THE THREE GOLDEN HAIRS

A play in one act

by Casey Johnson

Based off of the story *The Devil with*the *Three Golden Hairs* by Jacob Ludwig
Grimm and Wilhelm Carl Grimm.

CHARACTERS

WILLIAM

KING

PRINCESS ARIA

DEVIL

DEVIL'S GRANDMOTHER

FERRYMAN

DANIEL

QUEEN

THE MILLER

THE MILLER'S WIFE

DIMARUS

ELISABETH

TAX COLLECTOR

GAURD

THIEVES

TOWNSPEOPLE

SYNOPSIS

A miller's son embarks on a journey through the Black Forest, facing thieves and a demon to marry the princess, .

INFO

For copyright issues I can not give a picture of the "stuffed horse-head on a stick" mentioned. Search exactly what is in the quotes into google images, there are some great pictures there.

SCENE ONE

SETTING: We are in the home of ELISABETH

and DAMARUS FRIDEBART, around

1400-1500 AD.

AT RISE: DAMARUS and ELISABETH are frozen,

sitting on a bench in their home. ELISABETH appears to be holding

a baby.

(WILLIAM enters.)

WILLIAM (to audience)

Once there lived a very poor woman and her husband, my parents, who were delighted when I was born with a special birthmark on my neck. The mark was supposed to bring good fortune to my family. It was predicted that I would marry the King's daughter when I turned nineteen. But when the king heard this, He wasn't so happy...

(WILLIAM exits.)

(DAMARUS and ELISABETH unfreeze.)

ELISABETH

Can you believe it, Damarus? Our first child.

DIMARUS

I can not. The lord has blessed us with not only a baby boy, but one who will bring us great fortune.

ELISABETH

How do you know that, Damarus?

DIMARUS

Why, that crown shaped-birthmark on his neck of course!

ELISABETH

And this brings fortune?

DIMARUS

Of course it does! You rarely will see them shaped like that! It's bound to be good luck!

ELISABETH

We could get money and afford a new home!

DIMARUS

Elisabeth, could have homes for our homes. I'd say that by the time he's fifteen, we'll be rich!

ELIZABETH

Oh, Damarus! This will be great! Truly great!

DAMARUS runs to the door

DIMARUS

Well come on, then!

ELISABETH

Where are we going?

DIMARUS

To see the scryer!

DAMARUS and ELISABETH run off stage, holding baby will in a basket .

WILLIAM (offstage) (to audience)

My mother and father left to see a scryer named Sabine. A scryer had the to look into the future and give prophecies. Nothing surprised my parents more when they heard the news.

(ELISABETH and DAMARUS enter with the basket.)

(Sabine the Scryer enters from the opposite side of the stage and flips a "Closed" sign over so it reads "Open")

(ELISABETH and DAMARUS enter the store)

SABINE

Hello!

DIMARUS

Hello, my name is Damarus and this is my wife-

SARTNE

Don't tell me... (to ELISABETH) Your name is... Jessia.

ELISABETH

No...

SABINE

Margaret?

ELISABETH

No, my name is-

SABINE

Lucy.

ELISABETH

No! It's Elisab-

SABINE

Wait! I know... Elisabeth.

ELISABETH

How'd you guess? (sarcastically)

SABINE

I don't guess... The Great Sabine knows all. Sit.

(ELISABETH and DAMARUS sit.)

SABINE

So, why are you here?

DIMARUS

We want to know more about the birthmark on our son's neck.

SABINE

Birthmark?

(SABINE lifts up the basket.)

SABINE

This marking... It looks like a crown... I have read about birthmarks like that.

(SABINE opens a book and looks through the pages.)

SABINE

Here... See? This marking looks just like it.

DIMARUS

What does it say about it?

SABINE

The man who bears this mark... Is destined to marry the princess when he has reached the age of nineteen!

ELISABETH

Princess?

DIMARUS

Princess!

SABINE

Yes! The Princess!

ELISABETH

This is great!

(ELISABETH, DAMARUS, and SABINE celebrate.)

(END OF SCENE)

ACT ONE

SCENE TWO

SETTING: We are in a small town, somewhere in

Europe. It should look gloomy. It is

the day after the scene before. Townspeople are walking, playing,

cleaning, etc. They should have

grumpy, sad, expressions on their faces. When they hear the news of William, they should become excited

and happy.

LUTHER

Venarda!

VENARDA

What, Luther?

LUTHER

Did you hear the news?

AT RISE:

VENARDA

What news?

LUTHER

Yesterday, a baby named William was born. He had a birthmark on his head and-

VENARDA

So what?

LUTHER

Because the birthmark is shaped like a crown, that means that he will marry the princess when they turn nineteen.

VENARDA

I can't believe it!
Sam! (to Sam)

SAM

What?

VENARDA

Did you hear the news?

SAM

What news?

(VERANDA tells SAM and the news spreads quickly between all of the townspeople, their mouths should be moving but with no sound because of WILLIAM's line that occurs at the same time.)

WILLIAM

The news spread like wildfire. Between person to person. Then town to town. Then finally, to the king.

(END OF SCENE)

SCENE THREE

SETTING: We are in the King's castle,

a dark, gloomy place.

AT RISE: The King is sitting on his

throne, thinking.

(Enter Daniel, the King's advisor)

KING

Ah, Daniel. I need you to help me plan what I'm wearing to my cousin's birthday.

DANIEL

Your Majesty, I have far more important news.

KING

(in a whiny voice) But I wanna-

DANIEL

Your Majesty, it's about the princess.

KING

My daughter? Why didn't you say so? What happened?

DANIEL

It seems that she has already been planned a husband.

KING

Already? Well I guess that would be okay, it would give me years to watch that boy to make sure he is, um, suitable.

DANIEL

Yes, well-

KING

Is he rich?

DANIEL

Um...

KING

Is. He. Rich?

DANIEL

Well, no. But-

KING

Not rich? If he is poor, then our family's money will have to be split with his! We will surely lose lots of money!

DANIEL

But he was born with the birthmark!

KING

What mark?

DANIEL

The crown-shaped mark that predicts that he will marry your daughter at age nineteen.

KING

I don't care what kind of special marking he has! If he is poor, he will not be married into my family.

DANIEL

What can we do about it?

KING

You're the advisor! Advise!

(DANIEL thinks)

DANIEL

How about we go to the family's home, offer to raise the child in the castle so he can learn how to act like royalty. But, when they give him up-

KING

We really drown him in the river!

DANIEL

Excellent idea, your majesty.

KING

I know... Come on! (END OF SCENE THREE)

SCENE FOUR

SETTING: We are in the home of ELISABETH

and DAMARUS FRIDEBART,

AT RISE: ELISABETH and DIMARUS are

again on a bench, rocking baby

William.

(Enter KING and DANIEL. The KING knocks on the

door)

DIMARUS

I'll get it, Elisabeth.

(DIMARUS opens the door)

Hello?

DANIEL

Are you Damarus?

DIMARUS

I am.

DANIEL

Then may I introduce to you... The King.

(The KING steps out from behind DANIEL)

DIMARUS

Your Majesty

(DAMARUS bows)

ELISABETH

Who's at the door, honey?

DIMARUS

The King.

ELISABETH

The King? Invite him in!

(The KING and DANIEL enter the house.)

Hello your majesty.

KING

Hello, Elisabeth. I have heard that you have recently given birth to a son!

ELISABETH

I have.

KING

I have also heard that he has been destined to marry my daughter.

ELISABETH

Yes, isn't it exciting?

KING

Yes, very. If you would like, I could take this baby off of your hands and raise him in my castle. He could learn all of the responsibilities of being a prince, and some day, a king.

ELISABETH

Oh... Thank you for the offer but-

KING

What do you say?

ELISABETH

Well-

DIMARUS

Elisabeth... I'm as sad about letting our son leave us as you are, but... It could make him a better ruler some day...

KING

And if you do... You will get this bag of gold. (KING holds up a bag of gold)

ELISABETH

(hesitating) O- Okay...

KING

Excellent. Daniel, get the baby.

(DANIEL picks up the basket.)

Good day to you Mister and Misses Fridebart.

(DANIEL and KING exit.)

ELISABETH

Oh what have I done? I miss him already.

DIMARUS

He will be raised by the richest family in Europe. I'm sure that he will be fine, Elisabeth.

ELISABETH

I hope you are right.

(END OF SCENE FOUR)

SCENE FIVE

SETTING: ON TOP OF BRIDGE OVER A RIVER

IN THE MIDDLE OF NO WHERE.

AT RISE: THE KING AND DANIEL ENTER WITH

A BASKET, CONTAINING BABY

WILLIAM.

KING

Okay, Daniel. I think as the counselor to me and your help in getting the baby, you should do the honors. Also I do not want to risk the chance of being caught.

DANIEL

Yes, my king.

KING

I will be far away, in my castle. I don't even want to be near incase you get caught.

(KING exits.)
(DANIEL stares at the baby.)

DANIEL

Oh I just can not do it! I could just send him down the river in a box, but if my King found out...

(DANIEL looks at the baby again.)

Oh okay!

(DANIEL finds a box and sets the baby in it. DANIEL pulls out a sheet of paper and starts to write.) Will-i-am.

(DANIEL sets the note in the box, then puts the box in the water.)

WILLIAM

(offstage) (to audience) The box floated like a boat on the water, and not a drop got inside. It sailed to a spot about two miles away, until it stopped and rested.

(Enter the MILLER and his WIFE)

MILLER

It is a wonderful day for fishing, isn't it?

MILLER'S WIFE

It sure is... But don't you think that we should get back to work at the grain mill? We are still behind-

MILLER

Come on, Honey. We still need breaks every once in a while.

(MILLER'S WIFE notices the box in the water.)

MILLER'S WIFE

Look at that box!

MILLER

What do you think is in it?

MILLER'S WIFE

Maybe it's something valuable...

MILLER

Valuable?

(THE MILLER reaches into the river and pulls the box out. THE MILLER opens the box.) It's a baby!

MILLER'S WIFE

A baby? Oh it truly is valuable! But not in the money kind of way...

MILLER

And would you look at that birthmark!

MILLER'S WIFE

Oh we must keep him! We've always wanted a baby! Can we keep him?

MILLER

Of course we can!

(THE MILLER and THE MILLER'S WIFE embrace, then carry the box offstage) $\,$

(END OF SCENE FIVE)

SCENE SIX

SETTING: At the grain mill, nineteen years

after Scene 5.

AT RISE: WILLIAM is carrying bags of grain

to THE MILLER.

WILLIAM

(to audience) The miller and his wife took me in and raised me as their own child, and now, here I am. Nineteen years later...

(to MILLER) Here you go, father.

MILLER

Thank you, William.

(ENTER KING and DANIEL)

KING

Hello, stranger. My men and I have become lost, do you know the way to York?

MILLER

Sure I do, Your Majesty! (pointing) You just go down that road, then turn-

 $\,$ (WILLIAM steps out from behind the MILLER, revealing himself to the KING)

WILLIAM

Father, it's quite warm outside, may I go inside?

MILLER

Sure!

(WILLIAM exits)

KING

That's quite an interesting birthmark he has, is he your son?

MILLER

No, he is a foundling. Nineteen years ago my wife and I found a box sailing on the mill stream. We wanted to know what it was so we drew it out of the water and found the child in it.

KING

Nineteen years ago?

(KING turns to DANIEL)
I thought I told you to kill him!

DANIEL

We don't even know if that is him!

KING

It was the same mark! The found him nineteen years ago! (KING turns back to THE MILLER)

I want to send a letter to my wife, the Queen. If your son will take it to her, I will give him a bag of gold for his trouble.

MILLER

We would love to be of your service. I will go get him.

KING

Excellent.

(MILLER exits)

KING

Daniel, do not fail me again.

DANIEL

I am sorry your majesty.

KING

Now, I need a piece of paper

DANIEL

Yes, Sire.

KING

(Speaking out loud as he is writing)
Dear my wife, As soon as the boy who brings this letter
arrives, let him be killed, and I shall expect to find him
dead and buried when I come back.

DANIEL

Great idea, your majesty.

KING

I know.

(WILLIAM enters and bows.)

WILLIAM

Your majesty.

KING

Take this letter and deliver it to my wife, the queen.

WILLIAM

Yes, my king.

(END OF SCENE SIX)

ACT ONE

SCENE SEVEN

SETTING: On a road in the middle of a

forest, night.

AT RISE: WILLIAM is walking down the

road, looking very tired.

WILLIAM

Tired... Thirsty... Hungry... I must rest.

(WILLIAM falls over and falls asleep. He wakes

back up)

But... I must get this letter to the queen.

(WILLIAM lays down again)

But... Sleep sounds better...

(WILLIAM falls asleep.)

(Enter THIEVES)

THIEF #1

Shhhhhh. Everyone be quiet. We don't want to wake him.

THIEF #2

Do you think he has anything valuable?

THIEF #3

He might...

THEIF #1

Well if you guys would be quiet, we could check.

(THIEVES walk over to WILLIAM and find the

THIEF #2

letter.)

A letter to the queen?

THIEF #3

It could contain valuable information.

THIEF #1

Well then let's open it!

(THIEVES open the letter)

THIEF #1

Dear my wife... It must be from the king!

THIEF #2

As soon as the boy who brings this letter arrives-

THIEF #3

Let him be killed... And I shall expect to find him-

THIEF #1

Dead and buried when I come back...
(THIEF #1 tears up the letter)

THIEF #2

What are you doing?

THIEF #3

Why did you tear it up?

THIEF #1

We can't let him die! He's an innocent boy!

THIEF #2

Well what can we do?

THIEF #3

It's not like we can just write another letter and send it off with him.

THIEF #1

That's a great idea! Give me some paper!

(THIEF #2 gives THIEF #1 a paper, he speaks aloud as he writes.)

As soon as the boy carrying this letter arrives, he should be married to the our daughter... Before I come back.

THIEF #2

Are you sure this is a good idea?

THIEF #3

I think it's a great one...

THIEF #1

Me too...

(He puts the letter back in WILLIAM's pocket. WILLIAM moves.)

THIEF #2

Run!

THIEF #3

He's waking up!

(THIEVES run offstage.)
(WILLIAM wakes up and stands up.)

WILLIAM

SCENE EIGHT

SETTING: In front of the KING and

QUEEN's castle, the next

day.

AT RISE: WILLIAM is walking in front

of the castle.

WILLIAM

Finally, I have made it to the castle.

(Enter PRINCESS ARIA and ALICE)

PRINCESS ARIA

Oh Alice! I simply can not wait for the day that I will fall in love. I mean, look at you and your husband! You are so happy together.

ALICE

I must admit that we are. But I know that you will soon meet your true love, very soon.

PRINCESS ARIA

I hope so...

(PRINCESS ARIA trips as WILLIAM is walking by. He grabs her arm and stops her from falling.)

WILLIAM

Are you okay?

PRINCESS ARIA

Yes... But only because you saved me! You saved my life!

WILLIAM

Pffft. I don't know about your life but maybe your dress from getting dirty.

ALICE

Well, um... Aria, we really need to go.

PRINCESS ARIA

What? Oh! I'm very sorry but my mother is expecting me... (PRINCESS ARIA and ALICE run offstage)

WILLIAM

Wow... She's beautiful!

(A short pause.)

Oh! The letter!

(WILLIAM walks up to the guard.)

GUARD

What is your name and why have you come here today?

WILLIAM

The king has given me a letter to give to the queen.

GUARD

The king? Go on in!

(GUARD opens the doors and lets WILLIAM enter.) (WILLIAM sees the queen and bows.)

WILLIAM

Your Majesty...

(WILLIAM stands back up)

My name is William. It's a pleasure to meet you.

QUEEN

Is there a reason you are here, William? I am very busy trying to find a husband for my daughter, the princess.

WILLIAM

Um... Yes. Your husband, the king, has asked me to deliver this letter to you.

(WILLIAM pulls out the letter and hands it to the QUEEN.)

(the QUEEN opens the letter.)

OUEEN

As soon as the boy carrying this letter arrives, he should be married to the our daughter... Before I come back.

(she stares at WILLIAM)

WILLIAM

Married?

QUEEN

Very well, you and the princess will be married at sunrise tomorrow morning.

WILLIAM

That would make me a... a-

QUEEN

A prince!

WILLIAM

Wow! I am very grateful for the offer, your majesty. But, I must refuse it!

QUEEN

Refuse? Why on earth would you refuse becoming a prince?

WILLIAM

Well, I met someone else on the way here that I have fallen in love with.

OUEEN

Who?

(Enter PRINCESS ARIA)

ARIA

That's what I want to know.

WILLIAM

It- It's you!

QUEEN

Well then this settles it, you shall be married in the morning!

(END OF SCENE EIGHT)

SCENE NINE

SETTING: Inside of castle, day after the

previous scene.

AT RISE: WILLIAM and PRINCESS ARIA are

standing next to each other, center stage. Other people are crowded around the sides of the stage. KING is not present.

PRIEST

Into this holy estate, William and Aria come now to be married. If any person can give a reason why they may not lawfully be married, speak now, or forever hold your peace...

(Enter THE KING)

KING

I object!

(Everybody but KING gasps)

PRINCESS ARIA

Father!

OUEEN

Why would you object? Are you not the one who asked for our daughter and William to be married?

KING

Married? No! That's what I was preventing! I asked for William to be killed!

WILLIAM

Killed?

PRINCESS ARIA

Oh, Father! Please don't kill William. I love him! If you kill him I will throw myself from the highest tower in the castle!

KING

Aria!

PRINCESS ARIA

I must marry him!

(KING thinks for a moment)

KING

William, was the note I wrote changed?

WILLIAM

I do not know. Unless it was changed the night I slept in the forest.

KING

You will not get off easily. If you want to marry my daughter, you must bring me the three golden hairs off of the demon of the Black Forest. If you bring them, you shall be married to my daughter.

(WILLIAM looks at PRINCESS ARIA)

WILLIAM

Aria, I will get those hairs and return as fast as I can. I'm not afraid of the demon.

ARIA

Good luck William!

(WILLIAM exits.)
(BLACKOUT)
(END OF SCENE NINE)

SCENE TEN

SETTING: We are outside of a town, at a

gate. A fountain and a tree

are shown by the gate. AT RISE: WILLIAM is walking to the

gate, a TAX COLLECTOR stands

by the gate.

TAX COLLECTOR

Halt!

(WILLIAM stops walking.)

WILLIAM

What's the matter?

TAX COLLECTOR

I am the tax collector, you need to pay to enter my city.

WILLIAM

Pay? Well I don't have any money-

TAX COLLECTOR

No money, no entry.

(WILLIAM thinks for a moment.)

WILLIAM

I could pay you with knowledge! I do know a lot. I helped my adoptive parents run their mill.

TAX COLLECTOR

A mill? I am not sure information like that could help me, but if you can help us find out why our city's fountain, from which wine used to flow, is dried up, and never gives us even water now.

WILLIAM

A fountain?

TAX COLLECTOR

Yes, it watered our tree, which as you can see, is dying because of our broken fountain. We think it's the fault of the Demon of the Black Forest.

WILLIAM

The Demon of the Black Forest?

(WILLIAM thinks for a moment.)
I'll make a deal with you... If you let me pass through
your city for free, when I return I will fix the fountain.

(TAX COLLECTOR thinks)

TAX COLLECTOR

How?

WILLIAM

I am on my way to see the demon... I could ask him.

TAX COLLECTOR

Very well, if you can find out and fix it. But when you return you must fix it or I will throw you in jail! If you return...

(TAX COLLECTOR opens the gate to the city.)

WILLIAM

Thank you!

(WILLIAM exits.)
(END OF SCENE TEN.)

SCENE ELEVEN

SETTING: Outside of the Black Forest... A river

runs in front of the Forest

AT RISE: FERRYMAN is standing in his boat.

(Enter WILLIAM.)

WILLIAM

Finally, I have made it. But how do I get across this river?

FERRYMAN

Through me.

(WILLIAM notices the FERRYMAN.)

WILLIAM

Who are you?

FERRYMAN

I am the ferryman.

WILLIAM

Can you get me to the other side?

FERRYMAN

I could... But I must warn you, no one who enters the Black forest ever returns. For, on the other side, lies the Beast of the Black Forest.

WILLIAM

Excellent! I have come to the right place then! I need to see the beast so I can marry my future wife.

FERRYMAN

Alright then, I will take you across. But I must ask a favor of you...

WILLIAM

Anything! What is it?

FERRYMAN

Tell me how come I am forced to go backward and forward in my ferryboat every day, without a change of any kind, and I can not leave the boat.

WILLIAM

Wait till I come back, then you shall know all about it.

FERRYMAN

Very well... Climb aboard then...

WILLIAM

Thank you.

SCENE TWELVE

SETTING: We are now in a different part

of the Black Forest.

AT RISE: WILLIAM and FERRYMAN enter on

the boat.

FERRYMAN

Here you are, William... I'll see you when you get back... If you get back.

(WILLIAM gets of boat. FERRYMAN exits.)

WILLIAM

That's reassuring...

(DEMOND'S GRANDMOTHER notices WILLIAM.)

DEMOND'S GRANDMOTHER

You, over there!

(WILLIAM notice's the DEMOND'S GRANDMOTHER.)

WILLIAM

Me?

DEMOND'S GRANDMOTHER

Yes you! What are you doing here?

WILLIAM

What are you doing here? That is the question. The Black Forest is no place for an old lady!

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Old lady? Old lady! I'm only nine thousand three hundred and twenty six!

WILLIAM

Nine thousand three hundred and twenty six?

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Okay fine! Nine thousand three hundred and fifty two.

WILLIAM

Wow!

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

I know... Don't look a day over nine thousand three hundred and eleven do I?

WILLIAM

Um-

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

So... (Yelling.) What do you want?

WILLIAM

I just want three golden hairs from the demon's head, otherwise my wife will be taken away from me.

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

That is asking a great deal. I could just kill you now and save the trouble. But, I was in love once too, so I'll help you. But you must listen to me for if the demon comes home and finds you here, he will have no mercy on you. However, if you will trust me, I will try to help you.

WILLIAM

Okay, I trust you. But, there is two things I still want. I want to know why a well, from which wine used to flow, should be dry now, so that not even water can be got from it. Secondly, why a ferryman is forced to row forward and back every day, without being able to leave.

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

These are difficult questions, but keep still and quiet, and when the demon comes in, pay great attention to what he says, while I pull the golden hairs out of his head. Here, hide under his bed.

(WILLIAM gets under the bed) (Enter THE DEMON.)

DEMON

Hi, grammy.

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Hello, Demon.

(DEMON sniffs.)

DEMON

Do you smell human?

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Humans? No... I think you nose is still clogged from your dinner.

(WILLIAM gulps.)

DEMON

What was that?

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

What was what?

DEMON

That noise...

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

I did not hear a noise. Are you feeling okay? Do you need to rest?

DEMON

No I-

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Yes you do...

(She leads the DEMON to his bed.)

How about I read you a bedtime story?

DEMON

(Yawns.)

I guess that would be alright...

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Once upon a time in a far off kingdom... There was a fountain that flowed wine, but then stopped and didn't even flow water. Nobody knew why so-

DEMON

I know why! There sits a toad under the fountain, and he is blocking the wine from flowing. I placed him there ages ago!

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Well then I guess you already know that story, so I'll move to a different one.

DEMON

Please do ...

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

A long time ago, A ferryman complained that he is obliged to take people across the river, and is never free. So-

DEMON

That stupid fellow! He can very easily ask any person who wants to be ferried over to take the oar in his hand, and he will be free at once!

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Well it seem that you know all of my stories.

DEMON

I have become very tired... I think I will sleep now.

(DEMON falls as leep and DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER pulls the three hairs from his head and gives them to WILLIAM.)

DEMON

AARG!

DEMON'S GRANDMOTHER

Run, WIlliam!

SCENE THIRTEEN

SETTING: Outside of the Black Forest. By

the river.

AT RISE: FERRYMAN is sitting in his boat

WILLIAM runs on stage.

WILLIAM

Ferryman! Hurry we need to get to the other side! Quickly! The demon is after me!

FERRYMAN

First, how do I get out?

WILLIAM

There's no time! Hurry, get to the other side!

(WILLIAM gets in the boat and they go to the other side of the stage.)

(Enter DEMON.)

DEMON

You! You took my golden hairs!

(DEMON runs over the river and to the same side of the stage as WILLIAM and the FERRYMAN.)

WILLIAM

Ferryman, throw your oar at him!

(DEMON jumps in the boat, the FERRYMAN shoves the oar in his hand, then WILLIAM and the FERRYMAN jump out of the boat. DEMON tries to jump out but can't.)

FERRYMAN

We did it!

DEMON

What have you done? I can't get out!

WILLIAM

Now you know how the ferryman felt! Happy rowing!

(WILLIAM and the FERRYMAN exit, laughing.)

(END OF SCENE THIRTEEN.)

SCENE FOURTEEN

SETTING: In side of the KING and

QUEEN's castle, the next

day.

AT RISE: KING, QUEEN, and PRINCESS ARIA

are sitting in thrones.

KING

Daughter, time is almost up for your fiance. If he does not arrive by the day after tomorrow, he will be assumed dead and you will not marry him.

(WILLIAM and FERRYMAN enter on "stuffed horse-head on a stick"s (pictured in the info section (page two)))

WILLIAM

I don't think declaring me dead will be necessary, your majesty.

PRINCESS ARIA

William! You're back! Beautiful horses! Where did you get them?

WILLIAM

We were rewarded with them after we fixed a city's fountain, it's a long story.

PRINCESS ARIA

We have all the time we want for long stories, we are getting married!

KING

Not so fast! Where are the golden hairs?

WILLIAM

Here, your majesty.

(WILLIAM takes out the hairs.)

KING

Wow! Now that you have gathered the hairs, I am ready to let you marry my daughter.

WILLIAM, FERRYMAN, QUEEN, PRINCESS ARIA

Horray!

(END OF SCENE FOURTEEN.)
(END OF ACT ONE.)
(END OF PLAY.)