

Day 2

[Elanor enters left and heads to the store area. Snowball enters. Deputies enter left and go to store and restaurant area. Then Dan enters right and moves to the front of the stage.]

Dan: I can't believe that Sheriff Bill is alive. This is such wonderful news. I need to tell my friends! But I have to be careful. Sheriff Grimes said he and his deputies will lock up anyone who talks about Sheriff Bill. Not to mention, I never did move that statue or serve Grimes at his party last night. I'll need to sneak around.

[Dan sneaks over to Snowball. Deputy 1 brings his plate over to Snowball.]

Deputy 1: Cat! These eggs aren't cooked right! [He throws his plate behind the puppet stage.]

Snowball: I'm s-s-s-sooooo s-s-s-s-sorry!

Deputy 1: Don't let it happen again, or you'll be cooking your next meal from the jailhouse kitchen. Get me another!

Snowball: Yes sir, I'm so sorry. [Deputy 1 sits at a table. She notices Dan. She whispers.] Dan! What are you doing here? Grimes and his deputies are looking everywhere for you! They're really mad about last night!

Dan: Well it's a good thing we won't have to worry about them much longer. I have good news, Snowball. Sheriff Bill is alive! And he's coming back to rescue us!

Snowball: Shhhh! Are you crazy? Not so loud! The deputies are throwing anyone in jail who mentions Sher... who mentions *his* name.

Dan: But we don't have to be afraid of them anymore. Didn't you hear what I said? He's coming back for us! He's going to get rid of Grimes and his gang and bring us to a new town where we'll be safe forever!

Snowball: That's crazy talk! You know what happened to him. We all do!

Dan: But it's true. I saw it with my own eyes.

Snowball: Maybe you did, but... [She sees Deputy 1 coming toward them] Dan get down! [He ducks.]

Deputy 1: Hey Cat, get me some more water! [He aggressively throws his cup at her, laughs, and walks back to his table. Dan gets back up.]

Snowball: That was close! Anyway, even if you're right, following Sheriff Bill would be too dangerous. What if we got caught? We would get in big trouble!

Dan: But Snowball...

Deputy 1: [Interrupting] Hey Cat, where's my water?

Snowball: Coming! [To Dan] Look, I can't be seen here with you. I wish I could join you and follow Sheriff Bill, but it's just not safe. I'm sorry, but I need you to leave. You should be able to go out the side door without anyone noticing.

[Dan moves around the side of the stage and goes to the front.]

Dan: I can't believe Snowball is too afraid to believe the good news! I need to tell the others. They need to know that Sheriff Bill is coming back to set us free! I'll go see Elanor next. [He goes over to Elanor's shop.] Hello Elanor!

Elanor: Dan, aren't you the talk of the town today! I heard you skipped Grimes' party last night. Looks like you're in for some trouble.

Dan: Not for long, I have some good news: Sheriff Bill is alive, and he's coming to rescue us!

Elanor: Oh dear, you must have been out in the sun for too long. Bill, here? That's impossible. Grimes made sure he ain't never coming back! Speaking of Grimes, you better watch out, here comes one of his men!

[Deputy 2 comes over to Elanor. Dan hides behind a shelf.]

Deputy 2: Where do y'all keep the dynamite?

Elanor: It's over in the next aisle.

[Deputy 2 moves over to the other side of the rack. Dan comes out of hiding.]

Dan: Those guys give me the creeps!

Elanor: I don't get what your problem is with Grimes anyway. Things aren't so bad. Sure the deputies are a little rough around the edges, and maybe the chores seem a bit unfair, but business at my shop has been booming since they got here. [She sees Deputy 2 approaching] Look out!

[Deputy 2 approaches holding a rope. Dan tries to quickly disguise himself.]

Deputy 2: How much for this?

Elanor: That will be \$30.

Deputy 2: I'll give you ten.

Elanor: I'm sorry sir, I'll only sell it for \$30.

Deputy 2: I wasn't asking. Hey, that guys wasn't here a minute ago...

Elanor: That's... that's... my mannequin.

[Deputy 2 examines Dan closely.]

Deputy 2: A mannequin, huh? Hmm... okay. Anyway, I'll catch you later. [He starts to exit.]

Elanor: Ahem... aren't you going to pay for that?

Deputy 2: And what if I don't? [He pauses, then throws the money at her.] Here, take your money! [He exits left.]

[Elanor picks up the money.]

Elanor: 24, 25... Hey, you still owe me \$5!

Dan: Still think these guys aren't so bad?

Elanor: Actually, that rope was only \$15. I'm doing just fine.

Dan: But you have to admit, things were better with Sheriff Bill.

Elanor: Maybe they were, maybe they weren't. It doesn't matter. Sheriff Bill is gone. If you want to make-believe that he's out there and coming back to save us, then good for you.

Dan: But it's not make-believe! It's true! I saw him! He's coming to rescue us, and we need to be ready!

Elanor: And I'm fine with you thinking it, I just don't believe it's actually possible. And even if it was, what does it matter? I'm doing fine. [Deputy 1 enters the shop area.] You might want to get going though. I don't think your mannequin trick will work twice in a row.

[Dan moves to the center of the stage. All exit behind him.]

Dan: Why won't my friends believe me? I'm trying to tell them the good news, but Snowball is too afraid and Elanor doesn't seem to mind Sheriff Grimes. I need to talk to my sister. She'll believe me!

[Dan exits left, Daisy and Grimes enter right. Daisy is scrubbing the floors.]

Grimes: What's taking so long? This floor is still filthy!

Daisy: I'm sorry sir. I'm doing my best!

Grimes: Not good enough. It must be this plant you brought with you. It's getting dirt everywhere.

Daisy: You mean the flower my brother bought me for my birthday last year? I promise you it's not that. I take extra good care of it to make sure I don't spill any of the dirt.

[Grimes knocks the flower over.]

Grimes: Whoops, guess I wasn't quite as careful with it.

Daisy: [Running over to the plant] My flower!

Grimes: This floor better be spotless by the time I'm back here in 5 minutes or that plant will be the least of your worries. [He exits right.]

Daisy: [Visibly upset] This is all so wrong! Why does it have to be this way? Why does Grimes have to ruin everything?

[Dan enters left.]

Dan: Daisy?

Daisy: Dan is that you? [He runs over to her and gives her a hug.] I was so worried about you! After you skipped Grimes' party last night, I was worried he had done something awful to you. Where have you been?

Dan: Daisy, I have the most amazing news. Sheriff Bill is alive, and he's coming back to rescue us!

Daisy: He is?

Dan: Yes, I saw him with my own eyes. He's going to come here, defeat Grimes, and bring us to the town he's building, where we'll be safe forever! He even gave me this badge to show I'm on his side. Now I know this all sounds crazy, but...

Daisy: The only thing that sounds crazy is continuing to follow Grimes. Do you have another one of those badges?

Dan: I sure do. [He hands her a badge.] Welcome aboard, Deputy Daisy! Now let's get out of here. We have a lot of work to do.

[They exit left.]