

## SCENE 5 : THE VILLAGE FAYRE

(Full stage exterior old-fashioned country fayre scene with sideshows and/or jousting tents etc. Ideally, this will have a countryside backcloth, but with enough dressing and activity, the village backcloth could be re-used, appearing as if the fayre is in the Village Square. The CHORUS and DANCERS are discovered on as Villagers, possibly in their "Sunday Best".)

**MUSIC #9:**     Short Happy Number or Play-in (CHORUS and DANCERS)

*Help?*

*(Either a play-in or a short lively CHORUS number to set the scene, possibly with the DANCERS around a Maypole. After the applause, the VILLAGERS busy themselves with the sideshows etc, as the KING, QUEEN, PRINCESS and HUMPHREY enter informally DSL.)*

**KING:**           Oh, thank goodness – the village fayre at last!

**QUEEN:**        Yes, we seem to have been driving for hours, Humphrey. Why has it taken so long?

**HUMPHREY:**    I couldn't find the M6, your Majesty, so we had to come down the M3 twice!

**KING:**           Good job we've got a nice new Italian car.

**QUEEN:** *(In disbelief:)* What? A Fiat Tortellini?

**PRINCESS:** Mum wanted a Lamborghini, not a Tortellini!

**KING:** I know, but she said she couldn't wait to see me drive past 'er! *[Pasta!]*  
*(ALL groan.)*

**QUEEN:** And how come we got that puncture, Humphrey?

**HUMPHREY:** Well, I didn't see the fork in the road! *(He holds up a carving or hand-held gardening fork.)*

**KING:** *(Rolling his eyes)* Oh. I don't think I can stand it any longer.

**PRINCESS:** But you can't sack dear old Humphrey, Dad!

**QUEEN:** Well, not here anyway – that would be “funfair dismissal”!

**KING:** Oh, never mind – here we are, the fayre's about to open and Bob's your uncle.

**HUMPHREY:** That's funny – I thought Bob was a builder!

**PRINCESS:** Oh, let's just get on with opening the fayre.  
*(HUMPHREY assumes control, getting the attention of the VILLAGERS.)*

**HUMPHREY:** Villagers of Old Windy Bottom, please greet their Royal Majesties King Crumble, Queen Apricot and the fairest maiden in the land – Princess Charlotte.  
*(Possibly, Music #5 is repeated as ALL re-group to listen to the KING.)*

**KING:** Thank you, Humphrey. *(Addressing the Villagers:)* My dear nobbly men and pheasants ...

**QUEEN:** No, dear – you mean noblemen and peasants.

**KING:** Do I? Oh, let's just call them “my dear Windy Bottomers”! ... Without further ado, it gives me great pleasure to declare your annual village fayre well and truly open.  
*(The VILLAGERS cheer, then return to the business of the fayre US. JACK, having entered USR during the above, now emerges from the crowd and comes DS.)*

**QUEEN:** *(Seeing him)* I say, it's that home-snatcher. *(Jokingly to Jack:)* Come to claim our palace, lad?

**PRINCESS:** *(Excitedly)* Hi Jack!

**HUMPHREY:** *(Running around in a panic)* Hijack! Hijack! Watch out for terrorists! There's been a hijack!

**KING:** *(Intervening)* It's alright, Humphrey, there's nothing to worry about. There, there, dear chap.  
*(HUMPHREY calms down and things return to normal. JACK and the PRINCESS, who have been gazing into each other's eyes, oblivious to the above business, now meet DSC.)*

**JACK:** Why, Princess Charlotte, we meet again.

**KING:** *(To the Queen)* Come on, dear – let's just leave these two alone for a while.  
*(The KING, QUEEN and HUMPHREY drift US and exit SL amongst the activity of the fayre.)*

**PRINCESS:** Oh, Jack, isn't this fun? I've never been to a fayre before.

**JACK:** You don't get out much, do you?

**PRINCESS:** *(Laughingly)* No! ... But I was hoping I might find you here.