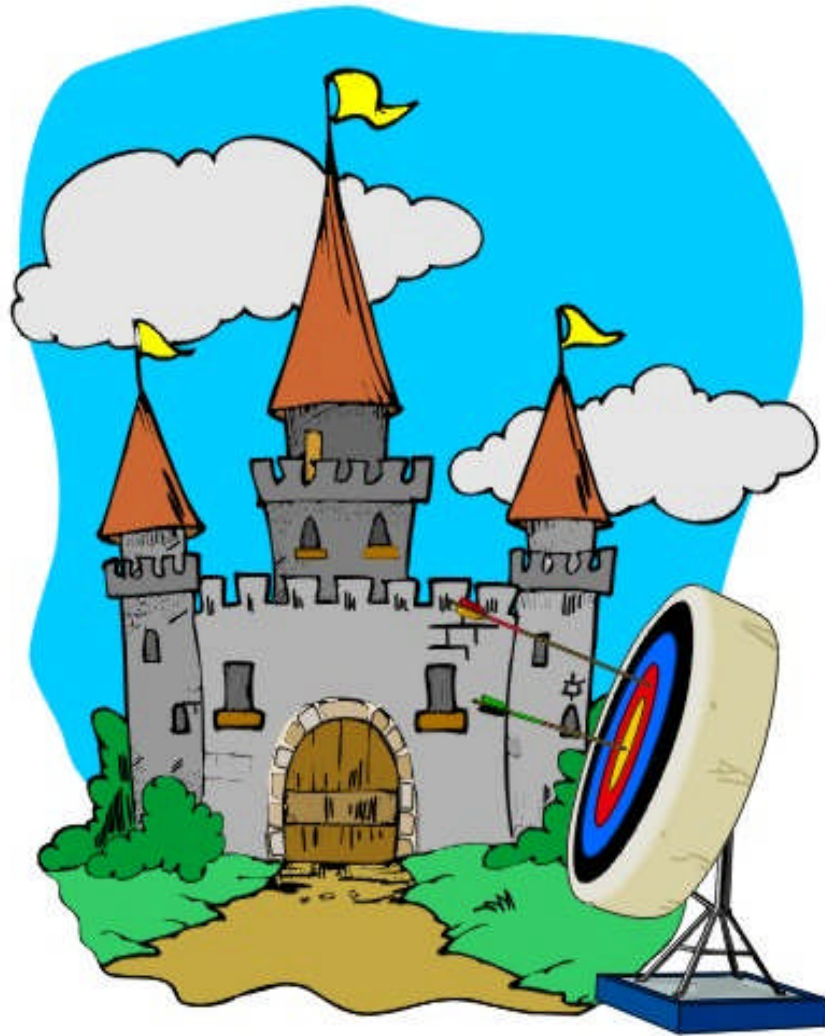




# ROBINA HOOD



A comedy by Stewart Auty

# ROBINA HOOD

## Cast List

ANNOUNCER

NARRATOR 1

NARRATOR 2

OMAR, Sheriff of Nottingham (*downtrodden, henpecked*)

LADY MASCARA (*evil*)

VORTEX (*evil, verging on revolting, creepy and slimy*)

ROBINA

SOLDIER 1

SOLDIER 2

BARON LAND

COUNT DOWN

KNIGHT FEVER

PRIEST

NUN BETTER

HERALD

USHER

BAILIFF

MAURICE DANCER

HOGG WART

LOBBY LUDD

HARRY POTTER

LITTLE JOHN

BIG BEN

WILL SCARLET

ALAN A DALE

MOLECATCHER

CHIPPY

CHIRPY

MUTCH THE MILLER

FORTUNE TELLER

FRIAR TUCK

BARONESS LAND

COUNTESS DOWN

TOWN CRIER

34 Speaking parts but several of the parts can be doubled up if necessary.

Crowd scenes – possible dancers, jugglers, acrobats etc.

Songs could be added if required.

## **ROBINA HOOD**

*(The Announcer speaks directly to the audience. This can either be in front of the stage curtains or within the set of Scene 1, which is inside Nottingham Castle.)*

### **ANNOUNCER**

**Come gentle folk, and stay awhile, a story we'll unfold.**

**Way back in time - eight hundred years, the truth will now be told.**

**Near Nottingham, deep in the woods, there lived an outlaw band.**

**A famous bunch of ruffians afar'd throughout the land.**

**This band of men in Lincoln Green enjoyed their life of crime.**

**The outlaws often robbed the rich - it happened all the time.**

**They trapped and hunted, fished and poached the deer found in the woods,**

**Disguised from view, well camouflaged by wearing secret hoods.**

**The Sheriff's men searched in the woods, they searched throughout the town,**

**They sought the outlaws everywhere, but they could not be found.**

**Their leader was a man named Hood, a proud and honest man.**

**But through ill luck and misfortune was banned from Nottingham.**

**But all was not as it appeared with the outlaw known as Hood,**

**Our tale it has a twist or two, as every good tale should.**

**Enjoy the play we now present, Rehearsing has been fun.**

**We've kept our standard in the past - is this another one?**

**SCENE 1. NOTTINGHAM CASTLE, interior.**

*(For suggested set, see Production Notes at the end of the play. NARRATOR 1 AND 2 enter. They are dressed as jesters. They speak to the audience.)*

**NARRATOR 1**

Omar, Sheriff of Nottingham is now married to Lady Mascara.

**NARRATOR 2**

His first wife died in mysterious circumstances.

**NARRATOR 1**

There was a rumour that she had been poisoned.

**NARRATOR 2**

But nothing could be proved.

**NARRATOR 1**

Many people suspected Lady Mascara.

**NARRATOR 2**

And Sheriff Omar was beside himself with grief.

**NARRATOR 1**

When they married so quickly, people began to talk.

**NARRATOR 2**

But Lady Mascara took swift action to silence the rumours.

**NARRATOR 1**

Lady Mascara is disliked intensely.

**NARRATOR 2**

Sheriff is a kind and gentle man. He understands the people of Nottingham.

**NARRATOR 1**

Lady Mascara is cruel, greedy and someone to be feared.

**NARRATOR 2**

She's known as Lady Massacre behind her back.

**NARRATOR 1**

But not to her face. No one would dare.

**NARRATOR 2**

Nobody can understand why Sheriff Omar married her.

**NARRATOR 1**

His mourning for his first and only love must have left him confused.

**NARRATOR 2**

Lady Mascara just can't understand why people take an instant dislike to her.

**NARRATOR 1**

I suppose it saves time, really.

**NARRATOR 2**

The Sherriff has one child, a daughter named Robina. He loves her dearly.

**NARRATOR 1**

Needless to say, Lady Mascara hates the sight of her, and wishes she was dead.

**NARRATOR 2**

If only Sheriff Omar could break free from his life.

*(The two NARRATORS/JESTERS go into the back corner of the stage and begin throwing a ball to each other. LADY MASCARA and OMAR enter.)*

**LADY MASCARA**

It really annoys me when you spoil that girl.

**OMAR**

I wish you would call her by her proper name. 'That girl' is my daughter, Robina.

**LADY MASCARA**

Well, she's not *my* daughter! And what a stupid name too!

**OMAR**

She is named after a robin, a bird which perched on her cot just after she was born. It sang so sweetly, and she's such a sweet girl, so beautiful, just like her mother was.

**LADY MASCARA**

Don't talk to me about her mother! I'm much prettier than her! You were so lucky to find me so soon after she was killed, I mean just after she died.

**OMAR**

What did you mean, just after she was killed?

**LADY MASCARA**

A mere slip of the tongue. We all know her death was very unfortunate, but you don't need to keep going on about her. You've got me now!

**OMAR**

And don't I know it.

**LADY MASCARA**

And don't you forget it!

**OMAR**

I must prepare for my appearance in court this afternoon. Lots of people seem to have been arrested for very trivial reasons.

**LADY MASCARA**

Get a grip, man! Trivial or not, it's their fines which pay our wages! You're just too soft. I think I'd better attend court with you, to make sure you're not too lenient!

**OMAR**

That will not be necessary. My people are poor and they need kindness and understanding. *(He speaks to the audience)* Somehow, I've got to break free!

*(OMAR leaves.)*

**LADY MASCARA** *(talking to herself)*

Kindness and understanding! I'll give them kindness and understanding!

That daughter of his – that Robina, is driving me mad. She's got a name that sounds like a fruit drink, and she's in the way. How can I get his full attention when all he thinks about is her? *(she shouts)* VORTEX! VORTEX!

*(LADY MASCARA paces up and down. The NARRATORS/JESTERS scurry to the front of the stage and speak to the audience. LADY MASCARA takes no notice of them.)*

**NARRATOR 1**

Time for us to go! Vortex is Mascara's evil servant. We don't want to be around when he gets here.

**NARRATOR 2**

Some say he has knowledge of poisons, and instruments of torture.

*(They both shudder and look at each other fearfully)*