

# **Christmas Proposals Meeting Sunday 17th June 2007.**

Apologies: Guthrie, Erica, Jenni G.

Meeting began at 15:00.

Ruza began the meeting by welcoming everyone who attended and explaining that everyone who was proposing was to leave the room during everyone else's proposal and during the voting. The proposing was to be conducted alphabetically.

The first proposal was Rob Allcott's George and the Dragon, the story was the basic traditional George and the Dragon but expanded. Rob expressed a preference to direct but didn't have any other production team in mind. The script was more or less finished other than editing. There were no big production costs involved as the Dragon could be offstage. The main backdrops would be forest, castles and heaven. The numbers could be easily expanded or contracted due to the three or four chorus groups. There would be 10 major parts and 20 or so minor speaking parts. About 1 hour 45 minutes. The possible Christian controversy wasn't deemed particularly offensive and could be toned down if anyone felt the need. There was also space in the script to chop and change if needed.

The next proposal was Nat Delaney and Paul Hollingdrake's 'Sno white and the Seven Swords'. The pantomime was set in Japan and contained lots of songs, some of which could be cut if needed. The panto needed editing and also needed a director and a producer. However Nat wanted to be musical director. There was also the space for expansion and contraction through the minions who were killed off at the end of pretty much every scene. The songs proposed were: "Rainbow High" from Evita, "Roxanne" from Moulin Rouge, "Don't Stop Me Now" by Queen and "Everybody Needs Somebody to Love" as the finale. The panto would be very different from the previous Snow White. There would be four pairings by the end, The Dame and The Queen, Sno White and Lupin, The Woodsman and Red and The Prince and The Mirror. They would prefer the director to have a hand in editing. The anime in the panto was not "geeky" anime and mainly just style so could be enjoyed without extensive anime knowledge.

The third proposal was Mike Hatch's 'Tom Thumb'. The panto was loosely based on Tom Thumb references without a complicated plot and a very basic set using lighting to set scenes in front of the tabs. The Dragon would be offstage for most of it, wizard of Oz style. No more of the script was written than in the proposal. If the proposal were to go through Anthony would have stage managed. Mike would have liked to have directed. No songs were settled but he vaguely had in mind "As Long as you're Mine" from Wicked and "coz I can" by Pink. Extensive

knowledge of Tom Thumb wasn't needed to enjoy the panto. Mike expressed an interest in having an editor or co-writer to add humour. The Dame would be Tom Thumb's mother.

The next proposal was Dave Knight's 'Sleeping not-so-beauty'. Once written have proposed to step back from production letting the editors and production team take control. No production team currently lined up. The costume and set were standard panto style with a palace scene, an evil layer, a market place and a kitchen. Although some of the backdrops could be kept the same with different large props on stage. Songs: Finale would be "Wake Up it's a Beautiful Morning", "Morning Eyes" by Footloose, "Insomnia" by Faithless, something cheesy by Bewitched and "Love Lifts Us Up Where We Belong". There were 17 big parts with 7 main parts and lots of smaller parts. There were also chorus parts meaning lots of space for expansion and contraction. Mainly male characters but doesn't mind them being women. Wouldn't mind principal boy.

The final proposal was Matthew Watt's 'Alice in Wonderland'. The panto was a "rip-roaring" tale about a girl who ran off to Wonderland to avoid maths homework. There were several chorus parts including the Walrus and the Carpenter as businessmen. The songs were liable to change but there were some ideas: "Air Between My Fingers" by The White Stripes, "Killer Queen" by Queen, "Crocodile Rock" by Elton John possibly for the finale and possibly "Ace of Spades" and "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend". Dobbin had been added in as the equivalent to an evil genius' cat. There was also the added in sub plotlines of the Queen of Hearts and the Knave of Hearts. The Knave of Hearts and Alice ended up together. Matt didn't want to produce due to time constraints, but agreed to direct with a co-director. The backdrop would be mostly the same with a change of props. The Finale scene would be set in a carnival. The main backdrop would be set in the countryside. There were lots of chorus parts ensuring expansion and contraction of numbers.

The production team chosen were:

Musical Director - Nat Delaney  
Producer - Peter Stone  
Director - Ben  
Assistant Director - Matt  
Choreographer - Ashley

There was a long discussion on the proposals and it went to a paper vote counted by Ruza and Genni. "Sno White and the Seven Swords" was the chosen proposal. The panto is to be edited by all or some of Pete, Alistair, Katie, Steve and Richard.

Meeting adjourned at 17:25.