

Clowning Around

Drama 2: Bobo is back!

Characters:

Bobo the clown
Tina Tightrope
Tricky Trapeze
Mickey Muscle

Voice: Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to the world famous Silly Bart's circus! Usually the circus is a jolly place, but right now everyone is shocked, very shocked. It seems that Bobo the clown has been eaten by Lenny and Lena the lions!

(Enter Tina)

Tina: (crying) Oh no! Oh no!! This can't be true. My Bobo, my poor little funny old Bobo!

(Enter Tricky. He sees Tina and turns to leave quickly)

Tina: (Looking up) Oh Tricky! Tricky!

(Tricky stops and turns round reluctantly)

Tina: Tricky, don't run away. We're all very shocked and sad and no one knows what to say to anyone. I just can't believe that we will never see poor Bobo again.

Tric: Oh.. err.... Yes... err... it's terrible. Absolutely terrible.

Tina: And he was so brave rescuing me from the lions like that. I mean he jumped into the cage like a kangaroo and picked me up. Then he threw me out of the cage, but when I looked round... he was gone! All I could see were Lenny and Lena's eyes staring out of that little place where they sleep. Staring out and looking like they had just had a good meal! My poor Bobo!

Tric: Err.... Yes Tina. Err.... Yes, it is terrible, really terrible. And as you say, he was so brave, so brave.

Tina: I can't believe I will never see him again! His funny little nose, those great big feet, that silly smile and his terrible jokes! It's all gone, all gone!

Tric: Yes Tina, it's really sad, but I really must go and...

(He starts to walk away but stops as Tina continues talking)

Tina: The thing is though Tricky, I can't understand how my rope was over the lions cage in the first place. I mean, that's not where I put it this morning, so someone must have moved it. But who? Who would do something like that?
Tric: (spluttering) Err... I err... don't know Tina. I err... don't know.
Tina: Oh well, I'm off to see Coco. You know he's so upset I don't think he'll ever be funny again.

(She exits)

(Enter Mickey)

Mic: Ah, there you are Tricky. Does anyone know?
Tric: Does anyone know what?
Mic: Does anyone know that it was our plan? Does anyone know that we moved the rope?
Tric: Shush.... Shut up you idiot! No, no one knows, but if you go round saying things like that they soon will!
Mic: Oh, sorry Tricky, sorry.
Tric: We've just got to keep quiet, say absolutely nothing, OK? No one saw us. No one can prove anything. Just keep quiet!
Mic: Ok Tricky. I'll say nothing.
Tric: There is one thing we need to do though Mickey.
Mic: What's that then Tricky?
Tric: We need to persuade the Ring Master not to cancel tonight's show. If we are going to be the stars of the Circus then we need to perform tonight. We need to persuade him that the show must go on.
Mic: And how do we do that then Tricky? Everyone is so sad. Even the performing dogs are crying!
Tric: We tell him that Bobo would have wanted the show to go on whatever happened. That's what Bobo would have wanted, so that's what we must do!
Mic: Brilliant Tricky, brilliant. You're a real genius!
Tric: Well we better go and talk to him before he puts up the cancellation notices. Come on, let's get a move on.

(They exit)

(Enter Tina. She sits down)

Tina: (crying) Oh, I'm so sad, so sad! Little Bobo has become Lenny and Lena's lunch and I'll never see him again! I don't think I'll ever be able to walk a tightrope again after this!
Voice: Attention all circus performers. This is your ringmaster speaking. We have all been shocked by Bobo's terrible accident and I know that all of you are very very sad. I thought of cancelling tonight's performance, but I have been talking to Tricky Trapeze and Mickey Muscle and they reminded me of one important thing. One important thing that Bobo would have wanted, and that is that the show must go on! So tonight's performance will go ahead! Get ready and let's make this a night to remember!

Tina: Oh no! Oh no! I can't walk a tightrope now, not after this. I'll wobble and shake and fall off in no time. This is terrible! What shall I do? (starts to cry)

(Sound effect of lions)

Tina: And there's those terrible lions as well. (starts crying)

(Sound effect of lions followed by Clown hooter)

Tina: and they must be playing with poor Bobo's hooter... (cries)

(Sound effect of lions and hooter again)

Tina: (crying) Oh Bobo! Oh poor Bobo!

Bobo: (off stage) Psst!

Tina: (stops crying) What's that?

Bobo: Psst!

Tina: (Jumps to her feet) Oh no! It sounds like one of the snakes as escaped. I hope it's not that bone crushing twelve foot Boa constrictor!

Bobo: Psst... Tina!

Tina: (Sounding very frightened) A twelve foot bone crushing Boa Constrictor who knows my name!

Bobo: Psst, Tina!, Psst ... it's me!

Tina: Err... who's 'me'?

Bobo: It's Bobo!

Tina: Oh no! Now I'm going mad! Bobo has been eaten by the lions and now I can hear him talking to me! What's happening?

(Bobo enters)

Bobo: Tina! It's me! Bobo!

Tina: Bobo! But you've been eaten by the lions! It can't be you!

Bobo: O Tina, what a silly thing you are. Of course I wasn't eaten by the Lions. You know why lions never eat clowns.

Tina: Err... no .. Why do Lions never eat Clowns?

Bobo: Because they taste funny! That's why!

Tina: Is it really you Bobo? Really you?

Bobo: one hundred percent.

Tina: And you're alive?

Bobo: Well what does it look like. Of course I'm alive.

Tina: Oh Bobo! That's amazing! We must tell your Dad, he's been very upset.

Bobo: Oh that's alright Tina, I've just called in to see him. He's now a bit shocked as well.

Tina: But where have you been for the past 3 hours? We all thought Lenny and Lena had had you for lunch?

Bobo: What Lenny and Lena? They wouldn't do anything like that to me. They just took me into their sleeping quarters so they could tell me what has been going on.

Tina: What do you mean? Lions can't talk.

Bobo: Well they talk to me. Ever since I was a little baby clown my Mum used to put my pram by their cage. They've always talked to me about their day, what it was like in Africa, all that sort of stuff.

Tina: Well what did they tell you then? What has been going on?

Bobo: Well it turns out that your tumble into the lions cage was an accident, but my ending up there wasn't so much of an accident. It's all Tricky and Mickey, they moved your rope over the cage and were going to pretend that you had fallen in with the lions so I would try and rescue you, but they didn't think you were about to do some practice.

Tina: But why?

Bobo: Well they want me and my Dad out of the way. They want to be the stars of the circus, not the clowns!

Tina: But that's terrible! We should tell someone. We should tell the ringmaster straight away.

Bobo: Oh no, I've got a better plan than that Tina. A much better plan than that! Come on, we need to rehearse our act.

Tina: Our act?

Bobo: Yes Tina, our act. Today you are an honorary clown!

(They exit)

Voice: Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to the greatest circus on earth. Welcome to Silly Bart's circus! Today has been a sad day for us all, but we won't let that stop the show. So sit back and prepare to be amazed by the terrifying, death defying, tumbletastic Tricky Trapeze!

(Enter Tricky and Mickey)

Tric: This is our chance Mickey. This is our chance! Our chance to be the stars of the Circus.

Mic: OK Tricky, come on, give it all you've got!

(They exit)

(Video shows of trapeze act)

(Tricky and Mickey enter again)

Mic: Brilliant Tricky, brilliant! The crowd loved you.

Tric: Ok Mickey, it's your turn now. Come on, get those muscles working like they've never worked before!

Voice: And now put your hands together for the marvellous, magnificent, multitalented, Mickey Muscle

Tric: Go on Mickey, give it all you've got.

(Tricky exits)

(Mickey performs a strongman act: picking up weights, bending an iron bar, throwing a large rock etc etc. At the end he takes a bow)

(Tricky enters)

Tric: Well done Mickey that was brilliant, brilliant! They absolutely loved you.
We're the stars of the show!

Tina: (Off stage over microphone) And now Ladies and Gentlemen, we have a special surprise for you.

Tric: Hey that's Tina's voice isn't it?

Mic: Sounds like it Tricky. What's she going on about? What's this special surprise?

Tina: (Over mic) Ladies and Gentlemen, put your hands together for... Bobo the Clown!

Tric: What?

Mic: has she...

(Enter Bobo and Tina)

Tric & Mic: (Together) What!

(Bobo and Tina do a short Clown act)

Bobo: I say I say I say. Why did the Clown sleep under a pillow all day?

Tina: I don't know Bobo, why did the Clown sleep under a pillow all day?

Bobo: Because he was a night clown!

I say I say I say. Why are Clowns good at Maths?

Tina: I don't know Bobo. Why are Clowns good at maths?

Bobo: Because they like clownting!

Tina: Hey that's a pretty flower Bobo.

Bobo: Sure is Tina. (sniffs flower) it smells really good as well. Have a sniff.

Tina: (Comes closer and sniffs) err.... I can't smell it Bobo.

Bobo: You need to get closer Tina.

Tina: (Comes a little closer and sniffs) err.. I still can't smell anything Bobo.

Bobo: You have to get very close Tina, like this (Puts his nose right near the flower).

Tina: (Comes very close and sniffs – Bobo squirts the flower)

Bobo: Can you smell it now Tina!

Tina: Oh Bobo!

Bobo: Oh look! Someone has left a bucket of water right here.

Tina: Well it can't stay there Bobo, you'll have to move it.

Bobo: Alright Tina.

(Picks up bucket pretending it is very heavy. Staggeres around under the weight going towards the audience and back again)

Bobo: It's very heavy Tina, what shall I do with it?

Tina: Well empty it out then Bobo!

Bobo: but where?

(He staggeres along the front leaning towards the audience as if about to empty the bucket over them. Hopefully audience react!)

Bobo: It's too heavy Tina, I can't hold it any more!

(Empties bucket over the audience – general chaos!)

Bobo: I say I say I say. Why do lions never eat Clowns?

Tina: I don't know Bobo. Why do lions never eat Clowns?

Bobo: Because they taste funny!

Mic: Is that true Tricky? Do lions never eat Clowns?

Tric: Well he's still here isn't he? He hasn't been eaten so... so... so it must be time for us to.... Run!

Bobo: Quick Tina, let's get them!

(Chase scene backwards and forwards across the stage with suitable shouts)

Tric: Quick! Faster Mickey, they're catching up!

Mic: I'm going as fast as I can Tricky!

Bobo: Come back here you two.

Tina: We'll chase you till you drop!

(After several times backwards and forwards)

(Tricky and Mickey off stage:

Tric: Quick Mickey lets hide in here.

Mic: OK Tricky.

Tric: Get your head down and stay quiet.

Mic: It's very dark. I can't see a thing.

(Enter Bobo and Tina)

Bobo: Where did they go?

Tina: They were right in front and then they disappeared.

Bobo: They must be hiding somewhere.

Tina: Come on then, let's keep looking. They can't be far away.

(They exit)

Tricky and Mickey off stage:

Tric: Mickey, stop tickling the back of my neck!

Mic: I'm not touching you! But you are breathing right into my ear!

Tric: No I'm not. From the smell I must be somewhere near your feet.

Mic: Tricky, there's no need to hold my hand!

Tric: I'm not holding your hand. Why would I do that?

Mic: (sounding very frightened) err... Tricky Err.... Tricky?

Tric: Oh what now Mickey?! And will you please stop prodding me in the back!

Mic: Are err... you err... wearing a err.... Fur coat?

Tric: A fur coat? What would I be wearing a fur coat for Mickey?

Mic: Well... err... it's just that err.... There's err.... Someone beside me who is
and I was err... hoping that it was err.... You! Where are we hiding Tricky?
Tric: Well I'm not sure. It just seemed like a good hiding place.
Mic: Tricky... err... I think we are err... in the err... the err....

(Sound effect of roaring lions)

Tric and Mic: (Together) Ahh!!!!

(Enter Bobo and Tina)

Tina: Well they seem to have disappeared Bobo.
Bobo: You're right Tina, they're nowhere.
Tina: Maybe they've run away!
Bobo: Well let's not worry about them now. If they come back all the circus
performers will have something to say to them. I don't think they will be
welcome back at Silly Bart's Circus again.
Tina: You know Bobo, it's good to have you back.
Bobo: Well it'll be good to get everything back to normal. You can walk your
tightrope, Dad and me can be funny again, and everyone can enjoy the circus.

(Sound effect of lions roaring)

Tina: Oh listen, even Lenny and Lena sound happy!
Bobo: Yes, and it's just as well they believed my joke isn't it! Why do lions never
eat clowns?
Tina: Because they taste funny!

(They exit)