

Enter Guards Mee and Ewe

MEE: Mee is the name they gave to me.

EWE: And Ewe is the name they gave to me.

MEE: No that's not the name they gave to me. They gave that name to you.

EWE: That's what I said. I am Ewe. And you are Mee.

MEE: Well then, now we have got that sorted, give us your taxes.

EWE: Yes, that's right. Give Mee your money. No, not to me, I said give Mee your money, she's the one with the purse.

MEE: *(taking the money)* Thank Ewe. Well, go on then, thank her. That's more like it.

EWE: Who else owes us money?

Enter Robin Hood

MEE: Aha, you there.

EWE: Yes?

MEE: No not you, I meant him.

ROBIN: Me?

MEE: Yes? What?

ROBIN: Were you talking to me?

MEE: Why would I be talking to myself? No, I was talking to you.

EWE: Yes?

MEE: No not you, I meant him.

ROBIN: What can I do for you?

EWE: You can give Mee here your money. The Sherriff has raised the taxes you see.

ROBIN: We'll see about that. *(draws a bow and arrow and points it at the guards)*

EWE: Mee?

MEE: Yes Ewe?

EWE: We appear to be under attack.

ROBIN: I'll take that thanks. Now run along before I let go of the bow.

Mee and Ewe run off screaming "we've been robbed"

ROBIN: I'll return this to the villagers as soon as possible, but first I must find out what is going on. Surely my brother wouldn't have raised the taxes. I smell something fishy.

Enter Nurse Nelly and Noddy with a basket of fish

Noddy: Fish. Anyone for fish?

Nelly: For the last time Noddy son. Nobody wants to buy your stinking fish. Ooh hello handsome stranger. What brings you to these parts?

Robin: Hello strange washerwoman and her slightly smelly sidekick, I am Robin Hood. I have returned from the crusades in search of my brother. He is now a wealthy landowner in this area apparently and I understand he has two beautiful children, my nieces, whom I am yet to meet.

Nelly: Alright luvvy, I didn't need your entire backstory. Well I'm Nurse Nelly and this is my son Noddy.

Noddy: I've just started my own fish business, only nobody seems to have the money to buy any. Say, you look like you're loaded. Wanna buy some fish?

Robin: Um, alright then. What do you call that one with no eye?

Noddy: That's a Fsh!

Robin: To be honest I prefer my fish battered.

Noddy: I can soon sort that for you

(Noddy takes out a fish, punches it several times and hands it to Robin)

There you go.

Robin: No, sorry, I'm not in the mood for a whole fish right now.

Noddy: How about just a fish leg? Or perhaps just a codpiece?

Nelly: Leave it Noddy son, *(lifting out an eel)* eel buy something when he's good and ready. Oh look out, here comes the Sherriff.

Robin: Aha, perhaps he can shed some light on where I will find my brother.

Sherriff: Silence you miserable peasants. You are now on my land and you have to pay my taxes. If anybody tries to stop me they will face a truly terrifying ordeal.

Nelly: What? A trip to Knaresborough?

Sherriff: Worse. You will be locked in my miserable dark dungeon and you will never see the light of day ever again. Now then, who dares to steal my tax money?

Noddy: Not me, I'm just plying my trade with my mobile fish monger.

Nelly: Nor me, I'm just an innocent Nurse looking for my next victim, I mean patient.

Robin: Then it must be me. You have no right to collect taxes from this land. I am Robin Hood and I believe this land belongs to my brother.

Sherriff: Ah, your brother you say? Alas I have some very grave news for you.

Robin: How grave?

Sherriff: Well he's in one. Of course I was nowhere near the scene but as I understand it he had a cold.

Noddy: It is not old, my Haddock was freshly caught this morning.

Sherriff: No you buffoon, I said "had a cold"

Noddy: Oh. As you were.

Robin: He can't have died from a cold.

Sherriff: No indeed. Unfortunately he sneezed so hard he lost his balance and fell through an open window. If it's any consolation it wasn't the fall that killed him. It was the sudden stop at the end.

Noddy: What a load of tripe. Sorry, I'm just branching out into meat products.

Robin: I have no proof, but I suspect you had something to do with this.

Sherriff: How can you possibly think that. Just because I have claimed all his land for myself after his sudden demise.

Robin: Wait. Should his daughters have not inherited the land.

Sherriff: Daughters?

Nelly: Oh yes, Molly and Dolly. I remember delivering them myself.

Sherriff: Are you sure you got the right address? Well, they can't inherit this land for they are minors.

Noddy: You can't send them down the pit at their age....oh, I see.

Robin: Then I will take them into my care.

Sherriff: Alas you cannot. You see you have stolen money from me which makes you an outlaw and unfit to look after children. I will make sure they are...taken care of. But where are these babes now?

Enter Maid Marion with Molly and Dolly

Marion: Come along Molly, Dolly, it's getting late. Oh hello, hello, hello, (*sees Robin*) helloooo!

Nelly: What are the chances they would appear right at that very moment, as if on cue?!

Marion: I'm Marion. Hello everybody. I'm the maid at Hammerton Hall. But I now have two little orphan babes to look after.

Sherriff: Never fear my dear for I will take them into my custody.

Molly: No Maid Marion, don't let us go with him.

Dolly: He's smelly.

Molly: And slimy

Dolly: and ugly.

Molly: and grimy.

Dolly: and boring

Molly: and stupid

Dolly: and whiny

Molly: and putrid.

Sherriff: Ah don't you just love the honesty of children.

Robin: I too implore you not to pass these two innocent girls over to this man who, from what I can gather, has no soul.

Noddy: I've got sole!

Marion: I feel I will do whatever you ask, handsome stranger, but I need somebody to look after these children as I am already too busy with my duties as a maid.

Nelly: How about I look after them? I'm a Nurse after all!

Robin: Thank you kind nurse. I will pay you for their keep until the time when they can inherit their rightful land.

Sherriff: Well that's settled then, so long as they manage to avoid any unforeseen life-threatening catastrophes the babes shall stay with you Nurse Nelly.

Nelly: What do you think girls, would you like to come and live with me and my son Noddy?

Molly: Oh yes please. How exciting, we have a new home Dolly.

Dolly: Yes, but Nurse Nelly, can we ask one thing?

Nurse: Anything love.

Molly: Can we not eat fish all the time?

Dolly: Yes. I'm also worried that we've used up all the fish puns available.

Nurse: You're right lovelies. Noddy lad, ditch the fish. Now let's show you to your new plaiice. Noddy, we'd better get our skates on.

Noddy: *(putting fish on his feet)* OK, but I'm not sure what good that will do.

Exit Nelly, Noddy, Molly and Dolly

Marion: Thank you kind sir, for all your help. I can now return to my maid duties without the distraction of children messing the place up the whole time.

Robin: Children don't really do that do they. Surely children would help with all the housework.

Marion: You really have no experience of bringing up kids have you? I really don't know how I would cope without the tablets.

Robin: For your head?

Marion: No no, for their gaming and youtube habits. Anyway I must be off, but I do hope we meet again.

Robin: Farewell sweet Marion.

Robin and Marion exit

Sherriff: Well, this puts a spanner in my otherwise seamless plan. Between you and me...

Mee: Yes you are.

Sherriff: What? No, as I was saying between you and me....

Ewe: ...is where you're standing.

Sherriff: Shut up! Between.....myself and yourselves, I think Marion and Robin have the hots for each other. But I plan to have Marion for my own bride. And as for those irksome babes, they must be kidnapped, dragged into the woods and killed. Those are my orders.

Mee: Me?

Sherriff: And you.

Ewe: Me too?

Sherriff: Sneak into their house this evening and snatch them while they are sleeping. As for the rest of them, I will take care of them myself.

Exit Sherriff, Mee and Ewe

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