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Script Sample

ACT ONE, SCENE FOUR

The Museum Staff - Dr Baker, Margaret, Nathan, Elizabeth and Dottie - are gathered together at the exhibition. They are clearly very worried indeed.

Dottie	Who on earth would want to steal two mummies?	
Nathan	A greedy orphan?	
Elizabeth	Nathan, that's tasteless.	
Nathan	Sorry.	
Dr Baker	Those mummies are priceless; they'd go for millions on the black market.	
Margaret	I just hope they're being well looked after.	
Elizabeth	Hadn't we better call the police?	
Nathan	(taking out his phone) Good idea. What's the number?	
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Suddenly a booming voice is heard from the back of the theatre. It is Chief Inspector Bucket and his colleagues from Scotland Yard.

Bucket	There's no need.
Dottie	(surprised, calling out into the audience) Why not?
Bucket	Because we're already here. Go on you lot, get about your business.

The police officers speed through the audience and swarm onto the stage, immediately seeking clues, moving bits of set and props, generally corrupting the crime scene. Chief Inspector Bucket and his deputy, Detective Sergeant Spade, make their way (with a good deal of swagger) over to the museum staff.

Bucket	(to the museum staff) Gentlemen.
Margaret	Er, actually three of us are women.
Bucket	Or so you would have me believe, madam. But who's to say you are not actually one of the criminals in disguise?
Margaret	(panicked) What? I
Dr Baker	Don't listen to him, my love. I mean, my dear. I mean Margaret.
Bucket	Allow me to introduce myself. I am Chief Inspector Bucket, and this (<i>he gestures</i>) is Detective Sergeant Spade.
Nathan	Really? Bucket and Spade?
Spade	We're a match made in heaven.
Nathan	Or at the beach.
Bucket	Quiet. Now then, Upton?

PC Upton is upstage and comes down as his name is called, followed by the others when called.

PC Upton	Yes sir.
Bucket	Middleton?
PC Middleton	Yes sir.
Bucket	Abbey?
PC Abbey	Yes sir.
Bucket	Downton? (No answer. Pause) What's happened to Downton, Abbey?
PC Abbey	I miss it too, sir. Sunday nights will never be the same. Still, there's bound to be another Christmas special at some point. Guaranteed ratings for ITV.
Bucket	(irritated and confused) What?
PC Assissi	(<i>looking off</i>) He's just coming now, sir.

Downton arrives on stage doing up his flies.

Bucket	Where the hell have you been?
Downton	Sorry, Cap. Call of nature.
Bucket	Zip it, Downton. I want these four interrogated until they're blue in the face.
Elizabeth	Don't you mean red?
Bucket	I mean what I say, madam. You'll find that I am far from predictable.
Nathan	I knew he'd say that.
Bucket	Spade, you take the good doctor and see what you can dig up. It wouldn't surprise me if he knows a thing or two.
Spade	Well as long as it's only a thing or two, I'm running out of space in my notebook.
Dr Baker	You can't possibly think that we had anything to do with the mummies disappearing.
Elizabeth	It's preposterous.
Bucket	Madam, I would appreciate you using shorter words.
Margaret	They've been stolen by crooks, kidnapped by ransomers. And you're
	here accusing us!
Bucket	here accusing us! I have accused nobody. (<i>pause</i>) Yet. We are here to uncover the truth
Bucket Spade	
	I have accused nobody. (<i>pause</i>) Yet. We are here to uncover the truth
Spade	I have accused nobody. (<i>pause</i>) Yet. We are here to uncover the truth To expose the lies.
Spade PC Apple	I have accused nobody. (<i>pause</i>) Yet. We are here to uncover the truth To expose the lies. To blow the whistle.
Spade PC Apple Bucket	I have accused nobody. (<i>pause</i>) Yet. We are here to uncover the truth To expose the lies. To blow the whistle. Easy, Apple, you're not at the football now.

Bucket	(<i>upset</i>) No, sadly I've never found a woman, more's the pity. It's a bachelor's life for me. Unless (<i>to Dottie</i>) I don't suppose you're looking for some companionship?
Dottie	No, thank you. I've got three cats and a pig already. I don't need another one.
PC Coco	Hey! Chief Inspector Bucket is no pig.
Bucket	It's alright, Coco, I can fight my own battles. Besides, I'm married to the force anyway.
Spade	You're a credit to it, sir. I believe in you. I know you'll get to the bottom of this.
Bucket	(<i>rallying himself</i>) I will indeed. We all will. We are Scotland Yard's bestest, the boys in blue, aren't we boys!
Police	Yeah!
Bucket	We will find these mummies, boys, and when we do, they'll wish they'd never been born.
Spade	The mummies?
Bucket	The crooks.
Spade	Oh, right.