

Celebrating Australian Playwriting



Australian Script Centre



Swishwooshtinkle the Windy Wizard

by Bruce Shearer

EXTRACT

© 1994 Bruce Shearer



This script is distributed by The Australian Script Centre
77 Salamanca Place Hobart 7004 Tasmania Australia
email admin@ozscript.org
www.ozscript.org
ph +61 3 6223 4675
fax +61 3 6223 4678

SYNOPSIS

Swishswooshtinkle the Windy Wizard cannot sneeze, an important ability in windy wizardry. He needs to find an assistant who can help him learn to sneeze. He consults the four winds and they tell him **IF YOU NEED AN ASSISTANT, FOR MAGIC AND TRICKS, YOU NEED A YOUNG GIRL, CALLED BELINDA, AGED SIX.** He manages to find just such an assistant, and Belinda tries a number of ingenious plans to make Swishswooshtinkle sneeze, then finally finds that the answer is under their very noses.

CHARACTERS

Swishswooshtinkle the Windy Wizard: Swishswooshtinkle is a happy go lucky casual sort of a wizard, aged 321. He is short and round with a battered pointy hat. He has an ambition to sneeze.

Belinda: Belinda is a confident, assertive, intelligent girl of six who sets out on the task of helping Swishswooshtinkle the Windy Wizard to sneeze, and succeeds.

Four Winds: The four winds, north, south, east and west would be four different colors. They come at Swish's command and help him decide who to select as an assistant.

Cloud: The cloud is a fat, fluffy, sleepy white cloud.

Dolphins: The dolphins are humorous, happy characters who like to sing and bet on the sea horse races.

Caterpillar 1 & 2: The caterpillars are brightly coloured, fluffy and furry. They pride themselves on their abilities to produce sneezes.

Toad, bat & crocodile: These all appear momentarily when the wizard is trying to work out what sort of an assistant he needs.

Ferocious snap dragons, dandelions, and tiger-lilies: The flowers appear momentarily when the wizard is demonstrating his marvellous skills.

SWISHSWOOSHTINKLE THE WINDY WIZARD

Scene 1

(GENTLE WINDY MUSIC. SWISHSWOOSHTINKLE, A SHORT ROUND, WINDY LOOKING WIZARD IN A WIND BATTERED POINTY LOOKING HAT IS STANDING CENTRE STAGE.)

Swish: I'm Swishswooshtinkle the Windy Wizard. A very young wizard indeed. I'm only three hundred and twenty one, which is positively youthful for a wizard, especially a windy wizard.

(SWISH RAISES UP HIS ARMS INTO THE AIR DRAMATICALLY AND THEN CLUTCHES HIS BATTERED, POINTY OLD HAT.)

I'm called Swishswooshtinkle because swish, swoosh and tinkle are some of the sounds that can be heard when I cast one of my windy spells and summon up gusts and gales. I have to be careful that the winds don't blow my hat off!

(SWISH CHANTS/SINGS A WINDY SPELL IN A LOUD MAGICAL VOICE.)

THE WINDS I CALL
I CALL THEM ALL
WHILE SOME ARE BIG
OTHERS ARE SMALL.

(HE BRACES HIMSELF HEROICALLY AGAINST A MIGHTY WIND AND IS THEN ALMOST BLOWN OVER BACKWARDS BY A LIGHT BREEZE BLOWING THE OTHER WAY WHICH BLOWS HIS BATTERED OLD HAT RIGHT OFF. HE QUICKLY RETRIEVES IT AND SQUASHES IT BACK ONTO HIS HEAD.)

(HE THEN LEANS CASUALLY AGAINST THE LIGHT BREEZE AND IS THEN SUDDENLY TURNED ROUND AND ROUND WITH HIS ARMS OUTSTRETCHED LIKE A CLOTHESLINE AT A SUDDEN STRONG GUST.)

SOME WINDS ARE RATHER
MILD I'VE FOUND
WHILE OTHERS TURN ME
RIGHT AROUND.

(STRONGER WINDY SOUNDS. HE DESPERATELY CLUTCHES FOR HIS POINTY OLD HAT WHICH IS RISING UP INTO THE AIR ABOVE HIM. HE LEAPS RIGHT OFF THE GROUND AND JUST MANAGES TO RETRIEVE IT AS IT BEGINS TO DRIFT UP HIGH INTO THE AIR.)

AT MY BATTERED HAT
THEY TUG AND TEAR
THEY BLOW IT HERE
THEY BLOW IT THERE
I'D LIKE TO WEAR IT
ON MY HEAD
BUT IT'S OFTEN SAILING
ROUND INSTEAD.