

LANCE

Leave him alone! This poor little chap is your son, sir. All he ever wanted was a little love and affection, but did you ever give it to him? No, no...

(Becoming emotional)

SIDE #1

... I'll wager you denied him. You try to kill him, and worse, far worse, you try to marry him off to some girl, some female that he obviously has no feelings for whatsoever. Yes, yes I know a little bit about bullying fathers you bastard. Have you no heart? Have you no human tenderness? Can't you see that all he's asking for is a little love and understanding?

(Almost overcome)

Is that too much to ask? Is it? Too Much! To Ask!

FATHER

(Beat)

My god! You're gay.

#24 His Name Is Lancelot

HERBERT

LANCELOT, YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUST FESS UP
REALLY, YOU'RE A DIFF'RENT KIND OF GUY
MOVE ASIDE YOUR SCABBARD
FOR UNDERNEATH YOUR TABARD
THERE IS WAITING TO ESCAPE A BUTTERFLY...

(CONCORDE and HERBERT take away LANCES sword and
remove his tabard to reveal he is wearing a silver codpiece
underneath.

The MEN ENTER in "Carnival in Rio" costumes shaking
maracas.

A very gay rumba numba begins)

MEN

HIS...NAME... IS LANCELOT!
AND IN TIGHT PANTS A LOT
HE LIKES TO DANCE A LOT
YOU KNOW YOU DO

LANCE

(Spoken in rhythm:)

I DO?

MEN

SO JUST SAY, "THANKS, A LOT!"
AND TRY ROMANCE,

(Spoken in rhythm:)

IT'S HOT!

(Singss:)

LET'S FIND OUT WHO'S REALLY YOU.

MORE

Scene Eleven: The French Castle

(KING ARTHUR and his KNIGHTS arrive at the foot of the castle, and dismount)

ARTHUR

Halt! Hello! Hello!

(The TAUNTER, a silly mustachioed Frenchman, appears in the battlements of the castle)

TAUNTER

'Allo! Who is it?

ARTHUR

It is King Arthur, and these are my Knights of the Round Table. Whose castle is this?

TAUNTER

This is the castle of my master, Guy de Loimbard! The French bastard.

ARTHUR

Go and tell your master that we have been charged by God with a sacred quest. If he will give us food and shelter for the night he may join us on our quest for the Holy Grail.

TAUNTER

Well, I'll ask him, but I don't think he'll be very keen. He's already got one, you see?

ARTHUR

What?

GALAHAD

He says they've already got one!

ARTHUR

Are you sure he's got one?

TAUNTER

Oh, yes, it's very nice.

(Aside)

Hey! I told him we already got one!

(The FRENCH GUARDS titter in mirth. We see only their helmets nodding in glee)

GUARDS

Tee hee.

ARTHUR

Well, can we come in and have a look?

Start

TAUNTER

Of course not! You are English bed-wetting types!

ARTHUR

Well, what are you then?

TAUNTER

I'm French! Why do you think I have this outrageous accent, you silly king?

ARTHUR

If you will not show us the Grail, we shall take this castle by force!

TAUNTER

You don't frighten us, English pig-dogs! Go and boil your bottoms, sons of a silly person. I blow my nose at you, so-called Arthur-king, you and all your silly English knnnniggets.

ARTHUR

Now look here my good man!

TAUNTER

I don't want to talk to you no more you empty headed animal food trough wipers!... I fart in your general direction! Your mother was a hamster and your father smelt of elderberries! Now go away or I shall taunt you a second time.

GALAHAD

Is there someone else we could talk to?

TAUNTER

Hey, no chance, son of a window-dresser! I wave my private parts at your aunties, you tiny-brained wipers of other people's bottoms!

ARTHUR

I command you, in the name of the Knights of Camelot, to open the doors of this sacred castle, to which God himself has guided us!

TAUNTER

Well, I burst my pimples at you and call your door-opening request a silly thing, you cheesy lot of second-hand electric donkey bottom biters. Thppt!

(Blows a raspberry)

FRENCHIES

Thppt.

(The hands of the FRENCH KNIGHTS make very rude gestures between the battlements)

ROBIN

They're using rude gestures, sir.

GALAHAD

The fiends. They haven't an ounce of chivalry.

ARTHUR

What do we do, Bedevere?

BEDEVERE

Well, I believe it's time for Plan B, Sire. My secret weapon.

ARTHUR

If you do not cease to taunt us, we shall be forced to bring out our secret weapon.

TAUNTER

Oh, no. Oh, gee We are so scared. Oh, hey, did I mention before to you... Thhppt.

(The TAUNTER runs his head across, up and down the battlements before disappearing)

End

ARTHUR

Right that's it. They have a nasty shock coming to them. Bedevere. What the hell is that?

(BEDEVERE pulls a large wooden rabbit in from Stage Right)

BEDEVERE

The wooden rabbit, Sire! It's the very latest in modern technology.

(The KNIGHTS are very impressed)

ROBIN

Wow.

#14B The Rabbit

ARTHUR

How does it work?

BEDEVERE

Well, the beauty of it is its simplicity. We just leave it here and walk away.

(The ENGLISH withdraw.

The French heads appear one by one horizontally in the gateway.

The last head slides underneath the others. They contemplate the Rabbit)

TAUNTER

Qu'est ce-que c'est?

FRENCHIE

What?

TAUNTER

What is thees?

Scene Two: A very expensive Forest

(KING ARTHUR rides in with PATSY)

ARTHUR

This is a total bloody disaster! All my Knights have fled and we're lost in a dark and extremely expensive forest.

(\$ signs — or local currency — appear projected in the trees)

FX Ch-ching [Cash register])

PATSY

Well, it could be worse.

ARTHUR

How could it *possibly* be worse?

VOICE

Ni!

ARTHUR

Oh, no.

VOICE

Ni!

VOICES

Ni Peng! Ni Wom! Ni.

(The KNIGHTS OF NI wear furry cloaks and distinctive helmets with huge antlers. [They are played by the GIRL DANCERS.]

THE PRINCIPAL KNIGHT OF NI stands on stilts, hidden by his long robe. He carries a staff with an owl's head to support himself)

ARTHUR

Start Who are you?

NI KNIGHT:

We are the Knights Who Say... Ni!

ARTHUR

No! Not the Knights Who Say Ni!

NI KNIGHT

The same! We are the keepers of the sacred words: Ni Peng, and Ni-wom!

VOICE

Ni-wom!

ARTHUR

Those who hear these words seldom live to tell the tale!

PATSY

Oh, great.

NI KNIGHT

The Knights Who Say Ni demand a sacrifice!

ARTHUR

Oh, Knights of Ni, we are but simple travelers lost in these woods.

NI KNIGHT

Ni! Ni! Ni! Ni!

ARTHUR

Oh, ow!

NI KNIGHT

We shall say 'ni' again to you if you do not appease us.

ARTHUR

Well, what is it that you want?

NI KNIGHT

We want... a shrubbery!

NI KNIGHTS

A shrubbery! A shrubbery!

ARTHUR

Where the hell are we going to find a shrubbery?

NI KNIGHT

If you do not find us a shrubbery, you must cut down the mightiest tree in the forest with... a herring.

(The KNIGHT produces a large herring from his costume)

NI KNIGHTS

A Herring! Herring! Herring!

(PATSY and ARTHUR exchange glances)

ARTHUR

All right. We'll find you a shrubbery.

NI KNIGHT

Good! You must return here with a lovely shrubbery or else you will never pass through this wood alive!

End

13 14 15

mf *f*

Arthur: Bari's: Tenors: Basses: Lancelot, Bedevere
Galahad, Robin: Knights:

17 18 *Start*

Hup Hup Hup Hup Hup We're

19 20 21

Knights of the Round Ta-ble We dance when e'er we're a-ble We do rou-tines and cho-rus scenes with

f

22 23 24 ->26

foot work im-pec-ca-ble We dine well here in Cam-e-lot we eat ham and jam and spam a lot—

Knights:

26 27 28 29

Spam spam spam spam spam spam spam spam We're

30 31 32

Knights of the Round Ta-ble our shows are for - mi - da-ble But

mf

33 34 35

ma-ny times, we're gi-ven rhymes that are quite un-sing-a-ble We're o-pera mad in Cam-e-lot We sing

(b)

>53

36 37 38

from the di-a-phragm a lot

f

Stop