

DR SMITH'S PUNCH AND JUDY SHOW

A drama of murder and mayhem in eleven scenes.

Dramatis personae

Mr Punch

Judy his wife

The Baby

Joey the Clown

The Blind Man

The Dog

The Policeman

The Spider

The Crocodile

Sausages

Pretty Polly

The Ghost

The Doctor

Jack Ketch the Hangman

The Devil

The Bottler, assistant to the drama

-----Intro-----

Bottler: Wake Up Mr Punch!

(Punch squeaks)

Bottler: Boys and girls, lets shout to wake up Mr Punch... Ready....

WAKE UP MR PUNCH.

What was that? Heh, you can do better than that.

Let's try again... *(Repeat as necessary)*

(Mr Punch squeaks raucously then jumps on playboard, squeaking/singing Pop goes the Weasel.)

-----Scene 1: The Blind Man and the Dog-----

(Joey the Clown goes up.)

Joey: Hi, hi Mr Punch. Boys and girls, I'm Joey the clown, Mr Punch's friend. Now Mr Punch, have you seen a dog?

Punch: No

Joey: Well the blind man has lost his dog, can't find it anywhere.

Punch: What a pity.

Joey. What a pity? Well Mr Punch, if you see the dog let me know. OK, boys and girls? Shout for me Joey if you see a dog.

(Joey goes down. Blind Man goes up, poking around with a white slapstick.)

Blind Man: Oooh, where's my dog? Who's this? *(Whacks Punch with stick).*

Punch: Get away; I haven't seen your dog.

Blind Man: What's this? Is this your nose Mr Punch? *(Pokes Punch in the nose)* Can't miss that, ha, ha.

Punch: *(takes slapstick and hits Blind Man)* Here, take that, go away.

Blind Man: Go away? I can't, I don't have my dog. Help, help, you can't hit me, I'm blind, help, call the policeman (*runs around stage, then goes down, being belabored by Punch and stick.*) Help help.

Punch: That's the way to do it. Pop goes the weasel.

(*Dog barks below.*)

Punch: What's that?

(*Dog goes up, barking.*)

Punch: Pretty doggie.

(*Punch strokes the dog one, twice, three times. The dog bites Punch's hand, then, after three more strokes, his nose. Punch squeaks and get his stick (from below if white slapstick is not around) and whacks dog. Chases dog off the stage with lots of squeaking and barking. Punch ignores children shouting. Punch drops stick.*)

(*Joey comes up.*)

Joey: What's that? Did I hear a dog barking? Boys and girls, did you see a dog?

Punch: No dog. (*Shakes his head vigorously*)

Joey: Boys and girls, Mr Punch says there is no dog here. Oh dear, what will the Blindman do? Mr Punch, are you sure I didn't hear a dog?

Punch: No dog. (*Shakes his head vigorously*)

(*Joey goes down.*)

Scene 2: Judy and the Poor Baby-----
(*Judy comes up.*)

Judy: Hello boys and girls, I'm Judy, Mr Punch's loving wife. I seem to have lost my baby. Boys and girls, have you seen my baby? Mr Punch, have you seen the baby?

Punch: No baby.

Judy: What will we do?

Punch: Kissy kissy. (*Tries to kiss Judy*)

Judy: Oh you awful man, I can't kiss you, your nose is too big. Oh dear, I'll go down and look in the coal cellar for the baby.

(Crocodile pokes up his head and snaps. Punch sings Pop goes the Weasel and bounces around. Croc reappears with the baby in its mouth. Punch tries to pull the baby out of its mouth... one two three, back and forth on the stage. Finally, he gets it free.)

Punch: Poor baby.

(Croc snaps it back. Punch goes down and gets a slapstick, and whacks Croc. Croc drops the baby on the playboard and snaps at Punch, swallows the stick, and then chases Punch down off the stage. Judy comes up.)

Judy: What's going on? Boys and girls, have you seen the baby? Oh my, the poor baby! It doesn't look very well. Mr Punch, come up here, what happened to the baby?

(Punch comes up.)

Punch: The crocodile ate it.

Judy: What, the crocodile ate it? That's terrible. Boys and girls, did the crocodile eat my baby? Oh dear, oh dear.

(Repeat)

Punch: Come here Judy, let's make another one.

(Baby wails.)

Judy: Mr Punch, the baby's woked up. Now I want you to nurse it to sleep.

Punch: I don't want to.

Judy: You don't want to? Rubbish, Mr Punch, face up to your responsibilities. Here, take the baby.

(They toss the baby back and forth a few times. Baby wails.)

Judy: Now nurse it to sleep. Boys and girls make sure Mr Punch does what he is told; if he does not do what he is told shout for me, OK?

(Judy goes down. Punch sings Rock a-bye baby while dancing around with the baby in his arms. He knocks the baby on the playboard and it wails loudly. Repeat. Mr Punch jumps up and down and then throws the baby out of the window.)

Punch: That's the way to do it.

Bottler (*picking up the baby and placing it on the playboard*):
Mr Punch, that's not the way to do it.

(Punch picks up the baby and throws it out again, aiming at the bottler if he can.)

Bottler (*picking up the baby and placing it on the playboard*):
Boys and girls, tell him, that's not the way to do it.

Punch: Oh yes it is.

No it's not!

(Punch sits on the baby and squeaks.)

Punch: I'm babysitting, babysitting.

Bottler: Punch, that's not babysitting, is it, boys and girls?

(Judy comes up.)

Judy: Did I hear my baby crying? Boys and girls, what happened to my baby? It doesn't look very well. What, he threw it out the window?

Punch: No I didn't.

Bottler: Yes you did.

Judy: Mr Punch, you are a very bad man, and I'm going to get the policeman.

(Judy picks up the baby and swats Punch with it. Judy goes down and gets a slapstick and hits Mr Punch.)

Judy: Here take that for hurting my baby.

(Punch wrestles the stick from Judy and hits her.)

Judy: Help, help, Mr Punch, I'm your wife, help, help, police!

(Punch knocks her down on the playboard.)

-----Scene 3: The Policeman-----

Policeman (*below*): Hoi, hoi, hoi, what's going on up there?

(Policeman comes up).

Policeman: Hoi, hoi, what's all this noise, Mr Punch, you can't make all this noise, it's against the law.

Punch: It wasn't me.

Policeman: Boys and girls, was Punch making a lot of noise? What did he do? What, he killed Judy? And the baby?

Punch: I didn't do it.

Bottler: Oh yes you did.

Punch: Oh no I didn't.

(Policeman finds Judy.)

Policeman: What's wrong with Judy?

Punch: She's asleep.

Policeman *(banging Judy on the playboard)*: She's asleep? Judy, wake up. *(Bangs some more)*. Mr Punch, she's not asleep, she's dead.

Punch: What a pity.

Policeman: What a pity? Boys and girls, did Punch kill Judy? Yes? Mr Punch, it's against the law to kill your wife. I'm going to have to arrest you. *(Gets stick)*. Now are you going to come peaceably?

Punch: *(Gets stick)* No.

Bottler: Mr Punch, use words, not your stick.
Boys and girls, tell Punch to use words.

Punch: Go away

(Policeman and Punch fight it out with sticks.)

Policeman: You can't hit me I'm a Policeman.

(Punch eventually knocks the Policeman onto the playboard. Punch sings That's the Way to do It as he tosses the Policeman, then Judy, then the Baby, downstairs with his stick and ends up sitting on the playboard singing.)

-----Scene 4: Spider-----

A spider comes down from the top of the stage, dangling behind Punch. It tickles him. When Punch turns around the spider disappears back up. Repeat three times. Finally Punch sees the spider, squeaks, gets his stick, and with a well-aimed whack sends it out over the top of the proscenium.

-----Scene 5: Sausages-----

(Joey comes up.)

Joey: Well well, it's nice and quiet here. Boys and girls, has Mr Punch been a good boy today? What? He killed Judy? And the policeman?

Punch: I didn't do it.

Joey: You see boys and girls, he didn't do it. So because you have been a good boy, I'm going to get you a present, Mr Punch – a nice string of sausages.

Punch: I like sausages.

(Joey goes down and comes back with a string of sausages (on an elastic band).)

Joey: Here we are Mr Punch. Now I want you to help me break them. Ready to count? One two, three.

(They pull the sausages apart which stretch on the elastic, then they bang their heads back together. Repeat.)

Joey: Oh dear, these must be very old sausages. Oh well, I'll go get the frying pan, Mr Punch, and you make sure nothing happens to the sausages.

(Joey goes down. The croc appears snapping, and grabs the sausages and takes them down. Joes comes up with the frying pan.)

Joey: Where are the sausages, Mr Punch?

Punch: The crocodile ate them.

Joey: What, the crocodile ate them? Is that true, boys and girls? Oh dear, what a pity, what are we going to do with this frying pan?

(Punch picks up the frying pan and hits Joey on the head.)

Joey: You can't do that, Punch, I'm your friend. You'd better get those sausages back or we won't have any supper.

(Joey goes down. The crocodile comes up.)

Punch: Pussy, pussy, pussy *(stroking crocodile's snout.)*

(Crocodile snaps but misses Punch's hand. Punch repeats, the croc snaps again, missing his nose. Punch does it again and this time when the croc opens his mouth Punch wedges a stick in there to pry it open. With much fuss and squeaking Punch retrieves the sausages from the croc's open jaw, and then rides off stage on the croc singing That's the Way to do It.)

-----Scene 6: Pretty Polly-----

(Punch comes up with Joey.)

Joey: There is someone I want you to meet – Pretty Polly. Be nice to her - she doesn't talk much.

Punch: Goodie, goodie.

(Joey goes down and Polly comes up. She is mute. Punch goes down and brings her a (plastic) flower. He dances around with her and then jumps her. Polly pushes him away and runs down.)

Punch: That's the way to do it.

-----Scene 7: The Ghost-----

(Punch is singing on the playboard when the Ghost comes up wailing. Punch does not see it. When he turns around the ghost goes away. Repeat. Finally Punch sees the ghost.)

Ghost: I am the ghost of Judy. I have come to haunt you.

Punch: Go away, I haven't done anything wrong.

(Ghost leans into him, then goes away, wailing. Punch is left lying on the playboard.)

-----Scene 8: The Doctor-----

Punch: Doctor, doctor.

(Doctor comes up.)

Doctor: What's the matter Mr Punch, you look like you have seen a ghost.

Punch: I have.

Doctor: Ho, ho, I don't believe in ghosts. Maybe your heart is broken.

(Doctor leans over Punch who wheezes and squeaks.)

Doctor: No your heart seems to be OK. Maybe your leg is broken.

(Doctor pulls on Punch's leg... one, two, and three... Punch kicks him and sits up.)

Doctor: Mr Punch, you kicked me in the eye.

Punch: What a pity.

Doctor: What a pity? Mr Punch, I have some medicine for you. *(He gets his stick.)* It's called stick. Here, try some *(whack)*. Try some more *(whack)*.

Punch: It gives me a headache.

Doctor: It gives you a headache? That's because you don't take enough of it. Here, have an overdose *(whack)*.

(Punch wrestles the stick away and hits the doctor who runs around before getting knocked down dead.)

Punch: That's the way to do it.

(Punch flips the doctor and goes down.)

-----Scene 9: The Hanging -----

(Jack Ketch from below.)

Ketch: Oi oi, this is enough bad behavior for today, time for Mr Punch to face the music.

(Ketch comes up carrying the gallows which he fixes in the playboard slot. He adjusts the noose.)

Ketch: My name is Jack Ketch and I'm the 'angman and I am going to teach Mr Punch a lesson. Punch, come up 'ere.

Punch *(coming up)*: What's this, a tree?

Ketch: No Mr Punch, it's not a tree, it's a 'anging machine and you are going to try it out. Now Mr Punch, you have been a very bad man today, isn't that right, boys and girls?

Punch: No I haven't.

Bottler: Oh yes you have

Punch: On no I haven't....

Ketch: Mr Punch, you killed the policeman.

Punch: No I didn't.

Ketch: Oh yes you did, didn't he boys and girls? And who killed Judy?

Punch: The Policeman did it.

Ketch: The Policeman did it? I don't think so. And who killed the baby?

Punch: Suicide.

Ketch: Suicide? No Mr Punch, you killed the baby, didn't he boys and girls? All right, I want you to come over here and put your 'ead in this 'ere loop. Come on. (*He drags Punch over to the noose.*) Now put your 'ead in 'ere. No not your nose, your 'ead. No not your 'ump, your 'ead.

Punch: I don't know how to do it.

Ketch: You don't know how to do it. Why not?

Punch: I've never done it before.

Ketch: Oh, I see. You've never done it before? In that case I'll have to show you how to do it. Shall I show him how to do it, boys and girls? It's very easy, you put your 'ead in 'ere like this and then you say in a very serious voice, Ladies and Gentl'men, boys and girls...

Punch: Ladies and Gentl'men, boys and girls... (*Pulls the noose and Ketch swings.*)

Joey comes up.

Joey: Hi Mr Punch, I see you have a man hanging up to dry. (*Pushes Ketch*). Why he's dried quite dead. Better get him down before he catches cold. Let me get a box for him.

(*They unhook Ketch, lay him out, and Joey goes down and brings back up a coffin labeled "recycling". They bundle him in.*)

Joey: There we are, made to measure. I'll go get a pall.

(He goes down and brings up a black pall with which they cover the box. No matter if Ketch's foot is hanging out. They hoist the box on their shoulders and take Ketch down singing Pop Goes the Weasel.)

-----Scene 10: The Devil-----

Punch is back singing when the Devil comes up behind.

Devil: Mr Punch, I have come to take you away to a bad place.

Punch: I don't want to go.

Devil: You don't want to go? Too late. Nobody can resist me.

(He gets a stick and starts to hit Punch. Punch gets another stick and they fight. Eventually the Devil hits Punch down to the playboard and laughs.)

Devil: Hah, hah, got you now you bad man. *(Pokes Punch)*. Come with me. *(Punch plays dead for a bit, but then springs back up, grabs the Devil's stick, and beats him and knocks him down below while squeaking and singing.)*

Punch: That's the way to do it.

-----Scene 11: Envoi-----

Joey comes up.

Joey: What's the matter, Punch, you look like you've seen the devil.

Punch: No I didn't.

Joey: Oh well, I think that's it all for today. Everyone else is dead. So say goodbye to the boys and girls, Punch. Goodbye all!

Punch: Pop goes the Weasel. Bye, bye.

----- CURTAIN -----

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