

THE PRINCE and the DRAGON

An Old-fashioned Musical Fairy Tale

Book..... Margaret M. Trachsel

Music..... Edward Chambreau

Lyrics.... Edward Chambreau &
Margaret Trachsel

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Cast, in order of Appearance

Junior - a baby dragon
Grandpa - Junior's grandfather (also a dragon)
Squirrel - an inhabitant of Dragonland
Piffle Whimper - Squirrel's best friend, a slow moving creature of sorts
Duchess - a lady of the Court and accomplice of Mother Blue
Mother Blue - a witch
Gnomand - a frightful gnome
Prince Edward - a very nice boy
Princess Anne - Edward's sister
Count Bric-a-brac - tutor to the royal children and counselor to the King
Sylvester - Junior's father (a dragon, too)
Beth - Junior's mother (ditto)
Duckledaeer - an inhabitant of Dragonland
1st Little Soldier
2nd Little Soldier
3rd Little Soldier
4th Little Soldier
5th Little Soldier
6th Little Soldier
7th Little Soldier
8th Little Soldier
Townspeople
Dragonlandians

The Setting

An opening in the woods
The palace corridor
Royal Children's Suite
Mother Blue's Magic Room
A dark room
Palace Courtyard
Golden Highway
An opening in the woods

Act I 1

The scene: a picnic in the woods by a river. There are the remains of lunch, a fishing pole, and firecrackers peeking out of the lunch basket. Grandpa is sleeping. Jr. is trying to wake him.

Jr: Granpa...Granpa, wake up.....wake up (shaking shoulder gently). Granpa, are you really asleep?....Let's see....(Jr. lifts up one of Granpa's eyelids, then the other) You sure are....Fiddlesticks! You always fall asleep. If I only had someone to play with...(walking aimlessly around, staring at the lunch, touching the fishing pole, lifting the basket and peeking in, sees firecracker...cocks head, sets basket back). Mama said not to go near the water without Granpa 'cause I might fall in. Daddy said baby dragons don't climb trees. Granpa said don't shoot the fire-cracker without him. It's sure no fun to be little!... (back to basket) There's got to be a way to wake Granpa up. (looking all around...checking G's eyes again...takes fire-cracker) I'll do it!

SONG: I Wouldn't Be Good

I wouldn't be good if I could
If I couldn't be good if I would,
It would have been good
If I could have been good,
but I can't!
Being a minion of public opinion,
A slave to behavior is sad!
I couldn't be good!
I wouldn't be good!
It's much more fun to be,
Much more fun to be,
Much more fun to be bad!

(laughs runs around behind tree or rock with firecracker. Suddenly the firecracker comes flying out, falling at the feet of our sleeping dragon. There is a loud bang.....Granpa rouses with a mighty ROAR or two or three, but not more).

Granpa: JUNIOR!.....Wait til I get my hands on that boy. Junior...where are you? (this has been soft and sweet) Junior....(as he gets to Jr's. hiding place, Jr. backs around as Grandpa comes around and is behind again without being caught.)

Jr. (from hiding place) Wow! (as sigh of relief)

Grandpa: (mumbling to self as he picks up basket, pole, etc.) Can't leave this here to litter the woods or cause more explosions (holding up other fire-cracker). Got to find Junior before he hurts himself or who knows what.....(going off calling) Junior.....Junior.....(off stage)

Jr: (comes from hiding place looking uncertain) I didn't know Granpa cared that much. It was a mean thing to do. I wish I knew why I'm so mean! I guess it's because I've never had a real friend, someone to play with, and talk to....an

SONG: Playmate

I'd like to have somebody for a playmate
I'd like to have somebody all my own.
If he could just be had
It would make me very glad
To have a real live someone all my own.

(as Jr. kicks dirt and gazes at the river, voices are heard offstage)

Squirrel: Come on, Piffle Whimper. Let's play!

Piffle: Okay....just...let...me...get...started...in...the...right...direction.

(Music comes up as Jr. runs to hiding place. Squirrel comes running or dancing on and Piffle lumbers after).

Squirrel: Tra la la la
La la la la!
Tra la la la!
La la la la....
Tra la la la
La la la la
Wheeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!
Tra la la la la la....

Oh, what fun
It is to run
On a Piffle Whimper's back!
Oh, I say
I like to play
On a Piffle Whimper's back!

SONG: The Piffle
Whimper & the
Squirrel

(squirrel starts to dance around when a giant sneeze is heard)

Jr: AAAAAAhhhhhh-CCCCchooooooooo! (The enormity of the sneeze causes him to stumble from behind the tree and comes face to face with...)

Squirrel: Why it's a baby dragon. Look P.W., a baby dragon. What's your name?

Jr: JJJJJJJJJJunior,

Squirrel: Don't be afraid. We're friends with dragons. But, why are you alone?

Jr: My granpa brought me on a picnic...but..he..fell asleep and I wanted to play so I-lit-a-firecracker-to-wake-him-up-and-I-did-but-I-thought-I better-hide. (the last phrase is rapid and one one breath, if possible)

Squirrel & P.W. H'mmmmmmmmmmm (sadly and looking at each other). That certainly wasn't a very nice thing to do.

Jr: I know....You're a squirrel, but who are you?

P.W.: SONG

A Piffle Whimper am I
Now isn't that something
to have such a funny name
And to be such funny thing?
But, nevertheless, I am
And I guess I'll always be.
A Piffle Whimper am I
Now isn't that something?

Tra la la la
La la la la!
Tra la la la
La la la la!
Tra la la la
La la la la!
Wheeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!.....

(Music - sad tra-las)

CURTAIN

Act I₂

Scene: a corridor in the castle (done front of curtain) (stage can be set for Royal suite during this scene. Enter Mother Blue, Duchess, Gnomand).

All: Ssssssst! Ssssssssssssssst! Sssssssssst!

You see three villians mean
Come real close
And it will seem
Our eyes turn red
Our skin pales green.

Blue: Ha-ha-ha Ha-ha-ha Ha!

You see three villians mean

Duchess: I'll get a dragon
To dust my chairs.

Blue: I'll finish Count Bric-aBrac's
Mighty airs

Gno: And I'll have
Golden suits to wear!

Duch: Snakes!

Blue: Lizards!!

Gno: Spiders!

All: You see,
Three villians mean
Are we
So.....

Eek.....ugh.....oooooooooooo

Duchess: Well, really...

Gnomand: Sorry. (shrugging sheepishly)

M. Blue: Cool it dearie! You too, Shortstuff. (Gnomand and the Duchess glare at Blue.) Well?

Duchess: The plan is good, extraordinarily so. However, you both are aware that we haven't seen a dragon for six months.

Blue: Don't you worry, dearie. I mixed up a little potion this morning bright and early. Shortstuff, did you pour it where I told you.

Gnomand: Mother Blue's potions tragic
Poured into the River Magic
We'll have a lovely dragon free
It should be here by half-past three.

(Actors have spaced out for this and come together slowly making contact and scaring each other on last So)

All: Ha-ha-ha-ha (wicked laughter as they exit)
Snakes...Lizards...Spiders...You see three villians (fades into wings)

Act I₃

Scene: The Children's Suite. Count B is correcting papers on the royal table. Princess Ann is practicing dance steps. Prince Edward is reading but appears restless. Music plays lightly. After action has been absorbed by audience Prince puts book down, rather too hard.

SONG: Playmate

I'd like to have a dragon for a playmate,
I'd like to have a dragon all my own.
If one could just be had
It would make my very glad
To have a little dragon all my own.

Anne: Edward, I'll play with you.

Edward: It's not that you're not my favorite sister. In fact, you're my only sister but after all, you are just a baby. What adventures I would have with a dragon.

Anne: Little good it would do you. You know the Mother Blue Gang and the Duchess is the right hand. They'd find a way to steal him away.

Edward: They couldn't. I wouldn't let them. I'd protect him with my life.

Anne: Oh Edward. You wouldn't want to, but you know as well as I that Mother Blue is a witch with black, mysterious powers. If we would just catch her somehow. Then we could convince Daddy she should be punished....or banished, or something!

Edward: You're right. Until we do that dragons won't be safe in Goldenland.

Count: Children.....children.....Rest time is over. Your spelling papers were excellent. Let's see. We've done our reading. Ah yes, we just have time for arithmetic.

Children: Yes, Count Bric-a-brac. (They take their study desks)

Count: Turn to p. 53. We discussed this yesterday. Today work problems one to one hundred. This will be a time test. Ready...set...go! (Count consults a large pocket watch - paces a few times - sits and becomes absorbed in a book. Once he settles the prince slams his book shut. Music cue is under action.)

Prince: SONG: Arithmetic

Call me a dunce!
Call me a dunce!
Give me some castor oil for lunch!
But PLEASE, PLEASE
Don't give me arithmetic!

Call me a fool!
Call me a fool!
I'll learn TEN MILLION golden rules!
But PLEASE, PLEASE
Don't give me arithmetic!

SONG continued

(Anne grabs book and acts like Count),

Anne: It always makes him hollar

Prince: When I try to be a scholar.

Anne: Addition and subtraction make him sore,
For two times two is four.

Prince: It's always such a bore.

Anne: He'd like to run away
And never come back any more!

Prince: Take it away!
Take it away!
Let's have no 'rithmatic today.
PLEASE! PLEASE!
PLEASE! PLEASE!
PLEASE!

(Grabs book from Anne...drops into
wastebasket...turns on last please
to find himself nose to nose with
Count. Naturally, Count has to bend
down.)

Count: Now, listen here, Prince Edward. This will never do...never, never, never,
never do. Whatever will your father say?

Prince: I don't care! (while carefully taking book out of wastebasket)

Anne: Excuse me, Count Bric-abrac. It is almost 3:30. May we stop now. I'll
talk to Edward. I'm certain he'll feel better tomorrow.

Count: Very well. However, this must not happen again....Good
afternoon, Prince Edward.....Princess Anne. (bows to each)

Children: Good afternoon, sir. (courtesy, bow)

Anne: Brother dear, why don't you go fishing. Here's your pole. You know how
fishing always relaxes you.

(Edward takes pole, smiles gives Anne's hair a tweak and goes to the
balcony. Ann straightens up the papers, puts books away and starts
to get her doll. Edward has cast several times.)

Anne: (to doll) Dolly dear, we do hope the fish are biting today.

Prince: Anne.....I say....I've got something. It must be gigantic. I can
hardly hang on. Come quickly! Help me... (Ann and Edward struggle
with the pole backing into room as their catch comes into view over the
side of the balcony.)

Anne: Oh Edward.....look....it's a dragon!

Edward: I must be dreaming! Pinch me! I'm not dreaming. It is a dragon!
A baby dragon. (They go to help him and he is dizzy with the trip)

Anne: Isn't he dear.

Edward: Indeed he is.
(the dear baby, though waterlogged does not understand he is among

friends and tries to run.) (Music cue underneath action - as he is cornered center stage he sings to audience.)

The Baby Dragon

Here am I, Here am I,
See how sad I am,
Very soon I shall lie
In a frying pan!
They will beat me
And eat me,
I'll never, never see
My dear, dear home again!

Anne & Edw: O, he'll never, never see
His dear, dear home again!

Mama! I want my mama!
I want my ma, ma, ma, ma, ma!
Mama! I want my mama!
I want my mama, mama,
Mama, mama, mama, MA!

Once too oft, once too oft
Have I gone astray!
I am sore, I'm distraught.
I shall rue this day.
O, my mater!
O, my pater!
I'll never, never see
My dear, dear home again!

Anne & Edw: O, he'll never, never see
His dear, dear home again!

Mama! I want my mama!
I want my ma, ma, ma, ma, ma!
Mama! I want my mama!
I want my mama, mama,
Mama, mama, mama, MA!

(Baby Dragon sinks down sobbing)
Anne & Edw come to either side with comforting pats.

Edward: Dear dragon! We would never harm you. I have been wishing for a dragon playmate so long.

Jr: (Raising his head and sniffing loudly) Gulp - you what?

Edward: I said, I have been wishing for a dragon playmate for so long.

Jr: You mean you won't eat me? (to sitting position)

Anne: You silly, silly baby. Of course not! We'll love you.....

Jr: Oh, I'll never be naughty again...if I can help it....(blinking at them)
Are you somebodies? I've always wanted one for a playmate.

Prince: I guess you might call us somebodies. Anyway, we will be good playmates.

Anne: Edward.

Prince: Oh yes, I'm Prince Edward and this is my sister, Princess Anne. You are now our guest in Goldenland.

Jr: I'm Junior.

Edward: Now that the formalities are over, shall we play a game?

Anne: Oh, goody! What shall we play? (There is a loud knock at the door)

Edward: (looking at Anne) It's time for the duchess to bring tea. Quick, hide Junior...I'll get the door. (the door starts to open, Edward gets it and stops it as hand of duchess and face barely show through. Princess Anne is holding out her dress like in a curtsey. Jr. is behind skirt. He peeks as duchess gets head in.)

Duchess: What's going on in there. You know it's tea time. Cut out this foolishness at once. Let me in.

Prince: We've already had tea with Count Bric-a-brac, er-a we'll see you at dinner. Good afternoon! (There is a struggle, the Prince wins after saying) Good Afternoon...That is a royal command,

Duchess: Yes, your majesty. (her voice is not pleasant)

Prince: (sighing with relief against door) We did it!

Anne: You really did it. You're so good.

Jr: Why didn't she come in? I'm hungry!

Prince: The duchess is not a friend to a dragon. She and her friends sell dragons for slaves. We're going to have to keep you hidden. But, right now, let's play that game.

Anne: Here Junior is some chocolate I saved from lunch.

Jr: Thank you. (with a full mouth)

Ed & Ann: Oh, Junior....(laughing)

(singing as they get out game and start to set on table)

Ed & Ann: We really have a dragon for a playmate,
We really have a dragon of our own.

Jr: I'm glad it is you two
Just be my buddies - do.

All: We'll have a special friendship all our own.

Curtain

Scene: In the woods by a river - same as sc. 1. Sylvester and Beth enter.

Syl: This is where Grandpa said they'd be.

Beth: They are probably on their way home already. Grandpa tires easily these days. Junior is quite a handful.

Syl: True. What a beautiful spot. Remember when we first came here.

Beth: Oh, Sylly, of course I do.

Syl: Why here's the heart I carved. That was a long time ago. Sure wish I could have put our initials in the heart but I never did learn to read or write. You can be sure Junior is going to go to school. That's all there is to it.

Beth: He certainly is darling, but I wouldn't trade you for any dragon in the whole world.

Syl: You remember that song I sang to you the day I asked you to be my wife. I still feel that way.

SONG: Love Note

If I could write, I'd write
A little love-note to you.
If I could read, I'd read
That little love-note clear through.

The spirit's really willing
But I lack scholastic drilling,
Or I'd write a little love-note, dear, to you-
I'd write a little love-note to you!

Beth: If I could read, I'd read
That little love-note from you.
If I could write, I'd answer
That dear love-note from you.

The years have passed so quickly
The joys have come so swiftly
I'd better stop and thank you, Sylly, you -
I'd love that little love-note from you.

R&B
(Dance - softshoe 8 or 16 measures)

Together: The years have passed so quickly
The joys have come so swiftly
I'd better stop and thank you, darling, you-
We have that little love-note - it's true.

(laughing sweetly together)

Grandpa: I've lost Junior.

Beth & Syl: You've what?

Grandpa: I've lost Junior. I've been looking all over for him. When I fell asleep he woke me up with a fire-cracker. I can tell you I was pretty angry. He was probably hiding and saw how angry I was and is afraid to come home.

Syl: Now, Dad, it can't be....(interrupted by a breathless squirrel and piffle whimper.)

P.W.: We've (puff)...been...clear...to...your...house (puff)...and...you...weren't home.

Squirrel: Junior fell in the magic river and might be in Goldenland.
(the above is jumbled as they talk at the same time)

Syl: Woe! Slow down. Now, Squirrel, suppose you tell us what happened.

Squirrel: He told us he was naughty but wanted a playmate so much. We told him we'd play one game of "follow the leader" and then find Grandpa or take him home. Well, when I was balancing on the river bank - Jr. fell in.

P.W.: Mother...Blue's....gang....operates there....

Beth: Oh, Sylly. (anguished)

Syl: H'm.

Bird: (rushing in) The Prince caught Junior on a fishing pole. Prince Edward and Princess Anne have him.

All others: Thank you. Thank you.

Grandpa: Does Blue's nappers know he is there?

Bird: I really don't think so.

Beth: Oh, my Junior....my baby.

Syl: Don't worry Beth. This will take some doing, but I'm on my way. Grandpa, you take Beth home. Squirrel and Piffle Whimper, wait here. Bird, you find Ducledeer and have him check the Golden Highway. NOW!

P.W., Bird, Squirrel: Yes sir. (everyone out but Grandpa and Beth)

Grandpa: Come on, Beth. Poor Junior is having a lesson I didn't have in mind.

Beth: It really isn't your fault. Junior should have minded. Why oh why don't our children realize we have their best interests at heart?

Grandpa: If I remember correctly some things are found out the hard way. Now Beth Syl is a powerful dragon and angry, too. You know what that means!

SONG: When a Dragon is Mad

Grandpa: When a dragon is mad
It's exceedingly bad
For the party who made him that way,
For a dragon can spout

Fiery flames from his snout
And chase you around all the day

He will chase you around all the day.

When a dragon is mad
It's exceedingly bad
On the heart, on the pulse, on the nerves,
He'll snap at your heels,
Like a demon on wheels.
He'll do eighty five on the curves!

When a dragon is mad
It's exceedingly sad
For the person who did it will rue it.
If the chance should arise
Just consider your size
And, for heaven's sake,
Please don't you do it!
Don't you do it!
Don't you do it!
For heaven's sake, please don't you do it.

When a dragon is mad - oooo oooo

(Grandpa tries a warrior's roar and almost collapses with dizziness)

Beth: Oh, Dad, let's go home. You're a darling. Did you know that?

(Mother Blue is dancing around her magic kettle.)

DOUGHNUTS

Double, double, toil and trouble!
Fire, burn, and cauldron, bubble!
I wish for something new to eat!
I'm getting sick of lizard meat,

Double, double, toil and trouble!
Fire, burn, and cauldron, bubble!
My palate irks, my stomach, too.
At the very sight of snakeskin stew.

Burn, fire, burn.

Double, double, toil and trouble!
Fire, burn, and cauldron, bubble!
Ah! An ideal Skatka---tut!
I'll make for me some fresh doughnuts!

Cho:

Doughnuts! Doughnuts!
I have made some doughnuts,
I have made some doughnuts sweet.
Doughnuts! Doughnuts!
I have made some doughnuts
Just for me alone to eat,
There'll be doughnuts for breakfast,
There'll be doughnuts for lunch,
There'll be doughnuts for every meal today,
I will dunk them in my coffee,
I will dunk them in my tea,
I will dunk them while I say
Doughnuts! Doughnuts!
You can't have my doughnuts,
You can't have my doughnuts sweet.
Heh-heh-heh-heh-heh-heh!
Not on your life!

(Mother Blue prepares to take a bite of doughnut just as Gnomand and the Duchess enter.)

Duchess: You'll never guess!

Gnomand: Not in a 1000 doughnuts!

Duchess: Really! (glaring at Gnomand)

Gnomand: Sorry. (shrugs sheepishly)

Mother B: Alright Dearie - if you and Short Stuff here are through?

Duchess: Perhaps we are...perhaps we are

Gnomand: Not.

Duchess: How many times have I requested that you not call me..dearie?

M. Blue: My o my o my! tsk...tsk...tsk...tsk (a clicking of the tongue)

Duchess: If you're not interested I think Gnomand and I had better be off.

Gnomand: Yeah.....

M. Blue: (In hard firm manner) Simmer down - DEARIE, You too, SHORTSTUFF..I call I make the potions around here, Now, are you going to spill it or do I put a spell on you. On second thought, if I could turn you into little dragons, I'd turn a pretty penny. Where's my recipe book? (digging deep into her cauldron or knitting bag)

Duchess: That's just what we came to tell you.

Gnomand: Yeah.

Mother B: That you want to be dragons?

Duchess: And you're supposed to be the brains in this operation. No, WITCHIE, not on your life. We've found something better - a real, live, talking, baby dragon.

Blue: a what?

Gnomand: A real, live, talking baby dragon!

Blue: The potion! Of course. (cackling) Didn't I tell you my potions always work. What a book. (patting recipe book) I bet he made it a half-past three. Just where is he now?

Duchess: That's the problem. The prince and princess have him in their suite. They want him to be their friend.

Gnomand: It's a tough one!

Blue: Not really....listen....(much whispering, sighs of pleasure)

Duchess: (up & look around) Indeed.....(more whispers)

Gnomand: Sorry....(sheepish shrug....whispers...evil chuckles)

Mother Blue: Tomorrow night. heh-heh-heh-heh-heh-heh-heh-heh

All: Mother Blue with potions tragic
Mixes up such powerful magic
Non can save the baby dragon
Without a piffle whimper wagon.

Blue: And who ever heard of a piffle whimper?

All: (laughing wickedly as the cauldron flies and they exit)
Snakes - lizards - spiders. You see, three villians mean are we, so...
(wild laughter)

Act II,

Scene: The Prince's suite.

Princess Anne is singing to and playing with Jr.. She is trying to teach him to dance.

Dance with me, sweet dragon-
Just waltz me round the floor.
We never had such fun before,
Since Edward saved you evermore.

Spin-2-3, Spin-2-3
Run-2-3, Run-2-3

Jump-2-3, Jump-2-3 (this is a hesitation step, only to the side)
Bow!

(Waltz clog
can also be
used)

Edward, show baby dragon
How fun it is to dance.

We glide-2-3-4-5-6 (running six)
Turn-2-3, back-2-3 (box step on a turn)
Jump-2-3, jump-2-3
Row!

(spoken)

Now Jr.

Spin-2-3, Spin-2-3
Run-2-3, Run-2-3
Jump-2-3, Jump-2-3
Row!

(All laughing and out of breath. There is a knock at the door. Prince answers. Takes tea cart from duchess—not letting her in. Shuts door. Dragon has hidden on balcony. Then Jr. comes out and helps Anne fix the tea while Edward looks off balcony.)

Anne: Come brother dear, tea is ready.

Prince: Wait! Listen! (Jr. and Anne come closer to door of balcony)
Shh!It's Gnomand....(looks are exchanged)
He's singing. No. He's chanting.

Mother Blue....with potions tragic
Mixes up such.....powerful magic
None can save the baby.....dragon
Without.....a piffle-whimper wagon.

Anne: (almost crying) Oh, Jr. Mother Blue knows you're here. What can we do? She's put a spell on you.

Jr: (breaks out crying) I want my Ma-Ma!

Prince: If we only had a Piffle Whimper, but there's no such thing.

Anne: There certainly isn't, or Count Bric-a-brac would have told us.

Jr: (still crying, but softer) I want my...huh? (brokenly)
Tra-la-la-la-la-la-la (imitating P.W.) There is such a thing.
One of my first friends said he was one.

Prince: What? Think now...

Jr: A piffle whimper am I
Now isn't that something
To have such a funny name
And to be such a funny thing?
But, Nevertheless, I am.....

Anne: He said that Jr.?

Jr: He said that. There is such a thing.

Princess: Oh Junior, you're saved!

Prince: Not so fast..where do we find the piffle whimper?

Jr: He lives in Dragonland.

Prince: Then we've got to go there. We've got to leave before they pick up
the tea cart. Anne, we'll take out tea cakes with us and be off
while it's still light. We've got to be far away before dark.

Anne: (Taking Jr.'s hand) With Edward leading us we have nothing to fear.

Prince: Sisters!

Jr: I won't even cry for my Mama.

Prince: Enough poking along. Let's be off. Junior, help Anne pack the
lunch..... All right, everyone, we're off.

(They go to door. Prince peaks out cautiously, then beckons to
others as Gnomand watches from the balcony ledge and the curtain closes).

(Front of curtian)a dark road.....

Anne: Oh, Edward, I'm so-o scared. It is very dark. Do you really know where we are?

Jr. I want my mama.

Prince: Don't worry. I do know where we.....

(Edward has been walking slowly and cautiously through this dialogue. He stops on "I know where".....Anne bumps into him and....)

Anne: Oooooo-hhhhhh (scream moan)

Jr.: MAMA !

Edward: It's only me. And besides you said you weren't going to do that. Junior, take Anne's hand. There it is. I know exactly where we are now. This is the fork in the road I've been looking for.

Anne: Whi -ch one do we take?

Jr: (sniffing) Which one?

Edward: Either road will take us there. The Golden Highway is a little faster but not too well traveled. Mother Blue and friends will know we're in a hurry and will think we took it. We better take the Silver Speedway.

Jr: Why not (sniff) switch the signs?

Anne: Oh Junior...how clever...

Prince: Good, now we'll still take the short cut and they'll take the long one. Follow me, group.

(Switch signs and go off up the aisle. As the back of the auditorium is reached Mother Blue, the duchess, and Gnomand enter the same road the Prince and company have just traveled.)

Duchess: (lapping - sitting on stump or rock) And you said it would be easy....so easy to snatch Junior after tea-time.

Gnomand: Yeah! The condemned man had his last meal.

Duchess: Really!

Gnomand: Sorry!

Blue: (who has been watching and listening) Oh, for heaven sake! Some where around here there has to be a fork in the road. (xing to sign) Ah - here we go. The Golden Highway and the Silver Speedway. The fastest one is the Golden Highway.

Gnomand: I've never seen a gold road before. Let's go that way. (he moves, not looking where he is going, trips over the Duchess, still on the rock, and ends up in a heap.)

Duchess: Really!

Gnomand: So.....

Blue: We'll take the Golden Highway. The prince knows it's the fastest. All right, you two....off to Dragonland.

Act II₃

Scene: Before the palace

Four

(Soldiers are in guard position when curtain opens to their music.
Four little soldiers come marching in, singing as they come - a
changing of the guard.)

SONG: "March of the Little Soldiers"

1st S: One little soldier marching along!
2nd: Two little soldiers singing a song! (joining in)
3rd: Another one makes more! (" ")
4th: Another one makes four! (" ")
All 4: Four little soldiers marching in steps!
Four little soldiers so full of pep!
We're ready for the foes!
We'll shoot them in the toes!

All

Eight: Little Soldiers to the king,
Ready for most anything!
Little soldiers to the queen,
With our buttons shiny clean!

1-4: Our aim is always steady,
5-8: Our guns are always ready.
When the enemy starts coming

1-4: We go...1..2..3..4..5..6...

All: BANG!

1-4: Little soldiers to the king.
With a rat-atat-tat
And the r-r-r-r-r-r-r-r-oll
Of a drum!

(At this point soldiers 1-4
take the guard positions that
5-8 had at scene opening.)

5-8:
Four little soldiers marching away.
Four little soldiers call it a day.
It's time to go to bed;
It's time to rest our sleepy heads.

(A GREAT NOISE is heard offstage.)

1st: Attention!
2nd: Halt!
3rd: Who goes -
4th: There!

(Daddy Dragon enters)

(Sleepy soldiers are still on
stage almost frozen in a state
of shock and fatigue)

Syl: Sylvester Dragon to see Count Bric-a-brac. The business is urgent.
It could mean war.

1st: Stay back...Dragon,
2nd: Or we'll
3rd: Shoot your
4th: Toes!

Syl: YOU'LL WHAT!

(backing off, getting up steam)

1st: I said -
2nd: We'll -
3rd: We'll -
4th: G-get th-the c-count!

(running into castle..The retiring soldiers
have become alert by stages and are now at
attention.)

Syl: That's better. I better unsteam, or we might have a fire.

5-8: We'll help you, sir! (brief unsteaming ceremony)

Syl: There.....Thank you, boys.

5-8: Certainly, sir.

4th: ATTENTION! Count Bric-a-brac. (Count & Syl - brave confrontation
Count: Sylvester Dragon, state your business. (Townspeople could enter if
you have them)

Syl: Yesterday my son fell into the River Magic. It would appear he
was carried downstream to Goldenland. In fact, reliable sources
say he is here.

Count: Impossible.....Now...once again...

Patter THE COUNT & THE DRAGON (musical patter under dialogue)

Count: If you will be the first to speak,
I'll heave a big sigh of relief.

Chorus: He'll heave a big sigh of relief!

Count: I'd rather do most any chore
Than look into that face of yours,
So speak! So speak! So speak!

Dragon: I'll speak.. I'll speak. I'll speak.

Chorus: He'll speak! He'll speak! He'll speak!
At last, at last he'll speak!

Dragon: I'll never leave the palace gates
Till I take Junior from this place.

Chorus: Till he takes Junior from this place.

Dragon: I know he's here within these walls,
Because a birdie told me all.

Chorus: Because a birdie told him all!
A birdie told him all.
A birdie told him all.
He knows that Junior's in the wall,
For a birdie told him all!

Count: It can't be true! It must be wrong!
But if you're right, it won't be long.

Chorus: But if you're right, it won't be long!

Count: Until I find this child of yours
And have you safely out of doors.

Chorus: And have you safely out of doors!

Count: And safely out of doors..
And safely out of doors..
Until I find this child of yours,
And safely out of doors!

Dragon: I thank you much.
And now I'll go
And wait outside
The french window.

Chorus: And wait outside the french window!

Dragon: But hurry up 'fore I decide
To take you for a nice, long ride.

Chorus: To take you for a nice long ride!

Count: Soldiers, 1st regiment to the search. 2nd regiment, stay on guard.
(Count starts off. 1st regiment look at one another...Count stops
turns to them) I say.....Soldiers..to the search! (Starts again,
turns, takes commanding stance)....Well?!!

5th: You see, sir...
6th: Prince Edward,
7th: Princess Anne, and a
8th: Baby dragon....

Syl: Junior!

Count: It would seem so....Go on soldiers.

5th: Left the palace..
6th: After..
7th: tea-
8th: Time!

Count: THEY WHAT?!!

5-8: Left the palace after tea time sir...(run together)

8th: There's
7th: Something
6th: Worse!
5th: Mother Blue..the Duchess..and Gnomand left shortly after....(pulls up
straighter)

Count: I must tell the king.

Syl: No time. We've got to find the children before that witch and her cronies.

Count: Soldiers, marching formation. (they assemble.....Syl gets up steam)

Syl: I hope Dad's right about mad dragons!

CURTAIN

Act II,

Scene: A highway with a billboard....Prince & company enter front of curtain Princess Anne is dragging Junior who is very tired.

Junior: Mama, oh mama...I'll always mind....if I ever get home....I just can't take another step. (plops down throwing Anne off balance. She tumbles after him.)

Anne: (from sitting position) Edward, we're so tired. Can't we rest awhile?

Prince: (looking at them) I guess we'll have to....but not for long .
....Look! a billboard.....Dragonland - 2 miles - a vacationer's
dream. I never thought I'd be glad to see a billboard!

Anne: Listen! Someone's coming!

Junior: It's the witch (getting down on knees and hiding face)

Prince: Stay back, Anne. (Prince will be first to see whatever, then
Anne, and Junior) Better yet...Behind the
billboard! (Music under this last line)

Song Duckledeer

Deer: I'm a Duckledeer, dearie,
With such a disposition cheery.
I hope you will not fear
This Duckledeer.
I'm not in the dictionary,
Because I'm purely fictionary.
I'm just a little
Carefree Duckledeer.

All day I go
Hippety, hippety, hippety, hippety,
Hop! Hop! Hop!
And with such amazement
Do I make the travelers
Stop! Stop! Stop!

For I am a duck;
Yet I am a deer;
O, I am a
Duckle-duckle-ducledeer!
I'm a Duckledeer, dearie,
With such a disposition cheery,
I hope you will not fear
This Duckledeer!

(the children come out from behind the board - most cautiously. Jr. comes eagerly.)

Jr. Oh, Duckledeer, are we glad to see you. Have you seen my mama?

D.D.: No more glad, than I am to see you. I've been looking for you.
Your mother is with your grandfather.

Prince: Junior?

Junior: Excuse me, please! Duckledeer, I would like you to meet my
dearest friend and his very nice sister. Prince Edward.

D.D.: Your majesty. (bow)

Edward: Duckledeer.

Junior: Princess Anne.

D.D.: Princess Anne. (bow)

Anne: You are wonderful to be looking for us. We've traveled so long
and...

Junior: The witch is after us with two of her cronies.

D.D.: Your dad is looking for you too, along with Pifflewhimper and
Squirrel.

Prince: Pifflewhimper is the one we're looking for. The witch has put
a spell on Junior and the only way to break it is on a
Pifflewhimper wagon.

D.D.: He should be at the picnic grounds with Squirrel. We're all
supposed to meet there. Follow me!

(Exit to Duckledeer music)

Act II₅

Scene: Picnic area in the woods. Enter three weary villians.

Blue: I'm certain we're ahead of them. The potion you put in their tea cakes, Duchess should have them almost asleep by now.

Duchess: I didn't have any tea cakes but I'm exhausted.

Gnome: Yeah! (Great noise . . . Daddy Dragon)

Duchess: What?

Gnomand: Maybe?

Blue: Whatever it is, it's moving fast...fast...fast. We'd better hide.

(Syl enters)

Syl: Grandpa's right. You can do 85 on the curves....
And if I ever get a hold of Mother Blue
It will be a time she'll sadly rue.

(zooms off)

Gnomand: Snakes!

Duchess: Lizards! (Our villians are somewhat confused)

Blue: DONUTS!

Duchess & Gnomand: HUH?

Blue: Oh.....Spiders!

Gnomand: Do we have a problem!

Blue: Not if we get Junior first.....(noise offstage - Ducledeer humming)
Someone else is coming. Where's my recipe book? There's got to be a
better answer to all this. (Hiding) Shhhhhhhhhhhhh.....

D.D.: (to his followers who are staggering from want of sleep) I'll leave
you here and find Pifflewhimper. There is magic in the air. I don't
like it. Whatever you do, don't fall asleep. Try to keep each other
awake.

Edward: We will (yawning). Nothing can make us sleep. Right, Anne?

Anne: R.i..ght. Jun..(yawn) ior.

Junior: ZZZZ...ZZZZ.ZZZZZZ (snoring) (Junior has fallen asleep on the opposite
side of the stage from others, near villians hiding place. They peek out).

D.D.: Try to wake him. I've got to hurry. (exit)

Edward: !Jun...(falls to ground asleep)

Anne: Edward...wake up (shaking him) Wa... (falls asleep resting on Edward)
(Villians out of hiding place....dancing joyfully)

Villians: You see three villians mean!
Come real close.....

And it will seem,
Our eyes turn red...
Our skin pales green....

Ha..ha..ha..ha..ha....ha

Junior: (rousing slightly) Mama? (The villians grab Junior....there is a moment of frozen silence..Suddenly P.W., D.D., Squireel, Syl, Grandpa, enter on one side as the Count and the soldiers enter opposite. There is no where to go with Jr. but into the audience.)

Blue: The Dragons.....The sky is full of dragons.....Hang on to Junior and run.....
(Strobe light very effective here)

Gnomand: Soldiers!

Duchess: Really! (end with a scream)

(Mad, wonderful chase scene....When lights return to normal we see Junior on the P.W.'s wagon surrounded in a protective circle by his allies.....Opposite is the Count and the soldiers with the three villians tied together.)

Duchess & Gnomand: (Looking at Blue) And you said there was no such thing as Pifflewhimper.

Blue: Sorry! (shrug)

Count: Mr. Dragon, I'm sorry this had to happen but I am glad we could be of service. We don't tolerate criminal behavior in Goldenland. These scoundrels will be properly dealt with.

Syl: Thank you, Count Bric-a-brac. If I was too rough at the palace, I'm sorry, but Junior was my first concern. Thank you, too, Prince Edward and Princess Anne.

Count: Indeed! Come along children. Back to the palace. The king will be worried.

Edward: Please, I Don't want to leave my friend.

Anne: We love him.

Junior: Me too! But it is time for me to go home to my mama and be a good dragon. Maybe you can come and visit me.

Grandpa: If an old man could venture a thought?

Syl & Count: Of course,.....go ahead.

Grandpa: Well...Sylvester here has always wanted to learn to read and write. He'd like Junior to be educated too, so why not have Junior and his daddy to the palace to have lessons and a good play. Sometimes, Count, you and the children can come to Dragonland. (Our play ends with a merry romp to the P.W. song)

Edward: Splendid!

Anne: Lovely!

Count: That's a fine idea. How about it, Sylvester?

Syl: We'll do it!

Jr.: Wow!

The Prince and the Dragon

Final Scene----

Scene----In the palace of Jingle Bill--the Ice King---the king is found seated on his throne-----

Bill: I am the king of the wintry chill
I am the king--called Jingle Bill.
Chor: Tra-la-la-la etc.
Jingle Bill--Jingle Bill
Bill: I am the king of the snow and ice
I am the king--now isn't that nice?
Chor: Tra-la-la-la--etc.
Jingle Bill--Jingle Bill.
Bill: I am an uncle to old Jack Frost
And a next door neighbor to Santa Claus.
Chor: Tra-la-la-la--etc.
Jingle Bill--Jingle Bill.

(Two little snow drops come bouncing in from somewhere)

Snow: We're little snow drops of the king
Don't you think we're beauties
We're on his staff
To make him laugh
And that's our particular duties
Chor: And that's our particular duties.
Snow: We're little snow drops of the king
It's true--it's not a rumor
He laughs till he shakes
And his stomach aches
We keep him in the best of humor
Chor: We keep him in the best of humor.

(Snowdrops run up to the king)

Snow: Kootchy-Koo
Kootchy-Koo
Kootchy-Kootchy-Koo
Bill: Ha-ha-ha-ha
He-he-he-he
Snow: Kootchy KOO
Kootchy Koo
Kootchy-Kootchy-Koo
Bill: Ha-ha-ha
You're tickling me!
Snow: When the king gets blue
And starts to frown
We tickle him up
And we tickle him down
We tickle his head
And we tickle his knees
We tickle him till
He hollers 'PLEASE'
Kootchy Koo
Kootchy Koo
Kootchy Kootchy Koo

Bill: Stop it! You're tickling.
 Stop it! You're tickling.
 Stop it! You're tickling ME!

(Snow drops run off laughing)
 (Music--and voice off stage)

Voice: Your highness!
 Bill: Yes?
 Voice: They're at the door.
 Bill: Who?
 Voice: The Prince and the Dragons
 And many more!
 Your Highness!

Bill: Yes?
 Voice: Shall I let them in?
 Bill: By all means 'Yes'
 I'm expecting them
 Open the door
 And open it wide
 And get them quickly here inside
 Before the snow gives them a chill
 And they blame it on ol' Jingle Bill!

Voice: Yes! Your Highness.
 (Music)

Bill: And bring me up those villains three
 The Duchess, the witch and the gnome
 I'll put on them a penalty
 Believe me, I will show 'em!

Voice: Yes, your Highness!

(Music)
 (all enter)

Prince: Pardon me, are you Jingle Bill?
 Bill: Am I Jingle Bill?

Princess: Yes, are you?

Bill: Am I Jingle Bill?
 Don't make me laugh
 Don't tell me I look
 Like a big giraffe!

Count: There's nothing 'giraffish'
 That can see.

Duch: He looks like a snake
 In the grass to me!

Bill: Silence now! My Duchess dear.
 You evil snatcher of purses---
 Silence while you villains hear
 The sentence I pass.

Vill: Oh, Curses!
 Bill: You villains need not linger here

But long enough to listen
 I sentence you to ninety years
 Of cooking in my kitchen

Chor: Of cooking, cooking, cooking, cooking
 Of cooking in his kitchen.

Bill: My friends your evil days are thru
 From now on you are robots
 The only thing you have to do
 Is to cook six billion doughnuts

Chor: To cook, to cook, to cook, to cook.
Is to cook six billion doughnuts.

Bill: And now you wicked villains three
I suppose you'd like to talk to me
What have you got to say?

Chor: YES! What have you got to say????

Witch: I've nothin' to say
Not this ol' gal
I've nothin' to say
But--you got me pal.

(cheer)

Dutch: But your highness, you know that I can't cook!

Bill: Wait till you read my new cook book! Take 'em away!
(Chorus sings last few bars of 'Doughnuts
as the three villains are led away)

Prince: Thank you Mister Jingle Bill

For saving us today

All: Yes, thank you "Mister Jingle Bill
How can we all repay?

Bill: Don't mention it, my little friends
Don't mention it at all
But before you have to go away
I'd like to treat you all.

All: Thank you very much.

Bill: Now, Prince Edward, tell me what you'd like to have
And I'll see if it can be done.

Prince: I'd like to have a dragon

For a playmate
I'd like to have a dragon

All my own

If it could just be had
It would make me very glad
I'd like to have dragon

all my own.

(chorus repeated by ensemble)

(during the following dialogue the same music
is continued)

Bill: Well, Edward, I don't think that will be difficult to
manage.

Prince: Really, Jingle Bill? Oh, Annie.

Annie: Oh Edward---am I thrilled?

Bill: Am I to understand, Father Dragon, that you are interested in
learning to read?

Father: Indeed, your highness--I am most enthusiastic about the matter.

Count: ---and I might say Mister Jingle Bill--he is getting along
famously.

Father---now Count.

Bill: I was thinking if it's agreeable to the Count that Father Dragon
might fly down to the palace once a week for a reading lesson---

Count: I have no objections at all----

Bill: And on that day Father Dragon could bring Junior to play with

Prince Edward and Princess Anne---how would that be?

(exclamations of approval)

now my little friends is everybody happy?

All: Oh Yes, indeed---Three cheers for Jingle Bill!