

SCENE 2 *THE FOREST OF THORNS OUTSIDE THE PALACE*

(This scene takes place outside of Dreamland in the 'real world'. A thick forest of thorns has been created by Carabosse encapsulating the palace and those within it.)

MUSIC **PLAY ON**

(CARABOSSE and AVARICE enter. They have been running.)

CARAB. There, that should put some distance between us and that nasty Prince.

AVARICE Mother!

CARAB. And thank god I had the sense to magic up this forest of thorns around the palace. They'll never get out now. Trapped forever with that wretched Aurora asleep for eternity.

AVARICE Did you plan this?

CARAB. My dear now the crown will pass to you and you will inherit the Kingdom. In the meantime, I will become Queen.

AVARICE You can't just announce yourself Queen.

CARAB. What will they do about it? They're all asleep in that dreadful palace surrounded by thorns.

AVARICE They're our family.

CARAB. Family invite each other to christenings and birthday parties.

AVARICE They usually have your best interests at heart.

CARAB. Not ours!

MUSIC **PLAY ON**

(PRINCE ARTHUR runs on)

ARTHUR Stop right there.

CARAB. Here we go.

ARTHUR Carabosse I demand you revive Aurora and stop this horrible spell.

CARAB. Shan't.

ARTHUR Avarice, tell your mother.

AVARICE He's right.

CARAB. Shut it. Both of you.

ARTHUR If you refuse, I shall be forced to duel you.

(PRINCE ARTHUR draws his sword dramatically from it's sheath.)

CARAB. Oh no you don't.

ARTHUR You can't refuse a challenge to a duel.

CARAB. I can't duel you.

ARTHUR Why not?

CARAB. I haven't got a sword.

ARTHUR What?

CARAB. I haven't got a sword. They didn't give me one.

ARTHUR But it's in the -

CARAB. - I know it's in the script! I've been asking for weeks. They said they didn't have the money.

(Tiredness sweeps over AVARICE.)

AVARICE Is anyone else feeling a bit *(yawns)* tired?

CARAB. Yeah, tired of this rubbish *(yawns)* uh oh.

ARTHUR *(Yawns)* Carabosse stop it this instant.

CARAB. It's not me. *(Yawns)* I swear.

(AVARICE, CARABOSSE and PRINCE ARTHUR are struggling to stay awake)

ARTHUR Carabosse!

(PRINCE ARTHUR takes a swipe at CARABOSSE with his sword but falls asleep mid-swing and assumes a sleep-walking-like zombie pose.)

CARAB. That was lucky.

(CARABOSSE and AVARICE yawn and assume similar poses. Asleep. Around the auditorium we hear echos of FAIRY DUST casting the sleeping spell. It has reached outside of the Palace and nearby catching CARABOSSE, AVARICE and PRINCE ARTHUR as they left the Palace grounds. They sleepwalk off, exiting.)

MUSIC PLAY OFF