

The Great Banana Break

Cast: Sasstra as Narrator and Chester
Stephen as Paul and Man 1
Chris as Chris and Bongo

SCENE 1: (*Poster reading "London Prison" taped to back wall; podium offstage at center; Stephen at Center Stage; Sasstra at Downstage Center; Chris at Downstage Left*) [**Lights focused on Sasstra**]

Narrator: This story takes place in London, England, in the year 1886. There are two men, Muldoon "Bongo" Magoo and Chester C. Macmillan, who were put in jail for various crimes. Chester was a kingpin of organized crime, while Bongo was a known banana smuggler. Bongo was put in jail for 7 years, while Chester for life. Our story begins at the end of Bongo's seven-year sentence... [**All lights on**] (*Sasstra enters R. Closet; Stephen and Chris walk to Center Stage*)

Paul: Y'know that Bongo fella? He's supposed to get off today.

Chris: Yeah, Paul. That guy's a loony if I ever saw one. He gots a thing about bananas, he does.

Paul: But that Chester guy. He's been here twenty years already. Used to be real big. Now he's totally insane. (*Jerks thumb toward R. Closet, Sasstra slams wall in closet*)

Chris: Yeah, well I gotta go let that Bongo fella out now. (*Walks to center stage L., opens door*) Okay Bongo. Time to go.

Bongo: But...but today's the banana split day... (*Chris enters L. Closet, bangs heard as Chris changes to Bongo clothes*)

Chris: No, no. Hey! What're you doing! Stop! Help! Paul! Nooooo! (*Chris runs out of closet, jumps offstage; Stephen walks into L. Closet*)

Paul: Chris? You okay? Oh no! Chris! [**Lights focus on R. Closet**] (*Sasstra exits R. Closet, grabs keys from right wall, reenters closet, unlocks,*

exits, runs toward podium, enters as Stephen exits closet) [All lights on]

Paul: Hey! You! Chester! Stop! *(Runs toward podium) [Lights fade out]*

SCENE 2: *(Poster reading "London" on back wall, stool at Upstage Center; Stephen sitting on stool with plastic cup in his hand; Chris in L. Closet; Sasstra at Downstage Center) [All lights on; storm track playing at low volume, periodic lightning flashes]*

Narrator: After escaping prison, Chester and Bongo terrorize the townspeople. Here, in one man's house, they unleash their ultra-annoying powers... *(Sasstra exits to L. Closet)*

Man 1: Aaaah...Nothing like a nice cuppa tea... *(Sips tea) [Big lightning flash of all lights, thunder sound effect] (Sasstra enters from L. Closet acting like Frankenstein)*

Man 1: Who...who're you?

Chester: Uuuuuuh...

Man 1: Get away from me! Get!

Chester: Uuuuuuh...

Man 1: Hey! No! Aaah! *(Runs into R. Closet)*

Chester: Aww, he left his tea...Hee hee! Tea! Woohoo! *(Runs into L. Closet) (Stephen peeks through door)*

Paul: Phew! He's gone! *[Lightning flashes, thunder] (Chris enters)*

Man 1: Aaah!

Bongo: You have bananas?

Man 1: Umm...yes...

Bongo: *(Rushes over to Stephen, grabs shirt collar as if strangling)* Give me bananas!

Man 1: Hey! Okay! Let go! I can't breathe! [*Lights fade, storm track increases volume*] *(Stephen enters R. Closet, Chris enters R. Closet; Chester exits to center stage)* [*Left and right lights fade in*]

Chester: Heehee! I like tea! Tea! Heehee! *(Stephen enters with wanted poster in hand)*

Chester: *(Suddenly acting like Bugs Bunny)* Eeh...what's up doc?

Paul: Have you seen this man? Named Chester? *(Holds up wanted poster)*

Chester: Does he got small, gold, glasses like these? *(Points to glasses)*

Paul: Yes...

Chester: Does he got blue jeans, like these? *(Points to jeans)*

Paul: Yeah, that's him.

Chester: Is he whacked out of his gourd? Like me?

Paul: Yeah! That's him! That's him!

Chester: Sorry, haven't seen him. *(Enters L. Closet)*

Paul: Y'know, I think that was the convict.

Chester: *(Rushes out of closet to Paul)* You ain't just whistlin' Dixie, sister! *(Slaps Stephen on back, runs back into L. Closet with Stephen chasing him, slams door in Paul's face)*

Paul: Darn! *(Chris exits R. Closet)*

Bongo: *(Singing)* Bananas! Bananas! I like bananas!

Paul: You! Bongo!

Bongo: Bananas?

Paul: Have you seen this man? (*Holds up wanted poster*)

Bongo: Yess...Owes Bongo bananas...Many bananas...

Paul: Well, the reward for his capture is 10,000 pounds, or in your case, bananas.

Bongo: Yes! Bongo find! (*Both exit into R. Closet*) [**Lights fade out as storm track volume increases and lightning flashes become more frequent**]

SCENE 3: (*Poster reading "London Harbor" on back wall; Sasstra at D. Center*) [**Center light fades in**]

Narrator: Our story ends in a rainy London harbor. Paul and Bongo finally catch up with Chester. Bongo is seeking revenge on Chester for cheating him out of a banana bunch. Paul, however, is simply doing his job. [**Light fades**] (*Sasstra goes to C. Left*) [**Only center light fades in**]

Chester: Hello!

Bongo: That's him! He owes Bongo bananas! (*Paul shoots Sasstra with small gun*)

Chester: D'oh! (*Falls down*)

Paul: Well, we'd better get him outta here...

Bongo: Bananas! (*Sasstra gets up*)

Paul: What the?

Chester: I say, old chap. Good shot! Jolly good! Care for tea? (*Stephen shoots Sasstra again; Sasstra falls over*)

Chester: Y'got me pardner! It's gittin' dark...I can't breathe... (*Coughs, slumps down*)

Paul: Well, that's that. (*Sasstra gets up*)

Chester: Hey, hey, hey! Gimme a hug!

Paul: (*Shoots repeatedly, runs out of ammo, gets out machine gun, begins rapidly firing, Chris runs over and begins to kick Sasstra as he twitches on floor*) That oughta do it! (*Sasstra gets up*)

Chester: (*Gets bananas from L. Closet, brings to Chris, who grabs them*) Okay. Here's your bananas. Let's get him! (*Chris and Sasstra aim guns at Stephen; then, just as they are about to fire, they begin to babble like idiots*)

Paul: Hmm...Better get you guys to the asylum. And I'll go get my reward! (*Leads babbling Sasstra and Chris through R. Closet*) [**Lights fade, storm track shut off**]

(End of play.)