

HOW THE WEST WAS GRIMM

By Jon Kommes

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ISBN: 978-1-60003-974-4

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HOW THE WEST WAS GRIMM

A Full Length Comedic Fairy Tale

By Jon Kommes

SYNOPSIS: When Snow White and her friend ‘Tinker’ Belle set out to put their town on the map after discovering gold in the hills, they quickly learn how tricky greed can be. Dealing with the corrupt Mayor Queen and her no good crony Sheriff B.B. Wolfe is just another day in their crazy little world. Now add in a mysterious outlaw, and the arrival of The Grimm Tent Show filled with amazing, colorful characters, and it’s going to be one ‘yee-haw’ of a day. ‘How the West Was Grimm’ is a comedy that reimagines classic literary and fairy tale characters in the old west and asks the age old question, “Can anybody be a hero?”

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(8 females, 2 males, 4 either, 3-20 extras; gender flexible)

ARIEL (f).....	Half fish. Half woman. All mermaid. (21 lines)
BO PEEP (f).....	A young farm girl who can’t seem to keep track of her animal. (26 lines)
BRIAR ROSE (f)	The Sleepwalking Beauty. Grimm’s assistant looking for more in life. (52 lines)
DAVEY DWARF (m/f).....	Owner and operator of The Seven Dwarf’s INC, a gold mining operation. (12 lines)
WILHELM GRIMM (m/f).....	Maniacal, power-hungry leader of the Grimm Tent Show. He’s tired of touring and wants a permanent location to perform. (95 lines)
HARMONICA MAN (m/f).....	Talented musician and Grimm’s right hand man. His harmonica music has a power that’s more than it seems. (3 lines)

QUEEN (f).....	The corrupt Mayor of the small town who will do whatever it takes to make a quick buck. (116 lines)
SHERIFF B.B. WOLFE (m/f)	The crooked law enforcement agent and right hand man to Mayor Queen. (93 lines)
MOTHER HUBBARD (f)	The town notary and everybody's favorite old lady. (46 lines)
PETER THE KID/ STRANGER (m).....	The new mysterious man in town trying to escape his outlaw past. (131 lines)
PINOCCHIO (m)	Local tabloid reporter. He's told more than a few lies to sell his stories. (93 lines)
RAPUNZEL (f).....	The Bearded Lady. Her mighty golden beard is only equal to her mighty strength. (22 lines)
SNOW WHITE (f).....	A good hearted woman who dreams of giving back to the town that raised her. Once she strikes gold, everybody wants a piece of her. (124 lines)
TINKER-BELLE (f)	The local blacksmith, and Snow White's best friend. She's fiercely independent and a genius, but she longs to escape the safe comforts of her town and seek out adventure. (217 lines)
3 MICE (m/f)	Three blind mice that dance and boogie down to Harmonica Man's music. (Non-Speaking)
EXTRAS (m/f).....	Townsppeople or Dwarf siblings: Additional brothers or sisters to Davey Dwarf, if need be. (Non-Speaking)

DURATION: 90 minutes.

PRODUCTION NOTES

COSTUMES: Even though the play is a western, the costumes can be as elaborate or as simple as you want them to be. You could go all out with boots and spurs and hats. But the more simple approach would be jeans, boots, and flannel shirts...giving it a simple western flair, but also not breaking the bank on costumes.

SETS: Sets can be very elaborate and built up. Or very simple and let the imagination do the work. For example, the first scene takes place outside, so a simple cactus or bushes would provide the setting you need. If you have the budget for a massive set, that's great. But in actuality, creative and simple solutions that depend on the imagination can sometimes be the best.

GENERAL NOTES: For the quicksand: This could be done by having the actors step into a kiddie pool filled with plastic brown balls the color of sand. Or even a bunch of brown blankets that the actors could get their feet 'stuck' in. The other option is to have them step down into something on a lower level and out of sight from the audience to create the illusion of being stuck in something. The more creative the better!

PROPERTY LIST

ACT ONE

SCENE 1:

- ☐ Shovel(Snow White)
- ☐ Camera device(Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Handkerchief (Snow white)
- ☐ Gold nugget (Snow White)
- ☐ Gold nuggets (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Rope with a lasso (Stranger)

SCENE 2

- ☐ Gavel (Mayor Queen)
- ☐ Cone (Mayor Queen)

- ☐ Sheriff's Badge (B.B. Wolfe)
- ☐ Sheets of paper (Mayor Queen)
- ☐ Pencil (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Notebook (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Sheet of paper with numbers on it (Mother Hubbard)
- ☐ Harmonica (Harmonica Man)
- ☐ Envelope (Grimm)
- ☐ Bag - (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Bag - (Stranger)
- ☐ Player Piano

SCENE 3

- ☐ Tinkerbelle's gadgets and tools (x3)
- ☐ Basket (Briar Rose)
- ☐ Chain with a shackle (x3) (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Shoe with wheels (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Drawing of a horse (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Envelope (Briar Rose)
- ☐ Bag - (Briar Rose)

SCENE 4

- ☐ Bubble solution to blow bubbles (Ariel)
- ☐ Metal bar that bends (Rapunzel)

SCENE 5

- ☐ Rope with lasso (stranger)

SCENE 6

- ☐ Wanted poster that says: 'Peter the kid' (Sheriff Wolfe)
- ☐ Painting easel (x2)
- ☐ Canvass (x2)
- ☐ Paint brush (x2)
- ☐ Shovel (Davey Dwarf)

ACT TWO

SCENE 1

- ☐ Bowl (Mayor Queen)
- ☐ Spoon (Mayor Queen)
- ☐ Apple Pie (Mayor Queen)
- ☐ Necklace with a dropper (Mayor Queen)

SCENE 2

- ☐ Dinner plate
- ☐ Fork (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Bag (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Bag (Peter)
- ☐ Rope (Peter)

SCENE 3

- ☐ Shackle and chain X3 (Ariel, Rapunzel, Briar Rose)
- ☐ Small bag of “Pixie Dust” (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Jar of water (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Glass (Pinocchio)

SCENE 4

- ☐ Land Deed paperwork (Grimm)
- ☐ Pocketwatch (Grimm)
- ☐ Earmuffs (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Tool belt (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Various Hand tools (Tinker-Belle)
- ☐ Player Piano

SCENE 5

- ☐ Red ribbon
- ☐ Giant scissors (Snow White, Davey Dwarf)
- ☒ Microphone (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Video camera with a black sheet to drape over the operator (Camera Operator/Mayor Queen)
- ☐ Book (Pinocchio)
- ☐ Cane (Bo Peep)
- ☐ Playing cards (B.B. Wolfe, Peter)
- ☐ Sheriff's Badge (Rapunzel)

ACT ONE, SCENE 1

SETTING: *A Dry Country Road. The Old West.*

AT RISE: *SNOW WHITE, awkwardly poses with a shovel. TINKER-BELLE, her best friend, holds a very old looking camera device, facing it towards SNOW WHITE.*

SNOW WHITE: Now what happens?

TINKER-BELLE: My fancy invention takes an image of you. We'll have proof so the whole world can see Snow White personally mining her mountain.

SNOW WHITE: What do you call your new invention?

TINKER-BELLE: Hold still-a-mabob.

SNOW WHITE: Should I be doing anything?

TINKER-BELLE: Hold still.

SNOW WHITE: Clever name.

SNOW WHITE stares at TINKER-BELLE and the camera for a moment.

SNOW WHITE: How long?

TINKER-BELLE: Don't get your britches in a bunch! It's almost over.
Just another ten, maybe twenty.

SNOW WHITE: Ten or twenty...?

TINKER-BELLE: Minutes.

SNOW WHITE: Oh, for Pete's sake! I'm not standing still that long!

TINKER-BELLE: This photo will last a lifetime. Except in the case of a fire. The film's highly flammable. There should probably be a warning on it or something-

SNOW WHITE: I'm done with this and I'm done with your stupid Holdstill-a-mabob!

TINKER-BELLE: Here we go!

CUE LIGHTING EFFECT: BRIGHT FLASH! SNOW WHITE rubs her eyes in pain.

SNOW WHITE: Ouch! My eyes!

TINKER-BELLE: Is it too bright?

SNOW WHITE: About 10 times too bright! You're gonna blind someone with this thing.

TINKER-BELLE: It's a start. I'll keep working on it.

SNOW WHITE: That's what you do best, right Belle? Always in your shop, tinkering. Tinker, tinker, tinker.

TINKER-BELLE: Sorry.

SNOW WHITE: Don't be sorry for being brilliant. You have a gift.

TINKER-BELLE: Sometimes it's a curse. Like right now, all I'm thinking is, "if I can take a single still, why not put multiple still shots together to make a moving picture?" Eureka!

TINKER-BELLE lights up with her new idea. She puts on a pair of thick glasses and starts adjusting her camera.

SNOW WHITE: Alright, it's high noon. We should make our way back to town and give them the good news.

SNOW WHITE tries to lift her leg to take a step. It won't budge. She looks around confused as TINKER-BELLE keeps tinkering with her camera.

TINKER-BELLE: This could actually work! If I adjust this gear here while spinning that lever there-

SNOW WHITE: -I can't move.

TINKER-BELLE: You don't have to hold still anymore. I took the picture.

SNOW WHITE: No, I ain't kidding. I can't move. My feet are stuck. Look!

SNOW WHITE struggles to move her feet with no luck.

SNOW WHITE: I think it's a patch of quicksand. Quick! Help me!

TINKER-BELLE: Wait one sec. This is too good!

TINKER-BELLE points the camera at SNOW WHITE. She spins a lever on the side.

SNOW WHITE: What are you doing?

TINKER-BELLE: The first moving picture! Amazing! Here we have a girl stuck in quicksand. Don't people do the darnedest things?

SNOW WHITE: Are you serious! Shut that off! If I get a hold of you-

Furious, SNOW WHITE lashes out to grab TINKER-BELLE.

SNOW WHITE: Whoa...whoa...whoa!

SNOW WHITE loses her balance and falls onto her butt. TINKER-BELLE laughs hysterically. After a moment she sets the camera down.

SNOW WHITE: This. Is not. Funny.

TINKER-BELLE: People are going to love this. They might pass it around to their friends. I reckon in the future it could be a whole thing. Heck, maybe there will even be one place where you could see all the footage you want just by searching for it! Hours and hours of people doing silly things. A sort of viewable...tube...for you. A YouTube?

SNOW WHITE: That'll never happen. Human beings are way better than that.

SNOW WHITE and TINKER-BELLE look at the audience for a brief moment then back at each other.

TINKER-BELLE: Fun's over. Let me give you a hand.

TINKER-BELLE takes a step closer and reaches out to SNOW WHITE. They grab hands and pull.

SNOW WHITE: Careful. Watch yourself. Wait, what's that! Ew! Something touched my toe! Something touched my toe! Gross!

TINKER-BELLE: Easy now! Easy-

TINKER-BELLE falls forward and plops down next to SNOW WHITE.

TINKER-BELLE: Well, isn't that special.

SNOW WHITE: Sorry, it was an accident. Something touched my toe.

TINKER-BELLE: It was your other toe.

SNOW WHITE: Oh yeah. Hi, other toe.

TINKER-BELLE: Any bright ideas?

SNOW WHITE: You're the smart one.

TINKER-BELLE: And yet, here we are. Shall we?

They nod in agreement, and casually clear their throats.

SNOW WHITE: (Yelling.) HELP!

TINKER-BELLE: (Yelling.) HELP!

A STRANGER dressed in a greenish poncho and a green cowboy hat with a red feather enters.

STRANGER: Mornin'.

TINKER-BELLE: Howdy stranger. It's not what it looks like.

STRANGER: Looks like you're both trapped in quicksand.

TINKER-BELLE: Okay, it's exactly what it looks like.

SNOW WHITE: I'm so glad you're here. We've gotten ourselves in a bit of a pickle.

STRANGER: Never was a fan of pickles. Good day.

STRANGER starts to walk off.

SNOW WHITE: Um, excuse me?

STRANGER: Yea?

SNOW WHITE: You're going to walk on by. Just like that?

STRANGER: I reckon so. Just like that.

SNOW WHITE: You can't leave us here!

STRANGER: They say quicksand is good for your pores.

TINKER-BELLE: We're only ankle deep now, but if we sink under we could die!

STRANGER: Maybe, but your skin will look fantastic.

SNOW WHITE: We're damsels in distress!

TINKER-BELLE: (Annoyed.) Oh, come on, Snow! Don't play the damsel card. Have some dignity.

STRANGER laughs.

STRANGER: I like you. You're tough. (*Pointing to TINKER-BELLE.*)
You should be more like this one.

SNOW WHITE: Are you even old enough to be this rude to us? You've got a face like a kid.

STRANGER: So they say.

SNOW WHITE: As a gentlemen, it's your duty to help us.

STRANGER: Well, Sandy, nobody ever took me for a gentleman.

SNOW WHITE: My name isn't Sandy.

STRANGER: You look Sandy to me. So long, Sandy!

STRANGER starts to walk off.

TINKER-BELLE: We have gold.

STRANGER stops in his tracks and turns around.

SNOW WHITE: Shut your mouth, Belle!

TINKER-BELLE: Just show him-

SNOW WHITE: -No! We can't! I won't.

TINKER-BELLE: There's no other way. Give it to me.

SNOW WHITE reluctantly hands TINKER-BELLE a wrapped up handkerchief. STRANGER walks back near them and crouches down.

STRANGER: You have my attention. By all means, do tell.

SNOW WHITE: We found it up in them there hills. It's just a little piece, but there might be more.

STRANGER: The gold run dry in these parts a long time ago.

TINKER-BELLE: It's real. See for yourself.

TINKER-BELLE unwraps the handkerchief and pulls out a gold nugget.

STRANGER: Toss it here.

TINKER-BELLE: First you help us, then we help you. That's the deal.

STRANGER: That sand musta' went straight to your head because you are not in the best of spots to be negotiating. I should walk away right now.

TINKER-BELLE: Maybe you should.

SNOW WHITE: What? No, you shouldn't!

TINKER-BELLE: Go on! What are ya waitin' for? Git!

STRANGER: I'm going.

TINKER-BELLE: Go right ahead!

SNOW WHITE: Tink!? Are you crazy?

TINKER-BELLE: So long, Stranger!

STRANGER: *(Smiling.)* You are one tough bronco. I like that. So here's the deal. First, you give me that gold, and then I will gladly help you both out of your...sticky situation.

SNOW WHITE: You got a deal. Do it!

TINKER-BELLE throws STRANGER the gold nugget. He looks at it carefully, then bites into it.

SNOW WHITE: If everything works out, I plan on setting up an operation to mine the rest.

STRANGER: You looking to have a gold rush on your hands?

SNOW WHITE: We can finally put our little town on the map.

STRANGER: Your town just up the road?

TINKER-BELLE: It sure is mister. Now help us.

STRANGER: A deal is a deal.

STRANGER takes a rope out of his bag. He loops one end around a nearby cactus and swings the other end out near them.

STRANGER: Good doing business with ya, Sandy.

SNOW WHITE: Hey! That's it?

STRANGER: I said I'd help you out. I'm lending you my rope.

TINKER-BELLE: What if we can't pull ourselves out?

STRANGER: Well, then...I reckon the coyotes will get ya. Or worse.

SNOW WHITE: What's worse?

STRANGER: Sand bears.

SNOW WHITE: *(Terrified.)* Oh no!

SNOW WHITE covers her face in fear and disbelief. STRANGER winks at TINKER-BELLE.

STRANGER: They usually hibernate in the caves 'round this time of year. But sometimes they'll wake up for a quick snack.

TINKER-BELLE: (*Playing along.*) Let me guess. Sand bears love to eat damsels in distress.

SNOW WHITE: But that's me. I'm a damsel. I'm distressed!

STRANGER: Yup, little known fact about damsels. They're the dessert of the desert.

SNOW WHITE: I think I'm going to pass out.

TINKER-BELLE: Especially all dipped in sand. It's like a chocolate covered strawberry.

STRANGER: See, you get it.

TINKER-BELLE: I think I get you.

STRANGER: It's a good rope. My favorite rope, matter of fact.

TINKER-BELLE: See ya around, Stranger.

SNOW WHITE: You're a scoundrel! A no-good cheat!

STRANGER kisses the gold nugget and grips it tightly.

STRANGER: Gold is a dirty business but it sounds like your intentions aren't. Good luck with that.

STRANGER tips his hat to the SNOW WHITE and TINKER-BELLE and exits.

SNOW WHITE: (*Yelling to STRANGER.*) Thanks for nothing, ya' crook!

TINKER-BELLE inspects the rope closely.

SNOW WHITE: Unbelievable. Look at us. We're stuck, we lost our gold, and we're going to be eaten by sand bears! (*Yelling.*)
SOMEBODY HELP US!

TINKER-BELLE: Quit yer shoutin'. We're gonna be fine. Now help me pull on the rope.

SNOW WHITE: If the rope snaps we're doomed.

TINKER-BELLE: He knew the rope would hold.

SNOW WHITE: You sure are giving a lot of credit to a guy who walked off with all our gold.

TINKER-BELLE: Not all of it.

TINKER-BELLE takes a gold nugget out of her pocket and holds it up.

SNOW WHITE: You really are brilliant.

TINKER-BELLE: One, two, three...PULLLLL!

They tug, pull, and finally inch forward a bit. Success!

TINKER-BELLE: It's working!

SNOW WHITE: Thank goodness! We should be out of here in no time.

Sorry to disappoint you, sand bears!

TINKER-BELLE: Okay, you know he made that up, right? Sand bears aren't real.

SNOW WHITE: *(Laughing nervously.)* Of course sand bears are real!

Silly girl! Sand bears are very real.

TINKER-BELLE: There's no such thing. It's fake.

SNOW WHITE: *(Speaking out to the desert.)* She didn't mean that, oh great sandy bears of the desert! She knows not what she says!

SNOW WHITE grabs TINKER-BELLE'S arm and pulls her close.

SNOW WHITE: *(Whispering loudly to TINKER-BELLE.)* Why would you say that? They could hear you! Are you trying to put them into a sandy bear rage? Sure, they might ignore you, but only because I'm the dessert of the desert. Play it cool!

TINKER-BELLE: Pull the rope, Sandy.

Together SNOW WHITE and TINKER-BELLE tug and pull on the rope.

SNOW WHITE: *(Singing like a baby lullaby.)* GO TO SLEEP. GO TO SLEEP. GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE SAND BEARS--

ACT ONE, SCENE 2

SETTING: *The Queen of Hearts Gaming Club.*

AT START: *The club is filled with various tables set up for card games. Center stage sits a podium. A piano rests in a corner playing music on it's own. Various TOWNSFOLK mingle amongst themselves. MAYOR QUEEN, cold, calculated, and wearing a dress covered in a multitude of hearts, steps up behind the podium. SHERIFF B.B. WOLFE, crooked as they come, wears a STAR BADGE on his chest, and a scowl on his face. He hands a gavel to MAYOR QUEEN and stands by her side. She bangs the gavel loudly on the podium. She clears her throat and holds a large cone up to her mouth.*

QUEEN: Attention! Attention, everyone! The town meeting is about to begin so take a seat. If you still want to keep gaming during the meeting...well, I certainly won't stop you! Who knows...you might even win big! *(To SHERIFF WOLFE.)* Ha! Good luck winning, dimwits. It's all rigged! Fools!

Everyone goes silent. The music stops.

SHERIFF WOLFE: Mayor Queen!

QUEEN: *(Still speaking into the cone.)* Did you hear me? I said I rigged the games. Those dummies!

SHERIFF WOLFE: The cone! Put down the cone!

The SHERIFF pulls MAYOR QUEEN off the podium and whispers into her ear. Her eyes go wide in shock.

QUEEN: WHAT?? *(Stands back onto the podium with a big fake smile. She holds the cone back up to her mouth.)* The good Sheriff B.B. Wolfe has just informed me about some...technical issues with the cone. Don't you mind that at all! It was just a...ahhh..um-

SNOW WHITE and TINKER-BELLE enter.

QUEEN: *(Pointing to the door.)* -Oh, look who's here! It's Snow White. And she brought the blacksmith's daughter. The tinkerer, everybody!

TINKER-BELLE: The name's Belle. And don't you talk about my daddy.

SNOW WHITE and TINKER-BELLE sit at the tables. MAYOR QUEEN riffles through papers.

QUEEN: Thank you all for coming. Since our town still lacks an actual city hall for a town meeting, I'm more than happy to accommodate everyone here at my establishment, The Queen of Hearts Club.

PINOCCHIO, wears a hat with a card in it that reads, "PRESS." He stands up, holding a pencil and a notebook, and waves an arm.

PINOCCHIO: Excuse me, Mayor Queen?

QUEEN: We've barely started. How can you already have a question?

PINOCCHIO: Hi, it's Pinocchio. Senior Editor of The Geppetto Gazette.

QUEEN: I know who you are. You print that tabloid paper.

PINOCCHIO: It's not a tabloid! My articles let everybody know what's going on with the who's who of the town.

QUEEN: A bunch of lies.

PINOCCHIO: Is it true that you aren't lending us this space from the goodness of your own heart? That you are, in fact, charging a large rental fee?

QUEEN: The Queen of Hearts club is here for all your entertainment needs. For a small fee.

PINOCCHIO: So it's not a lie! Ah-ha!

QUEEN: For everyone's convenience, I've gone to the liberty of taking the rental fees out of the town treasury. It may be pricey, but it's worth it for this ambiance! You're welcome!

PINOCCHIO: Follow up question-

QUEEN: *(Nodding to SHERIFF WOLFE.)* No further questions.

PINOCCHIO: You can't silence the press!

SHERIFF WOLFE walks over to PINOCCHIO, grabs his pencil and snaps it in half.

PINOCCHIO: The press shall remain silent! *(Sits back down.)*

QUEEN: First on our meeting agenda is a statement from Bo Peep.
Can we get a round of applause for little Bo Peep!

BO PEEP, a farm girl, walks up to the PODIUM. MAYOR QUEEN stands off to the side.

BO PEEP: Hi, everybody. I'm Bo Peep. I've lost my Sheep. Anybody seen him?

QUEEN: This forum is for town business, but maybe Sheriff Wolfe can help you.

SHERIFF WOLFE: How many sheep are in the herd?

BO PEEP: It's just one.

SHERIFF WOLFE: Okay. And what does it look like?

BO PEEP: Brown. With some tan spots.

SHERIFF WOLFE: Is the fleece long? When was it last trimmed?

BO PEEP: He don't have no fleece.

SHERIFF WOLFE: He's bald?

BO PEEP: I suppose.

SHERIFF WOLFE: That's a strange sheep.

BO PEEP: Maybe he thinks you're a strange sheriff. Whatcha think about that?

SHERIFF WOLFE: Where did you last see the sheep?

BO PEEP: 'Bout two or three days ago. Eatin' some grass. He tends to wander off every now and then.

SHERIFF WOLFE: So aside from being a grass loving, fleece less sheep...is there anything else we should know about your sheep.

BO PEEP: When he's lost he cries out. Sounds like this-
MOOOOOOOOOOO!

SHERIFF WOLFE: Wait a minute. Is your sheep a cow?

BO PEEP: Well yea. Been tryin' to tell ya. My cow's name is Sheep.

QUEEN: Okay, we're done here!

BO PEEP: If anybody sees Sheep, call little Bo Peep!

SHERIFF WOLFE takes BO PEEP away from the PODIUM.

QUEEN: Next up we have Mother Hubbard with banking news. Give her a round of applause!

MOTHER HUBBARD, an elderly but warm, friendly lady with GLASSES hanging down her neck, walks up to the PODIUM. MOTHER HUBBARD holds the PAPER up. She rotates it. Squints. Rotates it again.

MOTHER HUBBARD: None of these numbers make sense. It's a bunch of gobbly-gook!

SNOW WHITE: Granny, you need your glasses.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Do I?

MOTHER HUBBARD notices the hanging GLASSES on her neck and puts them on.

MOTHER HUBBARD: I do! That's better. According to these numbers, our town is...bankrupt!

The CROWDS gasps!

MOTHER HUBBARD: Wait, no. Sorry. We're not bankrupt.

The Crowd collectively sighs in relief.

MOTHER HUBBARD: We're almost bankrupt!

The Crowd again gasps!

MOTHER HUBBARD: We haven't brought in any new business or people in quite some time and our town treasury is down to the last pennies. We're one sheet shy of becoming a ghost town.

QUEEN: I say we put more money into The Queen of Hearts Gaming Club! What attracts people better than first class entertainment?

MOTHER HUBBARD: Pardon me Mayor Queen, but didn't we just invest in the club by purchasing that music player?

QUEEN: The piano music maker is a fine investment. Since it plays music on it's own, we no longer need to hire a piano player.

TINKER-BELLE: So basically we saved you money?

QUEEN: Have you heard the crisp clear sound? These are the type of innovations that will put our town on the map! Turn that up!

SHERIFF WOLFE crosses over to the PIANO and turns a knob. CUE PIANO MUSIC. The MUSIC increases in volume, as MAYOR QUEEN nods her head in excitement.

SNOW WHITE: (shouting over the music) I have an idea!

MAYOR QUEEN signals to SHERIFF WOLFE and he turns the MUSIC down.

QUEEN: Sorry Snow, you're not on the agenda. Rules are rules.

TINKER-BELLE: Oh, come on! Bo Peep got to go up there.

BO PEEP: (standing up) Any updates? No? Nothin at all? Dang it.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Come on up, child. We'll listen.

TINKER-BELLE: Here! Here!

The crowd cheers as SNOW WHITE walks up and behind the PODIUM.

SNOW WHITE: Nobody wants this town to stick around more than me. I was born here and don't plan on movin'. When my parents passed, they left me some land in the hills. I been up there looking around and I found this.

SNOW WHITE holds out the HANDKERCHIEF. She unwraps it and holds up the GOLD NUGGET for all to see.

QUEEN: Gold? That's your big plan?

SNOW WHITE: If it's in my hills, it could be in others. People will be coming far and wide to work the hills and our town will flourish!

QUEEN: You're not even old enough to inherit that land. Why bother?

SNOW WHITE: I am so. My birthday was last week. I got the document right here.

SNOW WHITE holds up a DOCUMENT that says, 'DEED.'

MOTHER HUBBARD: It's true. I notarized the note myself.

QUEEN: Who will do all this work? Most of the townsfolk are busy, and when they're not they're in here gaming.

SNOW WHITE: You mean gambling.

QUEEN: No, no! It's gaming and it's perfectly legal.

SNOW WHITE: Not if you have the Sheriff forcing people to spend money. I've heard the complaints of his intimidation. Shouldn't he be trying to keep our town safe?

SHERIFF WOLFE: You'd be more safe if you minded your own business, Snow!

QUEEN: Okay, okay. Settle down. These allegations are just not true. The Sheriff is a dear, dear friend and if he chooses to do me a favor, well, I see no harm in that.

SHERIFF WOLFE: Should I lock her up?-

QUEEN: -in a hug! He wants to know if he should lock you up in a hug. See? We're all friends here.

SNOW WHITE: You asked if I had any preparations. Well I do. I'd like you all to meet Davey Dwarf.

DAVEY DWARF, scruffy, covered in dirt, and wearing a MINER'S HAT, walks up to the PODIUM.

DAVEY DWARF: Howdy. My name is Davey Dwarf. I've been mining hills and prospecting for gold since I was a little. Well, littler than I am now. I run a family mining business with my 6 brothers called "The Seven Dwarf's, INC."

QUEEN: And who is supposed to pay for this operation.

SNOW WHITE: Actually, we haven't really discussed payment yet. I don't have much money right now but-

DAVEY DWARF: There's no charge.

QUEEN: What?

SNOW WHITE: Don't be ridiculous. I'll pay you something. We've got some money-I-

MOTHER HUBBARD shakes her head, "NO"

SNOW WHITE: -I mean...I'm sure we can work out a deal.

DAVEY DWARF: It's not about the money. It's the thrill of the hunt! Besides, I like the cut of your jib, Snow. I know people, and you're one of the good ones.

QUEEN: Well aren't you just the nicest little man. And I do mean little.

DAVEY DWARF: (looking at Mayor Queen) I can also tell the bad ones.

MAYOR QUEEN looks behind her, as if he's looking somewhere else.

MOTHER HUBBARD: So we can get the paperwork finalized first and then move forward with the plans to prospect. All agreed?

Everyone cheers. Except MAYOR QUEEN and SHERIFF WOLFE.

SNOW WHITE: Thanks everyone. If everything works out, I think this is going to be really great for the town.

MAYOR QUEEN looks at the AGENDA.

QUEEN: And the final thing on the agenda is...Bo Peep. Again? You're on here twice?

BO PEEP: (Standing up.) Just wanted to see if there were any updates?

QUEEN: You just brought this up. It's been like ten minutes. What did you expect?

BO PEEP: My sheep is a real sneaky fella'. Maybe he popped in for a minute or two. (Discouraged.) I should probably start looking, I guess...

SNOW WHITE: Let me know if you need any help, Bo. I'm sure he's out there somewhere.

QUEEN: If there isn't any other business, I think that concludes the town meeting-

PINOCCHIO: -One last thing. Mayoral elections are coming up. According to my sources, there are no other candidates.

QUEEN: That's correct. It's just me in the running, as usual. So...if there is nothing else-

TINKER-BELLE: I nominate Snow White!

SNOW WHITE: What? Belle! Are you out of your mind?

QUEEN: I think at this time it's best if-

BO PEEP: -I second the nomination.

QUEEN: (To BO PEEP.) Really?

BO PEEP: What? Nobody else offered to help me except her. Seems like a very mayor-ly thing to do.

PINOCCHIO: It's official! Snow White is in the running. Just need to get this in an article. I can see the headline now: "White versus Queen. New versus Old."

QUEEN: Who are you calling old? I should wring your neck you little-

MAYOR QUEEN grabs PINOCCHIO in a fit of rage.

PINOCCHIO: Violence against the media! Help!

STRANGER enters. Everyone freezes and turns to look at him.

QUEEN: Howdy stranger. Everyone is welcome here at the Hearts Club.

MAYOR QUEEN lets go of PINOCCHIO and gently straightens out his shirt.

QUEEN: You fancy a game?

SNOW WHITE: YOU!

SNOW WHITE pushes DAVEY DWARF out of the way and points at STRANGER.

TINKER-BELLE: Him!

QUEEN: Who?

STRANGER: Me.

QUEEN: Do you know each other?

STRANGER: They must be thinkin' of someone else.

SNOW WHITE: Oh no you don't mister! You're not slippin' away this time-

CUE MUSIC: CIRCUS MUSIC plays. Everyone looks around confused. The music suddenly stops. HARMONICA MAN enters. He wears a hood over his head and walks in barefoot, carrying a HARMONICA.

QUEEN: Welcome to the club...I guess?

MOTHER HUBBARD: Is it me, or do these meetings keep getting longer and longer?

BO PEEP: It ain't you.

WILHELM GRIMM enters. He wears a flashy red jacket and top hat.

GRIMM: Imagine a man who could play an instrument with music so mesmerizing...so...hypnotizing...it could make rodents dance with glee. I give you, The Harmonica Man!

SNOW WHITE: Did he say rodents?

HARMONICA MAN plays his harmonica. After a few notes, MOUSE 1, MOUSE 2, and MOUSE 3 enter. They're white and furry, with tails and mousy noses. They each wear black circular glasses.

SNOW WHITE: (Scared.) Ahhh! He did say rodents!

STRANGER sneaks into a corner. Out of sight and unnoticed.

GRIMM: Fear not! For the rodents are under complete control through the power of the harmonic melodies. Watch them dance in delight!

The MICE dance to the music. They get down and boogie. The townsfolk laugh and cheer. HARMONICA MAN stops playing and the MICE sit still.

QUEEN: Do you have a name, sir?

GRIMM: I am Wilhelm Grimm. Call me Grimm! I come to you today with an invitation to a show of all shows that can't be missed. The Grimm Tent Show!

QUEEN: The mice aren't going to run away, right? The last thing I need is the health department poking around and-

GRIMM: I assure you. The mice won't run. They wouldn't know where to run to. They're blind, madam.

The MICE each point to their GLASSES.

GRIMM: Don't feel bad for them. The Harmonica Man guides them wherever they need to go. So long Harmonica Man!

HARMONICA MAN plays his harmonica and walks out, exiting. The 3 MICE dance and follow him out.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Three blind mice. Led by music. Now I've seen everything.

GRIMM: I assure you, Madam, you have not. Come to the tent show tonight and see for yourself! You don't wanna miss it!

GRIMM takes off his TOP HAT and bows.

GRIMM: Before I go, is there a blacksmith in the house? I have a very special job I need done.

QUEEN: We had a blacksmith. Now it's just his daughter.

TINKER-BELLE: If you need a blacksmith, I'm your gal.

GRIMM takes an ENVELOPE out of his pocket and hands it to TINKER-BELLE.

GRIMM: The instructions are all here. I need it exactly how the blueprints say. Do you understand?

TINKER-BELLE: You got it, mister.

GRIMM: I'll send someone for pickup and payment later tonight. And with that, I bid you all farewell. See you at the show!

GRIMM exits.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Well, isn't that something! I haven't seen a tent show in ages! I can't wait.

The townsfolk excitedly agree and talk amongst themselves as MAYOR QUEEN goes up to the PODIUM. She takes the GAVEL and smacks it loudly.

QUEEN: Okay, everyone! This meeting is officially over. Get gaming or get out!

The townsfolk all exit except for SNOW WHITE, DAVEY, and TINKER-BELLE. MAYOR QUEEN and SHERIFF WOLFE talk closely to each other in a corner.

SNOW WHITE: (To TINKER-BELLE.) Did you see where the stranger went off to? I lost him!

TINKER-BELLE: He probably snuck out.

SNOW WHITE: Slippery son of a gun! I bet he never thought he'd see us again.

TINKER-BELLE: He looked as surprised as we were.

DAVEY DWARF: Snow, I'd like to discuss mining techniques with you.

SNOW WHITE: Of course. Belle, you wanna come with us?

TINKER-BELLE: No can do. I've got a special job to work on for Mr. Grimm himself.

SNOW WHITE: Then I'll see you at the tent show.

SNOW WHITE and DAVEY DWARF exit. TINKER-BELLE opens a bag nearby her and pulls out the rope.

TINKER-BELLE: You want your rope back or not?

STRANGER walks out of the corner and up to TINKER-BELLE. He takes the rope and puts it in his own bag.

STRANGER: Much obliged.

TINKER-BELLE: It was a good rope.

STRANGER: Told ya.

TINKER-BELLE starts to walk out and then stops and turns.

TINKER-BELLE: Ya know if she sees you, she'll report you. Snow White ain't as forgiving as me.

STRANGER: Figured as much.

STRANGER tips his hat to TINKER-BELLE. She smiles and exits. SHERIFF WOLFE walks up to STRANGER suspiciously.

SHERIFF WOLFE: You ain't from around here, huh?

STRANGER: Just passin' through.

SHERIFF WOLFE: Have we met before?

STRANGER: Don't believe so.

SHERIFF WOLFE: You look awfully familiar.

STRANGER: I gots one of them faces. Real familiar-like.

SHERIFF WOLFE: I can't put my finger on it.

STRANGER: No sense tryin'.

SHERIFF WOLFE: We got a policy in here. You game or you get out.

STRANGER: What happens if I don't wanna get out?

SHERIFF WOLFE: That's loitering and you pay a fine. Or how bouts I just take you straight to jail and lock you up!

MAYOR QUEEN walks over, distraught.

QUEEN: Is there a problem here?

STRANGER: No problem at all.

STRANGER takes out the gold nugget and puts it on the table.

QUEEN: Carry on, stranger. And good luck.

MAYOR QUEEN pulls SHERIFF WOLFE away from the tables. STRANGER leans back in his chair, listening in on their conversation.

QUEEN: (To SHERIFF WOLFE.) I pay you to harass the deadbeats with no money. Not customers with gold nuggets!

SHERIFF WOLFE: Sorry, Mayor Queen. There's just something off about that guy.

QUEEN: Forget him. We have bigger problems. Follow Snow White and those Dwarf's. If they find anything, I want to know before the whole town does.

SHERIFF WOLFE: What are you going to do?

QUEEN: Whatever I have to. She thinks she can win over the people with her dreams of gold. That ain't happening. I'm the Mayor of this town and I intend to keep it that way.

SHERIFF WOLFE turns and sees STRANGER leaning back on his chair watching them.

SHERIFF WOLFE: (To STRANGER.) What are you lookin' at, yellow belly? Keep your eyes on your cards and mind your own business.

SHERIFF WOLFE exits. MAYOR QUEEN gives STRANGER a fake smile.

QUEEN: Best of luck. You can't win if you don't play! (To herself.) But even if you play you won't win, Sucker.

STRANGER: You know you said that at full volume, right?

QUEEN: Full what now?

ACT ONE, SCENE 3

SETTING: Tinker-Bell's Blacksmith Barn.

AT START: TINKER-BELLE sits behind a TABLE, which is covered in all kinds of gadgets and tools. It's messy and unorganized. She holds up the paper with the INSTRUCTIONS on it and nods her head.

TINKER-BELLE: (Talking to the ceiling.) Well, Dad...you should be happy to know that I'm keeping the family business going. It wasn't easy. But you always said, "'nothin' worth doin' ever was." Sometimes it's-

BRIAR ROSE, enters. She's wears a long dress and carries a BASKET.

BRIAR ROSE: -Sorry to interrupt your conversation.

TINKER-BELLE: It's one-sided anyhow. Can I help ya?

BRIAR ROSE: Grimm sent me.

TINKER-BELLE: Right on time. Everything should be just as Grimm wanted it. See?

TINKER-BELLE holds up a chain with a shackle on the end.

BRIAR ROSE: Your work is impressive. Grimm will be very happy.

TINKER-BELLE: Any idea what this is for? It looks like a shackle or a handcuff or something. I'm guessing it a part of the show? Maybe a magical escape or something!

BRIAR ROSE: I wouldn't know. I never ask any questions.

TINKER-BELLE: Fair enough. A job is a job. I get that.

BRIAR is looks around the shop, fascinated.

BRIAR ROSE: So many gizmos and gadgets! Do you know what they all do?

TINKER-BELLE: Well, sure. I designed a few of them myself. It's kinda' my thing. I tinker. The name's Belle but most people just call me Tinker-belle.

BRIAR ROSE: I'm Briar Rose. It's a pleasure. So Tinker-Belle, what do these do?

BRIAR ROSE points to a shoe with wheels.

TINKER-BELLE: I call this The Roller-Feet. With these on your feet, you can practically fly from place to place. Well, roll, technically.

BRIAR ROSE: This one is an interesting design.

BRIAR ROSE holds up a drawing with a horse on it.

TINKER-BELLE: I was really thinking outside of the box with that one. Basically, it's a horse powered horse.

BRIAR ROSE: The horse makes the horse go?

TINKER-BELLE: Exactly!

BRIAR ROSE: So isn't that just a horse? Why do you need an invention of that?

TINKER-BELLE takes the drawing away from BRIAR ROSE.

TINKER-BELLE: Not every idea is worth a stack of gold.

BRIAR ROSE: I wish I knew how to build stuff like this. How exciting.

TINKER-BELLE stuffs the last CHAIN into the bag and closes it up.

TINKER-BELLE: Are you a performer with The Grimm Tent Show?

BRIAR ROSE: I'm something of a performer, yes. *(Yawns loudly.)*

TINKER-BELLE: Now to me, that's exciting! You get to see the world! I've been stuck here my whole life. I'd love to just travel town to town. Not bound down by anything or anyone. What an adventure! What a-

BRIAR ROSE SNORES, with her eyes shut.

TINKER-BELLE: -Was that a snore? Are you snoring at me? I'm sorry, am I boring you?!

BRIAR ROSE snores again, loudly. She's standing up straight, her eyes closed. Completely asleep.

TINKER-BELLE: Hello??

TINKER-BELLE pokes BRIAR ROSE on the shoulder. BRIAR ROSE snaps out of it and wakes up.

BRIAR ROSE: What's that? Huh? Did I miss something?

TINKER-BELLE: You just fell asleep!

BRIAR ROSE: No I didn't.

TINKER-BELLE: Yes you did! You were snoring!

BRIAR ROSE: Are you sure?

TINKER-BELLE: I saw it! I was talking and then you just-

BRIAR ROSE snores loudly.

TINKER-BELLE: There you go again!

BRIAR ROSE snaps out of it and wakes to attention.

BRIAR ROSE: There I go what again?

TINKER-BELLE: You fell asleep. Twice. Right in front of me. Standing up!

BRIAR ROSE: Okay, fine. No sense hiding it anymore. As you noticed, I tend to fall into deep sleeps randomly. It's a condition I have.

TINKER-BELLE: Can I get you a cup of coffee or something?

BRIAR ROSE: Doesn't do a thing. Sorry for not telling you right away, but sometimes I think if I pretend it's not there, it'll just go away.

TINKER-BELLE: You don't have to apologize. I thought I was boring you to sleep.

BRIAR ROSE: It was a daily struggle until I met Grimm. Luckily, he took me in and used my condition as a part of-(*She SNORES for a second.*) -as a part of- (*She SNORES again for a second.*) -as a part of the show. It's really changed my life for the better.

TINKER-BELLE: You sure you don't want that coffee?

BRIAR ROSE: No thank you.

TINKER-BELLE: Suit yourself.

BRIAR ROSE: I'd love to watch you do your work here. It's all so fascinating.

TINKER-BELLE: Most times it's downright ridiculous.

BRIAR ROSE: I doubt that.

TINKER-BELLE: One time I was putting new shoes on a horse. Well I happened to make them too big. Like way too big. I didn't know it, but the horse had such dainty little hooves.

BRIAR ROSE: So did you make new ones then?

TINKER-BELLE: Against my better judgment, I used them anyhow. You shoulda' seen this thing! It looked like the horse had metal dinner plates attached to it's hooves. It was clompin' around, walkin' this way and that. The poor thing was so confused.

BRIAR ROSE and TINKER-BELLE laugh together.

TINKER-BELLE: The owner sure wasn't happy and eventually I made some new shoes for free.

BRIAR ROSE: So it all worked out in the end.

TINKER-BELLE: It did. But the hardest part was trying to be professional and keep a straight face during it all. My friend Snow White was there watching and we just couldn't stop laughing.

BRIAR ROSE: What's that like?

TINKER-BELLE: What's what like?

BRIAR ROSE: Having a friend?

TINKER-BELLE: Surely you got friends. What about the tent show? There must be-

CUE SOUND FX: A HARMONICA plays a few notes. HARMONICA MAN enters and stands by the doorway.

TINKER-BELLE: (To HARMONICA MAN.) Howdy. Well come on in, you don't have to stand by the door all creepy-like.

BRIAR ROSE: Time for me to go.

BRIAR ROSE takes an ENVELOPE from her BASKET and hands it to TINKER-BELLE. She then takes the BAG from the table.

BRIAR ROSE: You'll find the payment is more than enough.

TINKER-BELLE: Thank you kindly.

BRIAR ROSE: It was good speaking with you. Perhaps one day we can be friends-

HARMONICA MAN plays a sharp note from his harmonica. BRIAR ROSE immediately turns around and the two exit.

ACT ONE, SCENE 4

SETTING: The Grimm Tent Show.

AT START: *CUE MUSIC: CIRCUS MUSIC. A RAISED PLATFORM sits centerstage. Down below that, the various TOWSNFOLK, sit or stand to watch the show. A spotlight shines on GRIMM as he stands*

on top of the Platform, looking grandiose. STRANGER wanders in and stands in the back, watching. The MUSIC FADES OUT

GRIMM: For those seeking mystery, marvel, and magic...you've come to the right place. Welcome, one and all, to The Grimm Tent Show!

The crowd applauds in excitement.

GRIMM: You're all familiar with the desert. You live in it, day in and day out. Sometimes the heat can be oppressive.

MOTHER HUBBARD: *(Shouting out.)* You're telling me! I sweat so much, I could fill a bucket.

GRIMM: That's way too much information.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Ain't nothin' wrong with a little sweat. Except the smell. Sometimes I surprise myself.

GRIMM: Thank you, for your honesty.

MOTHER HUBBARD: Any time.

GRIMM: Imagine a world where there is no dry heat and hot sun. Instead it's just waves of water soaking your skin.

PINOCCHIO: Is he talking about a shower? That's not so special. I've taken at least a dozen.

GRIMM: I'm talking about the sea! A vast ocean that's deeper than we can possibly know. This underwater world has many bizarre and rare creatures you must see to believe. I give you...Ariel, the incredible fish lady!

GRIMM reaches behind the curtain to reveal ARIEL, a mermaid, girl on top, with a fish tail on her lower half. Laying out and looking majestic, she flops her tail and waves to the crowd. They're shocked.

QUEEN: That's incredible. I can't believe it!

GRIMM: You're eyes aren't fooling you. Half human. Half fish. A living mermaid that swims the seven seas.

SHERIFF WOLFE: Look at that tail! It's just like a fish. Can you breathe underwater?

ARIEL: Come for a swim sometime and I'll show you.

ARIEL holds up a container of BUBBLE SOLUTION and blows BUBBLES out to the crowd.

SHERIFF WOLFE: I think I'll pass.

ARIEL: I see how it is. The big bad Sheriff Wolf never learned to swim.

The crowd laughs.

SHERIFF WOLFE: I can swim! It's just more of a doggy paddle!

GRIMM: The wonders of the world can be found far and wide. But some wonders aren't found at all...they're grown. And not on someone you'd expect! I give you...Rapunzel the amazing bearded lady!

GRIMM moves the curtain to reveal, RAPUNZEL, a normal looking girl except for one thing: A LONG BEARD coming from her face. She stands on a chair, holding the braided beard in her hands. When she speaks, it's short and willful.

GRIMM: Rapunzel, Rapunzel...throw down your beard!

RAPUNZEL throws the beard out. It's so long it stretches all the way down to the floor. The crowd cheers.

TINKER-BELLE: How's that possible? She's a lady!

GRIMM: Anything is possible at The Grimm Tent Show! Tell us Rapunzel. How do you keep your beard so neat?

RAPUNZEL: I wash in morning and comb five times a day. Tell me men...are you jealous?

GRIMM: Not only can she grow the beard of two men...she also has the strength of two men! Behold!

RAPUNZEL picks up a METAL BAR and bends it effortlessly. The crowd cheers as she then combs through her beard and swings it around for all to see.

GRIMM: And now let me bring out an act that many of you have seen before and have the honor of seeing again...Mr. Pied Piper himself, the Harmonica Man and his three blind mice!

MOUSE 1, 2, AND 3 scamper out from behind the curtain. HARMONICA MAN follows them.

GRIMM: Watch as the little beasts are spellbound!

HARMONICA MAN begins to play his HARMONICA. The MICE instantly come to attention. They do a quick little dance jig, then they go stand in a line. They do a conga dance line to the music, as the crowd cheers in excitement. After a moment, the HARMONICA stops playing music and the MICE freeze in place.

GRIMM: And finally, adding to the dancing animals and amazing wonderment...we have one last act. Which isn't an act at all. Many wish we they were so lucky to get as much sleep as this girl. I give you...The fantastic Sleepwalking Beauty!

GRIMM pulls the curtain aside to reveal BRIAR ROSE. Wearing a nightgown and cap, she snores and walks forward with her eyes closed.

GRIMM: As you can see, she's fast asleep. But unlike you or I, she can still navigate through her surroundings!

The MICE crouch down in front of her. Just before she trips over them, she lets out a snore, and walks around them. The crowd gasps and claps.

GRIMM: It remains a mystery, but no matter what obstacle lays before her, she still sleepwalks with ease.

GRIMM takes a box and sets it down. BRIAR ROSE sleepwalks carefully towards it...but still manages to trip on it. The crowd gasps, as the MICE catch her before she hits the ground. She wakes up and looks around confused.

CROWD: Boooooooo!

BRIAR ROSE: What's happening? Is the show going on? Did I do okay?

GRIMM: Sorry, Sleepwalking Beauty. I suppose we can't all be perfect. Take her away!

The crowd laughs, as HARMONICA MAN plays a note on his harmonica. Then he and the 3 MICE walk offstage with a confused BRIAR ROSE.

GRIMM: I welcome you all to stick around and for a small price you can get up close and personal to gawk at the performers. They don't mind! Just form a line and I'll take your money.

The crowd claps as GRIMM bows and walks off the platform. The townsfolk line up to get close to the Performers. GRIMM starts to take their money.

SNOW WHITE: A mermaid! Can you believe it? I have to meet her!

TINKER-BELLE: You go on ahead. I'm gonna sneak on back and make sure The Sleep Walking Beauty is okay.

SNOW WHITE: Suit yourself.

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