

**THE ARABIAN NIGHTS (SAMPLE)**

**CAST LIST**

**AT THE BAZAAR IN OLD BAGHDAD**

**Scheherazade**

**Servants of Scheherazade**

**Woman**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Woman**

**Beggar**

**Snake charmer, dancing girls, merchants, musicians, fire eater etc.**

**PLAY 1 – THE FISHERMAN AND THE GENIE**

**The Fisherman**

**The Genie**

**The Fisherman's wife**

**Achmed the builder**

**Friend 1**

**Friend 2**

**Friend 3**

**Friend 4**

**PLAY 2 – ALI BABA**

**Ali Baba**

**Robber Chief**

**Jasmine**

**Morgiana**

**Kasim**

**1<sup>st</sup> Thief**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thief**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thief (Yussef)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Thief**

***Minimum 13 maximum 22 speaking characters. Unlimited non-speaking***

## **THE ARABIAN NIGHTS**

### **PROLOGUE**

*The scene is an Arabian bazaar. This takes place in front of the stage where the action of the plays is to take place. There are merchants selling fine silks, jewels, baskets and fruit. There are dancing girls, a snake charmer and a fire eater. There is a juggler and some beggars. There is music and the scene is very colourful.*

### **BEGGAR**

**Alms for the love of Allah! Alms for the love of Allah!**

*(He makes a face)* Ach! Everyone is too busy today to give money to a poor beggar. Mind you, living here, in this city, is so much better than it used to be. When the old Sultan was alive – now there was a mean man. He married twenty seven wives and had every one of them executed when he got fed up with them. What a tyrant! Except...he never got the better of his last wife...Queen Scheherazade. She was his twenty seventh wife and, when she was forced to marry him, he told her that the minute she bored him he would have her head cut off. So, what did she do? She told him stories. Wonderful stories! Every night, for a thousand and one nights, she told him a magical story and the old Sultan was so entranced, he never did get around to cutting off her head! *He* died before he could get bored. So now Queen Scheherazade rules in his place and life is much better around here.

*(Servant 1 enters)*

### **SERVANT 1**

**Make way for her Majesty! The Queen approaches!**

*(Servant 2 enters)*

**Make way for Queen Scheherazade!**

*(Scheherazade enters and everyone bows. She sits on a chair in front of the stage and her people all sit around her)*

**SCHEHEREZADE**

**Good day my subjects!**

**ALL**

**Good day Your Majesty!**

**1<sup>st</sup> WOMAN**

**Blessings be upon your Majesty!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> WOMAN**

**Blessings upon your family your Majesty!**

**SCHEHEREZADE**

**Thank you.**

**1<sup>st</sup> WOMAN**

**Please tell us a story Your Majesty!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> WOMAN**

**Yes, please tell us a story!**

**SCHEHEREZADE**

**Is that what you all wish?**

**ALL**

**Yes!**

**SCHEHEREZADE**

**Very well. I shall tell you the story I told to my husband on the 31<sup>st</sup> night after our marriage. It is a story of a genie, three wishes and great wealth.**

**ALL**

**Ooh!**

**SCHEHEREZADE**

**Ah. But all is not what it seems. Let me begin.**

**There was once a poor fisherman who was too poor to buy a boat, so he had to content himself with wading out into the sea, as far as he could go, and casting his nets upon the water.....**