Alice in Cyberland

A VIRTUAL CONTEMPORARY ADAPTATION

BY MARK LANDON SMITH
A Virtual Contemporary Adaptation

By Mark Landon Smith

© Copyright 2020, Pioneer Drama Service, Inc.

Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that a royalty must be paid for every live, pre-recorded, virtual, or online performance, whether or not admission is charged. All inquiries regarding rights—including but not limited to amateur, professional, radio broadcast, internet, television, cable, motion picture, live streaming, public reading, and translation into a foreign language—should be addressed to Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., PO Box 4267, Englewood, CO 80155.

No live, pre-recorded, virtual, or online performance, broadcast, reading, or presentation of any kind, in whole or in part, may be given without permission from Pioneer Drama Service, Inc.

These rights are fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and of all countries covered by the Universal Copyright Convention or with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, including Canada, Mexico, Australia, and all nations of the United Kingdom.

ONE SCRIPT OR E-SCRIPT PER CAST MEMBER MUST BE PURCHASED FOR PRODUCTION RIGHTS.

PHOTOCOPYING, REPRODUCING, EMAILING, OR DISTRIBUTING ALL OR ANY PART OF THIS BOOK WITHOUT PERMISSION IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN BY LAW.

On all paper and digital programs, printing, and advertising, the following information must appear:

1. The full title: Alice in Cyberland
2. Writing credit: By Mark Landon Smith
3. Publication notice: “Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, Colorado”
ABOUT VIRTUAL THEATRE

Virtual theatre is a new and exciting art form that is just beginning to evolve and reveal its potential. Just a short time ago, no one would have conceived of trying to perform a scene, let alone an entire play, with every actor isolated in their own home. And yet, it’s happening… with surprisingly positive results.

This play is written specifically for the characters to be communicating electronically, without face-to-face dialogue, yet still interacting with each other in real time. This unique quality creates the ideal scenario to perform them on Zoom, Google Meet, or a similar digital platform.

Even though the audience will be watching the performance on a screen, this is still a theatrical play, not a screen play for a movie. Cinematic elements such as camera angles, shifts in lighting, elaborate sets, and close-ups on an actor’s facial expressions are beyond most people’s skills. Yet these productions are like movies in that the camera becomes a tool that helps us create our characters. As actors, we need to learn to play to that, even as we sit in front of our laptops.

By necessity, blocking is quite limited in virtual theatre, elevating body language—facial expressions, gestures, posture, and body positions—to a heightened level of importance. For instance, facing the camera directly is the strongest body position, but this should never be a static pose. You can create a more nuanced performance by adopting other positions, such as a one-quarter front position, facing partially left or right. If two actors face one another in full profile on the screen, it will create the sense that they are sharing the scene. For even more dramatic effect, a three-quarter back position so that only your shoulder and one side of your head is visible can suggest weakness, hurt, or anger. Of course, standing is always an option, too.

Clearly, virtual theatre is far more than storytelling on camera, and there’s a world of acting still to be done to add depth and meaning to the words you’re speaking, even without a traditional stage.

Want more tips and suggestions? Pioneer Drama is proud to offer you a complimentary copy of A How-To Guide for Virtual Theatre. Download it now for free at www.pioneerdrama.com/pdf/VT_HowTo.pdf
ALICE IN CYBERLAND
A virtual contemporary adaptation

By MARK LANDON SMITH

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(In Order of Appearance)

ALICE ...................................hungry, modern-day teen who’s tired of online homework 112
WHITE RABBIT.....................busybody in too much of a hurry to help 35
CHESHIRE CAT...................used to do stand-up comedy 35
CATERPILLAR .....................chill but directionless café owner awaiting metamorphosis 22
DUCHESS .........................the queen’s BFF 19
MAD HATTER......................peremptory party person 19
MARCH HARE .....................another partier 7
QUEEN OF HEARTS.............harsh ruler and cruel card cheat 45

SETTING

Time: The present.
Place: Cyberland, which is much like Wonderland, only online.

SET DESCRIPTION

ALICE should have a stack of textbooks next to her and should be using a computer with a mouse rather than a tablet or a phone. As much as possible, MAD HATTER and MARCH HARE should appear to be together, with stacks of dirty dishes—particularly teacups and saucers—in the background.
ALICE IN CYBERLAND

Before CAMERA ON, ALICE’S FRAME appears but remains dark. AUDIO ONLY, as TYPING and MOUSE CLICKING can be heard.

ALICE: (Calls out.) Tell Mom I’m in my room doing my homework! And I want chicken nuggets for dinner! (CAMERA ON ALICE. She is clearly unhappy and sits beside a stack of books. To herself.) I hate homework! I’d rather be taking a big ol’ nap. (Sighs.) Well, let’s get to it. The homework, that is. Not the nap. (Reads from the screen.) “Please read and review chapters three, five, and seven, and—” Oh, I am so bored! (Takes a moment.) Okay, Alice, focus! Perhaps literature isn’t the best thing to start out with. (Thinks.) Math! You like math. (Types and clicks to find the math assignment.) Let’s do some math. Okay... Here we go. (Reads.) “Please solve the following. Aaron’s candy container is twenty centimeters tall, ten centimeters long, and ten centimeters wide. Bruce’s container is twenty-five centimeters tall, nine centimeters long, and nine centimeters wide. Based on volume, whose container can hold more candy?” (Types in an answer.) “The. Bigger. One.” Submit. Now, on to history. (Pulls up the history assignment.) Ah! And here we go. (Reads.) “The Scientific Revolution represented a shift in thinking in a handful of academics in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries. Each of these scientists were products of their own cultural traditions and modes of thought.” (Slows down, less enthusiastic.) “From our modern perspective, they held on to some mystical ideas that we would identify as ‘medieval.’ However, their discoveries...” (Yawns, bored and sleepy.) “…paved the way for a more rational understanding of the universe and for the development of the scientific method...” Ugh, I’m so bored! And sleepy. Focus! (Beat.) What I need to focus myself is a red-hot game of solitaire. Okay... here we go. (Pulls up solitaire and starts to play but yawns and grows increasingly tired.) Red two on black three. Joker on red ten. Red queen on... so sleepy... (Slumps over her pile of books, fast asleep. She snores. A moment later, CAMERA ON WHITE RABBIT, who taps on the screen to wake ALICE.)


ALICE: (Stirs a bit and then comes to, groggy.) Is it morning already?

WHITE RABBIT: (Taps the screen.) Maryann?! Wake up!

ALICE: Huh? Who’s Maryann and who’s... you?
WHITE RABBIT: Who’s me? Who’s you? Who’s you is Maryann. Who’s me is the white rabbit.

ALICE: Obviously, I am not a Maryann! I mean, look at me? Do I look like a Maryann? I thought rabbits were supposed to have good eyesight.

WHITE RABBIT: I’m not wearing my contacts.

ALICE: Are your eyes pink?

WHITE RABBIT: Some rabbits have pink eye.

ALICE: Wait a second! Why am I talking to a rabbit? And what are you doing in my computer? How did you get in my computer?

WHITE RABBIT: Your computer? How did you get into my computer?

ALICE: Did you hack into my computer?

WHITE RABBIT: Did you hack into my computer?

ALICE/WHITE RABBIT: I must be dreaming. (ALICE and WHITE RABBIT stare at each other for a moment.)

WHITE RABBIT: I was playing a perfectly lovely game of solitaire when I drew the red queen and—

ALICE: Wait a second! I was putting off my homework and playing a game of solitaire when I drew the red queen and...

WHITE RABBIT: Well... see ya. (Reaches as if to turn camera off.)

ALICE: Wait!

WHITE RABBIT: Oh, no. Can’t. Sorry. Late. (Again, reaches to turn camera off.)


WHITE RABBIT: Look, I can’t stay and chat! I’m late and the queen is going to have my head! It’s in the cards. Text me!

ALICE: What are you talking about? What about my computer? What did you do to it?! (WHITE RABBIT turns CAMERA OFF.) Wait! I have, like, so many questions. So many—

WHITE RABBIT: (CAMERA ON.) Sorry. I don’t know anything about your computer. Only Cyberland’s Queen of Hearts can help you because she knows everything about everything. Go see her! (CAMERA OFF.)

ALICE: Wait! I can’t do my homework if I can’t access my computer! Wait! (Pounds the keys, panicked.) Control-alt-delete, control-alt-delete... Shut down! Reboot!

CHESHIRE CAT: (CAMERA ON.) I wouldn’t do that if I were you. (ALICE stares in disbelief.) Oh, I forgot. Meow.

ALICE: “Meow”?

CHESHIRE CAT: I mean... meeeooowww. I’m a cool cat, you see.
ALICE: Wait a second! I was just talking to a rabbit, and now I’m
talking to a cat?

CHESHIRE CAT: I am the always-smiling, ever-beguiling, Cheshire Cat.
Do you like cats?

ALICE: The musical?

CHESHIRE CAT: The animal.

ALICE: Yeah… I do. Sure. Why not?

CHESHIRE CAT: You don’t sound very enthusiastic.

ALICE: Oh, sorry. I’m just frustrated because something has taken
over my computer, and I can’t get my homework done, and I’m
going to be in big trouble.

CHESHIRE CAT: Do you have talking cats where you’re from? I’m just
wondering because you don’t seem particularly bothered by the
fact I’m a talking cat. A cat. Talking. Hello? (ALICE doesn’t react.)

ALICE: I just had a deep but confusing conversation with a babbling
rabbit. Nothing surprises me. So, what do you do here in this...
Where am I?

CHESHIRE CAT: Cyberland.

ALICE: Great, well, I’ll make it quick. I am trying to find the Queen
of Hearts.

CHESHIRE CAT: Why?

ALICE: To help me regain control of my computer.

CHESHIRE CAT: Why?

ALICE: So I can do my homework.

CHESHIRE CAT: Why?

ALICE: So I don’t get into trouble.

CHESHIRE CAT: Why?

ALICE: So I can— Stop that! Do you know where the Queen of Hearts
is or not?

CHESHIRE CAT: Maybe. (Beat.) But you don’t want to meet her.

ALICE: I kind of do.

CHESHIRE CAT: No, you don’t.

ALICE: I kind of think I do. Kind of think I need to.

CHESHIRE CAT: But you see, she doesn’t like people. If I were you,
I would avoid the Queen of Hearts. Or as I like to call her, the
“Mean of Hearts.” (Guffaws.) I know! It’s funny! I used to do a bit
of stand-up. (Beat.) Well, I hope this was helpful. I’ve got to go.
Meow! Remember not to litter! Get it? I’m a cat, and I’m talking about “litter”? *(Laughs at own joke, then CAMERA OFF.)*

**ALICE:** Wait! Where are you going?! You didn’t tell me anything! Wait! *(Beat.) Man, I’m hungry.

**CATERPILLAR:** *(FRAME appears but remains dark. AUDIO ONLY.)*

Greetings, human one.

**ALICE:** What? Who said that?

**CATERPILLAR:** *(CAMERA ON.)* I did. Welcome, my cosmic sister and life sojourner, to the Caterpillar Café. What can I get you?

**ALICE:** *(Frazzled.)* The Caterpillar Café? I’m confused. Just a moment ago I was talking to... a... rabbit. *(Beat.) And then a cat.

**CATERPILLAR:** Hey, you look frazzled. Slow down. Lay back. Breathe. Get into the groove. Go with the flow. I am a caterpillar.

**ALICE:** Yes, I know.

**CATERPILLAR:** How do you know that?

**ALICE:** Because I’m smart.

**CATERPILLAR:** That’s an odd name.

**ALICE:** No, my name is Alice. I am smart.

**CATERPILLAR:** Far out. And cool beans. Which is on today’s menu?

**ALICE:** How do you serve food... through a computer?

**CATERPILLAR:** We use a delivery service. Food Movers.

**ALICE:** What do they do?

**CATERPILLAR:** They move food. You’re not very smart.

**ALICE:** You’re not very nice.

**CATERPILLAR:** Yeah, sorry about that. I’m a little grumpy. Impatient. But it won’t be long before I’ll be a beautiful butterfly soaring among the clouds. High. Up there. Above. In the heavenly plane.

**ALICE:** It’s called a chrysalis. You’ll turn into a chrysalis first and then into a butterfly.

**CATERPILLAR:** How do you know that?

**ALICE:** I learned it in school. I told you I’m very smart. *(Gets an idea.)* Hey, do you have tacos? I’m hungry!

**CATERPILLAR:** Peace, little one. Peace. Your aura is coming through a dirty brown. Where’s my smudge stick? *(Looks around, then back to the screen as ALICE looks confused.)* Tell me, why do you stare?

**ALICE:** Oh, I’m sorry. I don’t mean to be rude. I’ve never met a caterpillar before. I mean, a talking caterpillar.

**CATERPILLAR:** Well that’s, like... groovy. Where did you come from?

**ALICE:** From my laptop?
CATERPILLAR: Right on.

ALICE: I was trying to do my homework—well, playing solitaire, really, and I was looking for the Queen of Hearts. Then—bam!—a rabbit, a smiley cat, and now a crazy caterpillar show up! I need to find the Queen of Hearts so I can get control of my computer and get my homework done! (Beat.) And maybe win solitaire. And I’m tired of explaining this!

CATERPILLAR: If you meet the queen, you will be “deleted.”

ALICE: Meaning?

CATERPILLAR: It means what it means.

ALICE: Can you at least point me in the direction of the Queen of Hearts?

CATERPILLAR: Up.

ALICE: Up?

CATERPILLAR: Down.

ALICE: Down?

CATERPILLAR: And all around.

ALICE: All around?

CATERPILLAR: Wherever you go, heads up and beware! For the Queen of Hearts is everywhere!

ALICE: (Frustrated.) You are impossible! I’m out of here. Ciao!

CATERPILLAR: Pleasant journeys and Godspeed. Oh, and let me know where to send the cool beans. And do you want slaw with that? (CAMERA OFF as CHESHIRE CAT’S CAMERA turns ON.)

ALICE: There you are! Where did you disappear to?

CHESHIRE CAT: Sorry. It was time for my cat nap! (Laughs.) You know I used to do stand-up, right?

ALICE: Yeah, you told me. What’s up?

CHESHIRE CAT: The duchess just send me a text.

ALICE: A texting duchess?! Does she know the queen? I need to text her.

CHESHIRE CAT: Yeah, sure. Do that. But I must warn you, if you do, it could be a real cat-astrophe! (ALICE doesn’t laugh.) Nothing? Really? That’s comedy gold! Okay, well, gotta go. Good luck!

ALICE: No! Wait! You dumped me last time! You can’t run out on me again.

CHESHIRE CAT: (In a “fading” voice.) Watch me…

ALICE: Why are you talking like that?

CHESHIRE CAT: (Fading voice,) Because it’s cool and effective… (CAMERA OFF as DUCHESS’S CAMERA turns ON.)
ALICE: Oh, hi! Are you the duchess?

DUCHESS: You bet your sweet duchy I am.

ALICE: Do you know the queen?

DUCHESS: The queen?! Of course I know the queen! The queen and I are BFFs! We’re inseparable! We are constantly together except for this very moment. (Beat.) Because she’s not here. But if she were here, she’d be here and if I were there, I’d be there, and we’d be BFFs. So… there. (Beat.) In fact, I am to play solitaire with the queen this very day. Jealous?

ALICE: May I play, too? I need to speak with the queen.

DUCHESS: Hmmm… I don’t know. Can you play solitaire?

ALICE: Only by myself. But I’m not very good. I need help with the execution.

DUCHESS: The queen is the best at that. I must get ready to play solitaire with the queen.

ALICE: Me, too!

DUCHESS: I wouldn’t if I were you. Toodles.

ALICE: Okay… bye.

DUCHESS: No! Toodles is my pet pig’s name. (CAMERA OFF.)

CHESHIRE CAT: (CAMERA ON. Speaks again in a “fading” voice.) I’m back… I forgot my cat nip…

ALICE: Hey, you! I am going to play solitaire with the Queen of Hearts.

CHESHIRE CAT: (Speaking normally.) I suppose it’s no use telling you not to?

ALICE: Nope. Wasting your time and your Wi-Fi. Now, how do I get there? What’s the app?

CHESHIRE CAT: I enjoy a basket of fries.

ALICE: What?


ALICE: You are absolutely no help.

CHESHIRE CAT: (Reverts to the fading voice again.) But I’m cute…! Don’t forget that I’m cute…!

ALICE: The jury is still out on that one! You’re leaving again, aren’t you?

CHESHIRE CAT: (Still fading.) Yes… How did you know…?

ALICE: I could hear it in your voice. Literally. Ciao!

CHESHIRE CAT: (Fades off.) Arrivederci…! (CAMERA OFF.)

ALICE: I wonder if a map app would help?
MAD HATTER: (CAMERA ON.) One lump or two?
MARCH HARE: (CAMERA ON.) Three!
MAD HATTER: You can’t have three.
MARCH HARE: Why not?
MAD HATTER: Because I only offered two. One lump or two?
ALICE: Excuse me?
MAD HATTER: (To ALICE.) No room! No room! Or bandwidth.
ALICE: There’s plenty of room and bandwidth!
MARCH HARE: Have some chocolate?
ALICE: I don’t see any chocolate.
MARCH HARE: There isn’t any!
ALICE: Then it wasn’t very polite of you to offer.
MAD HATTER: It wasn’t very polite of you to turn your camera on when you weren’t invited.
ALICE: Huh? You interrupted me!
MAD HATTER: You need a haircut! Or perhaps a side ponytail.
ALICE: Hey! You shouldn’t make personal remarks. It’s rude!
MAD HATTER: Look who’s talking about being rude, Miss Uninvited! Why is a chicken like a pencil?
ALICE: A riddle? I hate riddles!
MAD HATTER: My cyber party, my cyber rules. Why is a clock like a bottle of milk?
ALICE: What happened to the pencil and the chicken?
MAD HATTER: The chicken left. Pay attention! Have you guessed the riddle yet?
ALICE: I give up. What’s the answer?
MAD HATTER: Don’t know.
MARCH HARE: Me either.
ALICE: You should find something better to do with your time than asking riddles you don’t know the answer to. And your place is a mess!
MAD HATTER: We’ve not time to wash the dishes. Now who is making personal remarks?
MARCH HARE: The queen approacheth!
MAD HATTER: Turn off your camera before she sees you!
ALICE: But I want to meet her!
MAD HATTER: What? Are you cray-cray?
QUEEN: (CAMERA ON. MAD HATTER and MARCH HARE cower and turn CAMERAS OFF.) Off with their heads! And down with their internet!
ALICE: Okay, suddenly those warnings are starting to make sense.
CHESHIRE CAT: (CAMERA ON.) See, I warned you!
ALICE: (To CHESHIRE CAT.) Where have you been?
CHESHIRE CAT: Oh, just cattin’ around. (Laughs.) I used to—
ALICE: —do stand-up. Yes, I know. (QUEEN finally notices ALICE.)
QUEEN: How did you log on here?
ALICE: Honestly, I haven’t any idea! Computers confuse me. Can you help me get control of my computer again?
QUEEN: We should pay solitaire together. That’s an order! You do know how to play, don’t you?
ALICE: A little.
QUEEN: Off with her head and down with her internet! (CAMERA OFF.)
ALICE: She’s kind of fond of saying that. But now there’s no one left to play solitaire with.
CHESHIRE CAT: You play?
ALICE: I stink at it. The worst. I play a mean Candy Crush, though.
CHESHIRE CAT: It’s good you stink at solitaire because the queen will want to win. (CAMERA OFF.)
ALICE: Where’d you—? Gone, again. That cat totally freaks me out. (WHITE RABBIT’S CAMERA turns ON.) Oh. Hello, again.
WHITE RABBIT: Why, yes. It is a lovely day.
ALICE: Uh, okay... Listen, I need for you to put in a good word for me with the queen
WHITE RABBIT: (Confused.) Uh... Do I know you?
ALICE: Yeah! Don’t you remember?
WHITE RABBIT: ’Fraid not. I’ve got nothing. So, how have you been?
QUEEN: (CAMERA ON.) Where’s the Duchess?
DUCHESS: (CAMERA ON.) Sorry I’m late. I kept getting bumped offline.
QUEEN: Off with her— (To DUCHESS.) Oh, there you are.
ALICE: Excuse me, your majesty, but I have a special favor to ask of you. I really need to get control of my computer so I can finish my homework, and—
QUEEN: Let’s play solitaire! (Starts clicking her mouse furiously.)
ALICE: Wait, what?
QUEEN: I win!
DUCHESS: Well done, Your Majesty!
QUEEN: Yeah, well, I’m good.
ALICE: But we haven’t even played!
QUEEN: Off with their heads and down with their internet! (Plays again, clicking furiously.)
WHITE RABBIT: Oh, dear. (CAMERA OFF.)
DUCHESS: What? Again?! He needs a new router.
CHESHIRE CAT: (CAMERA ON.) Meow.
ALICE: (To CHESHIRE CAT.) What are you doing here?
CHESHIRE CAT: How’s it going?
ALICE: I’m not getting any help from the queen. She’s too busy with her stupid game.
QUEEN: (Pauses her playing. To ALICE.) Who is that you’re talking to? And who said you could talk?
ALICE: Um… this is a friend of mine. When he’s not disappearing.
QUEEN: (To CHESIRE CAT.) You may send me a smiling emoji with a heart to prove your devotion.
CHESHIRE CAT: I’d rather not. How about a salsa dancing girl instead?
QUEEN: (Enraged.) Off with her head! And freeze their screens!
DUCHESS: Oh! Your Majesty!
QUEEN: Off with your—! Wait, what is it?
DUCHESS: You seem to have lost the game!
QUEEN: (Peers at the screen.) How is that possible? I never lose because I always cheat!
DUCHESS: It seems when you paused your game, someone logged on and took over!
WHITE RABBIT: (CAMERA ON.) Your Majesty! Something terrible has happened!
QUEEN: Off with her— What? (DUCHESS turns CAMERA OFF.)
WHITE RABBIT: Someone has stolen your password!
QUEEN: The password I just changed for the four-hundredth time because I can’t ever remember it?
WHITE RABBIT: Yes, Your Majesty!
QUEEN: (Manic.) No. No! No, no, no! Not my password! My lovely, precious, clever password! My… sweet… password… (Sobs a bit. Then, angry.) That Alice person did it! I know it!
ALICE: (To CHESHIRE CAT.) She thinks I stole her password!
CHESHIRE CAT: Somebody’s internet is going to get turned off because of this!
ALICE: Yeah! Mine!
DUCHESS: (CAMERA ON.) There you are!
ALICE: She thinks I stole her password!

DUCHESS: Too late! The trial is starting!

WHITE RABBIT: (CAMERA ON.) The trial’s beginning!

ALICE: Trial? What trial?

DUCHESS: Your trial! For stealing the queen’s password!

ALICE: But I didn’t...! Oh, rabbit, please help me! (WHITE RABBIT doesn’t respond.) Where’s that stupid cat?

WHITE RABBIT: We will now hear the case of the stolen password. The plaintiff, our lovely and benevolent Queen of Hearts. The defendant, a thieving human who pretends to be ginger and spice and everything nice. But is she? Let’s tune in and find out!

QUEEN: Look at the guilty look on her face! Look!

DUCHESS: (To ALICE.) How do you plead?

ALICE: Innocent!

QUEEN: You stole my wonderfully clever password!

ALICE: I didn’t! I just want to get control of my computer and get my homework done!

QUEEN: Be quiet! (Clicks her mouse.) I am sending you a “shushing” GIF!

DUCHESS: Don’t worry. You’ll have a fair trial.

QUEEN: And then you’ll be found guilty!

ALICE: That isn’t fair!

DUCHESS: (Shrugs.) I don’t have a problem with it. It’s okay by me. (CAMERA OFF.)

WHITE RABBIT: And now introducing the jury... the caterpillar!

CATERPILLAR: (CAMERA ON.) I don’t think she looks guilty.

QUEEN: You’re right. She looks very guilty. You may turn off your camera until called upon. (CATERPILLAR turns CAMERA OFF. To ALICE.) Why did you steal my password?

ALICE: I didn’t! How can I get control of my computer again?

QUEEN: You can’t!

ALICE: Never? Never ever?

QUEEN: I mean you can’t get information from me!

ALICE: You won’t tell me?

QUEEN: That’s right! It’s time for the trial to begin. White Rabbit! Read the accusation!

WHITE RABBIT: (Reads from a notebook.) The queen’s password was stolen.

QUEEN: Jury, consider your verdict!

WHITE RABBIT: No! Not yet! There’s a great deal to come before that!
QUEEN: Text the first witness!

WHITE RABBIT: The Mad Hatter!

MAD HATTER: *(CAMERA ON.)* My apologies for being late. I was downloading tea recipes.

QUEEN: Did you see Alice steal my password?

MAD HATTER: I don’t know, really. It all depends upon what you define as “seeing.”

QUEEN: Did you see Alice with your pupils?

MAD HATTER: I don’t have any pupils.

QUEEN: You don’t have any pupils? How can one with eyes not have any pupils?

MAD HATTER: I don’t teach. *(Beat.)* No, I didn’t see Alice steal your password, as I was much too busy serving tea and no one had a device and the topic of passwords never came up! It was a tea party. Not an I.T. party!

QUEEN: If that’s all you know, you may turn off your camera.

MAD HATTER: Yes! *(CAMERA OFF.)*

QUEEN: Call the next witness.

WHITE RABBIT: Alice!

ALICE: Moi?

WHITE RABBIT: Explain why you stole the queen’s password.

ALICE: I didn’t! I’ve never even seen it!

QUEEN: Ah, yes... that’s very important.

WHITE RABBIT: I think Your Majesty means unimportant...

QUEEN: How many letters are in my password?

ALICE: I don’t know because I didn’t see it.

QUEEN: Jury, consider your verdict!

WHITE RABBIT: More evidence, Your Majesty! I just picked up this piece of paper. *(Shows a folded piece of paper.)*

QUEEN: What’s on it?

WHITE RABBIT: I haven’t read it yet.

QUEEN: It must be my password!

WHITE RABBIT: *(Unfolds the paper.)* There’s nothing on it at all.

ALICE: I didn’t write anything to anybody!

QUEEN: A likely story.

ALICE: It’s true!

QUEEN: That only makes the matter worse. You must have been up to some kind of trouble, or you would have written something! This proves guilt! So, off with—!
ALICE: It doesn’t prove anything! If there’s nothing written on the paper, then there’s nothing there!

WHITE RABBIT: Let the jury consider their verdict.

QUEEN: No! Sentence first, verdict after.

ALICE: That’s not right!

QUEEN: Mute yourself!

ALICE: I won’t! This is the dumbest trial I ever head of! And I watch Judge Judy!

QUEEN: Somebody stole my password!

WHITE RABBIT: Wasn’t me!

QUEEN: (Shrugs.) Therefore, Alice, you’re guilty.

ALICE: I’m not!

QUEEN: Off with your head! And down with your internet! (DUCHESS, MAD HATTER, and CHESHIRE CAT turn CAMERAS ON.)

DUCHESS: Off with your head!

MAD HATTER: Down with your internet!

WHITE RABBIT: Off with your head!

CHESHIRE CAT: Down with your internet!

ALICE: Stop! All of you stop! You’re not real. You’re not real at all. You’re nothing but a bunch of videos! Just go away! (ALL CAMERAS OFF except for ALICE. Upon seeing she’s alone, she takes a deep breath and reads from her monitor.) “To update, please restart computer and enter password.” (ALICE types then smiles wide.) I’m in! I’m in! Now I can finish my homework. (Beat.) But before I do that, I think I’ll have a tart to give me some energy. (CAMERA OFF.)

CATERPILLAR: (CAMERA ON.) Hello? Hello there? Has the trial begun? Hello? (CAMERA OFF.)

MARCH HARE: (CAMERA ON.) Okay, uh... did I miss anything? (CAMERA OFF.)

END OF PLAY
PRODUCTION NOTES

PROPERTIES
Stack of books, computer mouse (ALICE)
Stacks of dirty dishes (MAD HATTER, MARCH HARE)
Computer mouse (QUEEN)
Notebook, folded piece of paper (WHITE RABBIT)

FLEXIBLE CASTING
ALL roles except QUEEN OF HEARTS and DUCHESS, including ALICE, can be played by any gender with simple pronoun changes. ALICE can be ALVIN, and permission is granted to change the title of the play accordingly, so long as full production rights are obtained.
Thank you for reading this E-view.

This E-view script from Pioneer Drama Service will stay permanently in your Pioneer Library, so you can view it whenever you log in on our website. Please feel free to save it as a pdf document to your computer if you wish to share it via email with colleagues assisting you with your show selection.

To produce this show, you can order scripts for your cast and crew and arrange for performance royalties via our website or by phone, fax, or mail.

If you’d like advice on other plays or musicals to read, our customer service representatives are happy to assist you when you call 800.333.7262 during normal business hours.

Thank you for your interest in our plays and musicals.

www.pioneerdrama.com
800.333.7262
Outside of North America 303.779.4035
Fax 303.779.4315
PO Box 4267
Englewood, CO 80155-4267

We’re here to help!
DIRECTORS LOVE PIONEER DRAMA SERVICE

CHOOSE HOW YOU RECEIVE YOUR SCRIPTS.
We give you more delivery options than any other publisher for receiving both your preview scripts and your full production orders. See our website for more about our many electronic delivery options for both preview and production orders.

TRUST OUR INTEGRITY.
Our family-owned and operated company is proud to offer wholesome scripts appropriate for children’s and community theatres, schools, and churches.

STAY WITHIN A REASONABLE BUDGET.
Our affordable scripts offer straightforward costuming, trouble-free props and stage effects, and sets that can be as simple or as elaborate as you desire.

MAINTAIN CONTROL OF YOUR CASTING.
We help you tailor your play for your specific cast size, not the other way around.

BE ORIGINAL.
Get access to fresh, new musicals that let your actors practice true character development instead of simply mimicking Disney or the musicals that are done over and over again.

ENJOY FLEXIBLE PRODUCTION OPTIONS.
All Pioneer Drama plays and musicals can be licensed for traditional, livestreamed, recorded, or online performances. Once you’ve set up your royalties, you can switch your performance type with no restrictions if your plans change.