oh no, you won't!

ROBIN: Oh yes, we will! *(Audience participation)*

SHERIFF: Oh no... What are we doing? We are wasting fighting time!

A fight ensues, ROBIN has a sword, as does SHERIFF and GUY. The others use various items from the table in the fight.

WILL: Good plan so far, Rob, mate. Any plan on how we are actually going to get out of here?

ROBIN: I'm still working on it!

Enter MARIAN

MARIAN: Oh my goodness. What is happening?

ROBIN grabs MARIAN and restrains her

MARIAN: Robin! What are you doing?

ROBIN: Sorry milady, but I've thought of a plan. Work with me!

SHERIFF: Unhand her, you scoundrel!

ROBIN: Scoundrel? I like the sound of that: Don't you milady? Really Marian, you might struggle a little bit and look like you aren't actually enjoying being this close to me!

MARIAN: You're insufferable! (*Makes a pretence of struggling*) Help, help me. Save me from this 'desperado'! (*To ROBIN*) Why do I need help?

ROBIN: Because I am a desperate scoundrel who would not hesitate in cutting off your head. (*He raises his sword*) (*To MARIAN*) You're gorgeous!

MARIAN: And don't you forget it.

ROBIN: Don't move, Sheriff, not if you value Lady Marian's life. Lay down your weapons!

GUY: He's bluffing! He won't do it.

ROBIN: Help me Marian.

MARIAN: (*Over acting*) Help, oh help! Please, My Lord Sheriff, I beg you. Don't let this madman kill me! Think of my lands and all my money! Please let them go! Please save me my Lord and I shall be so very grateful. Help me!

SHERIFF: So very grateful? This could work to my advantage! Put down your sword Guy. Okay, you win, this time. Let her go and I give you my word you can all go free... for now.

MARIAN: You owe me, Robin, big time! You are in my debt and one day I shall claim it.

ROBIN: I look forward to that day.

SHERIFF: You are free now, but from this day, you'll be outside the law. You, Robin will lose most. From this day, your lands will be forfeit and you all will be branded outlaws. A small victory today, maybe but I will make sure that you all lose in the end! I'll make you suffer!

ROBIN leads audience in Booining.

ROBIN: An outlaw, then I'll be, but a free man not crawling like a worm around you, like others have before me.

WILL: Me too! Where you go, I go! Glad to be an outlaw, having adventures together, as free men and living off berries in the woods. I can't believe I just said that! I must be mad.

FRIAR: We're all mad!

SHERIFF: Friar, crawling about stuffing your face. Whose side are you on? Choose wisely!

FRIAR: I will choose wisely. I'm with you Robin.

ROBIN/WILL/CHORUS 1 and CHORUS 2: Hurray!

SHERIFF: You may live to regret that decision.

FRIAR: I think not! But you might!

SHERIFF: You have my word you are free to go. You will of course expect me to hunt you down. And I will! Come Marian!

MARIAN: Will I see you again, Robin?

ROBIN: You can be sure of it! (**SHERIFF and MARIAN exit**) What a merry band, we'll be! To Sherwood Forest and Freedom!

EXCERPT CRAZY FOX PANTOMIMES