

"The Lion and the Mouse"

ACT ONE

Scene 1

AT RISE: Lights brighten on interior of a forest. LION is on the ground, sound asleep, his head resting on his paws. MOUSE enters and squeaks.

MOUSE

(whispering)

Oh! Oh no! A lion! I had better be careful.

Mouse runs away from Lion but in their haste, runs across Lion's nose, waking them up.

LION

(yawning)

What? What's this? Ah ha! I got you!

Lion lays his huge paw on the tiny mouse.

MOUSE

(frightened)

Spare me! Please, please let me go. One day I will repay you.

Lion laughs loudly.

LION

You? Replay me? I'm not sure you will ever do that. But we shall see. I will let you go.

MOUSE

Oh thank you! Thank you!

Mouse scurries off. Lion yawns and falls asleep again.

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Scene 2

AT RISE: Lights brighten on interior of a forest. LION is stalking his prey when they get caught in a net.

LION

What? No! I can't escape. What will I do?

Lion roars loudly in anger and frustration. Mouse appears on the other side of the stage.

MOUSE

What is that mighty roaring? It sounds as if it's LION. Maybe he's in trouble.

Mouse rushes quickly to Lion.

MOUSE

(seeing Lion in a net)

Oh no! You are trapped in the net. Don't worry, I will save you.

LION

(moaning)

How can you save me? You are too small. I will be stuck here forever.

MOUSE

Don't be silly. Just give me a moment.

Mouse begins to gnaw at the ropes. She bites at the ropes until Lion is free and able to escape from the net.

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LION

You did it! I'm free.

Lion roars in relief.

MOUSE

You laughed when I said I would repay you. Now you see that even a Mouse can help a Lion. Remember, A kindness is never wasted.