Robin Hood
by Nick Perrin
Pupil Script

SCENE 1  The Scene Is Set

[The SHERIFF bursts in! He is followed by GISBORNE and the SOLDIERS/GUARDS. Each one delivers a threat. They cross the stage to end up in their Nottingham Castle positions.]

SHERIFF  Don’t think you can hide from me!
GISBORNE  I know who you are! And you!
SOLDIERS/GUARDS  Have you paid your taxes?
The Sheriff will be after you!
Saxon dogs!
You’ll be thrown in the dungeon!
Pay up, you Saxon swine!
Give us your money!  (etc.)

[Last SOLDIER enters a little late, hurrying, and (as an after-thought) turns back just before reaching the Castle to speak]

LAST SOLDIER  We’ll be back!

[During the instrumental, VILLAGERS gradually enter, in family groups. They go about their business, miming everyday activities, sweeping, cooking, chopping wood, etc. As the music ends, narrator comes centre stage.]

OUR STORY BEGINS  - Instrumental

NARRATOR 1  In the twelfth century, England was ruled by King Richard, known by many as Richard the Lionheart.

[VILLAGERS - nods of approval - Aye, yea, etc.]

When King Richard was away from England, leading crusades, his wicked brother, Prince John, ruled the country.

[VILLAGERS grumble....]

1
Prince John was greedy and demanded huge taxes from the defeated and oppressed Saxon people. The heartless Sheriff of Nottingham…

[Boo!]

…and wicked Sir Guy of Gisborne…

[Boo!]

...were in the business of collecting as much tax as they could from the poorest people in the land. At this time, stories began to be told of a great hero.

This hero was a gentleman, who was forced from his land and his home, and took shelter in the great forest of Sherwood. From here he protected the poor Saxons, and fought against the cruelty and greed of their Norman leaders.

That hero was Robin of Loxley, known to us all as...

[SHERRIFF, GISBORNE and soldiers burst in. As he speaks, SHERRIFF strides across the stage. GISBORNE follows him, stopping centre to threaten BOY VILLAGER.]

Loxley - where are you, Loxley?

Where’s the man you call Robin Hood?

I don’t know where he is! Please! Believe me!

Show yourself, Loxley, you Saxon fool!

Kneel to the sheriff, you filthy dogs!

Tell us where Robin Hood is or you’ll pay with your lives!

We don’t know where he is. We haven’t seen him.

Loxley! Come out and fight, you Saxon coward!

If we find out you’ve been lying and you do know where he is - we’ll be back!

[The SHERRIFF and his men leave, bullying and threatening the villagers as they go. Then the VILLAGERS gather together to look after the injured and comfort the children.]

WE NEED YOU NOW

[ALAN-A-DALE enters, to sing first verse/chorus of the next song. LITTLE JOHN enters during the song.]

OUR STORY BEGINS
[As the song ends, Much the MILLER’S SON bursts in breathlessly, looking for ROBIN.]

MUCH (out of breath) Save me! Save me! The Sheriff’s men – they’re coming! Please! Robin Hood, help me!

[MUCH collapses centre stage.]

BOY VILLAGER (shouting) It’s Much! The Miller’s son!

[ROBIN and WILL SCARLETT enter, out of breath]

ALAN-A-DALE (moves to MUCH) Robin’s not here. But don’t worry, (stoops) we’ll protect you.

ROBIN (interrupting loudly) I am here. I heard some kind of chase going on...

[ROBIN & WILL SCARLETT move towards the centre. VILLAGERS look pleased and relieved to see them.]

WILL SCARLETT We came as quickly as we could.

ROBIN (approaching MUCH) Don’t worry, Much. You’re among friends.

MUCH (nervously, looking back) But they’re coming!

WILL SCARLETT Be calm. Leave it to Robin.

[GISBORNE & soldiers (but not SHERIFF) enter noisily. MARIAN & MAID are with them.]

SOLDIER 1 There he is!

SOLDIER 2 (scornfully) The little Saxon dog!

GISBORNE Hand over that boy! He killed the king’s deer. He must pay the price for his crime!

ROBIN A crime, Sir Guy? Is it a crime to search for food for his poor family? They haven’t enough to eat as it is.

ALAN-A-DALE Most of their money has been taken by the Sheriff in taxes.

GISBORNE The law must be obeyed.

WILL SCARLETT (aside, to audience) Norman law? Where’s the justice in that?

[SOLDIER 3 reacts angrily to WILL SCARLETT’S comment.]

GISBORNE If you don’t hand him over now, we’ll kill him where he stands.

SOLDIER 3 (to WILL SCARLETT, prodding him repeatedly) And you! If you insult Sir Guy once more, you’re dead! Twice dead, if you’re not careful!

[WILL SCARLETT pulls his sword in response, but is stopped by ROBIN, who moves over to MARIAN. WILL glares.]
ROBIN (quickly taking MARIAN aside) And you, my lady. Surely you wouldn’t want this boy hurt?

MARIAN (shaking head) Of course not, but … (with hands opened out) …I am in the hands of the Sheriff. I dare not cross Sir Guy.

ROBIN In that case, we’ll deal with it! (shouting to OUTLAWS) Now!

THE CHASE - Incidental music

[A ‘skirmish’ follows! SOLDIER 1 vs MUCH, SOLDIER 2 vs ALAN-A-DALE, SOLDIER 3 vs LITTLE JOHN, SOLDIER 4, 5, 6 etc. vs. VILLAGERS, WILL SCARLETT vs. GISBORNE. WILL struggles; ROBIN intervenes, and has GISBORNE on the ground at sword-point by the end of the music.]

ROBIN (To GISBORNE) How do you like our Saxon law, my friend? Tell the Sheriff that we will eat from the King’s forest whenever we want.

ALAN-A-DALE It is King Richard’s forest, and we fight for King Richard.

ALL (each raising a fist or a sword) King Richard!

ROBIN We will spare your life - this time - but do not enter the forest again. Go!

[GISBORNE & SOLDIERS leave dejectedly as the song intro is played. The song is sung by VILLAGERS & OUTLAWS, but not ROBIN, who interacts with MUCH & VILLAGERS. During the song, in the Castle area, the SHERIFF & GISBORNE mime discussion as they plot their next attack.]

ROBIN HOOD OUR HERO

[LITTLE JOHN walks to Major Oak, sees the note, calls to ROBIN.]

LITTLE JOHN (pointing) Look, Robin! (moves to Major Oak) A message!

ROBIN (as he joins LITTLE JOHN) Well? What does it say?

LITTLE JOHN It’s a warning: (reading) ‘The Sheriff of Nottingham plans to attack all local villages, burning houses and killing animals in revenge for you saving Much and making threats.’ It says ‘I will help if I can.’ And it’s signed Marian Fitzwalter.

WILL SCARLETT (stepping forward) She may be a Norman, but she knows right from wrong.

ROBIN (rejoining WILL SCARLETT) She is a true friend. Arm yourselves, men! We meet here, at the Major Oak, in one hour.

[Exit OUTLAWS.]
SCENE 2     The Sheriff’s Plan

[At Nottingham Castle, SHERIFF & GISBORNE are pleased with themselves, discussing a plan to capture ROBIN HOOD.]

SHERIFF (hand on GISBORNE’S shoulder) Congratulations, Gisborne. That plan will have Loxley tied up in knots.

GISBORNE Well, Sheriff, I really do think we might get him this time.

SHERIFF (moving to centre) We certainly need to get him sorted out. He’s a dangerous man, and he’s costing us dearly.

[During song intro, SHERIFF can threaten a couple of villagers. GISBORNE mimes interaction with SOLDIERS.]

NOTHING THAT I WOULDN’T DO

[At the end of the song, GISBORNE & SOLDIERS enter on SHERIFF’s instruction. They threaten VILLAGERS.]

SHERIFF Go to it, men!

GISBORNE They’re traitors! Take everything they’ve got!

VILLAGER 1 (pleading) We have no more to give!

VILLAGER 2 You already have our money - we’ve paid our taxes.

VILLAGER 3 (desperately) We’ve done no wrong!

VILLAGER 4 (standing) Just look at our clothes - they’re rage!

SHERIFF (cruelly) Saxon dogs! You will pay for Much’s crime. I will show you who is master!

[Unseen by SHERIFF, OUTLAWS creep into hiding places.]

VILLAGER 1 You can see how poor we are - please just let us be!

SOLDIER 1 Take their money!

SOLDIER 2 Burn their hovels!

SOLDIER 3 Show no mercy!

SOLDIER 4 Saxon dogs!

THE CHASE   -  Incidental Music

[As the SOLDIERS attack, the OUTLAWS emerge from their hiding places. A skirmish takes place. GISBORNE and SOLDIER 1 capture MUCH, and escape. SHERIFF fights LITTLE JOHN.]
SOLDIER 3 fights WILL SCARLETT. ROBIN & ALAN-A-DALE take on the rest! ALAN-A-DALE helps to capture the SHERIFF.

SHERIFF (held by LITTLE JOHN & ALAN-A-DALE) You knew we were coming! Who told you? Who is the traitor? Tell me his name!

ROBIN We followed your Norman scent, my lord! The smell of blood, deceit and death!

ALL (ad lib.) Yes... Ugh... (with nods etc.)

ALAN-A-DALE An unpleasant odour! (to the outlaws) What do you say, men?

VILLAGERS Yeah! (some of them mime 'bad smell' gestures, fanning noses etc.)

SHERIFF You will pay for this with your lives!

ROBIN (to the outlaws) Little John! Alan! Will! Take their weapons and escort them out of the forest.

[Exit LITTLE JOHN, ALAN, WILL SCARLETT, SHERIFF and remaining SOLDIERS.]

Come on everybody, let's celebrate our victory!

RAISE YOUR SWORDS - Chorus

[VILLAGERS and OUTLAWS sing the chorus of the song as they exit. The cast 'freeze' once the action at the Castle begins.]

The End Of Much?

[At Nottingham Castle, MUCH is brought before the SHERIFF by a guard]

SHERIFF So you're the lad who killed the king's deer!

MUCH My father has no money... and... I was so hungry... and...

GUARD 1 Kneel to the Sheriff, you Saxon swine!

[Forces MUCH to the ground.]

SHERIFF It is a very serious crime to hunt in the King's forest.

MUCH But please... It was only one deer... and it was very small...

SHERIFF You will be hung at dawn. Take him to the dungeon.

MUCH I won't do it again... I promise...

GUARD 2 Silence, boy! On your feet! (pulls him up roughly)

MUCH (as he is led away) But please! It was only one deer...
SCENE 4  In The Forest

[VILLAGERS and OUTLAWS unfreeze, or re-enter and gather together. ROBIN mimies interaction with VILLAGERS, as they sing the song. During the song, ALAN, WILL SCARLETT and LITTLE JOHN return.]

RAISE YOUR SWORDS

ROBIN  (acknowledging their tribute)  Thank you, friends. And praise to you, Little John, for the strength of your fighting.

[ALL clap ad lib, commenting, 'Well done', etc.]

GIRL VILLAGER  Robin, tell us the story of how you met Little John - please?

ROBIN  Again?  You don’t want to hear all that again, do you?

CHILDREN  Yes!

GIRL VILLAGER  Oh go on, Robin - please!

ROBIN  Oh, very well.

[VILLAGERS and OUTLAWS make percussive rap rhythms using weapons, staffs etc. All join in with the call-response chorus.]

ROBIN’S RAP

[ALL laugh, ROBIN and LITTLE JOHN do ‘high fives’.

BOY VILLAGER  (complaining to Robin)  Robin, you forgot to do the bit about how he got to be called Little John when he is so big!  Tell us that bit.

ROBIN  There’s nothing to tell.  I mean, when someone so tall is called John Little – what else could you call them?

BOY VILLAGER  I suppose so…

[BOY VILLAGER is interrupted by the entrance of MARIAN, calling anxiously.]

MARIAN  Robin!  Robin!  Much, the Miller’s Son - the Sheriff has him!  He’s in the castle dungeon!  He’s to be hung at dawn!

ROBIN  We’ll come straight away.

MARIAN  (stopping him)  No, wait!  You’ll never get into the castle.  The Sheriff’s men are everywhere.  There’s a reward of five hundred golden crowns for your capture.
ROBIN  (pleased) Five hundred golden crowns? Hmm! That’s not bad!

MARIAN  Ssh! Robin, listen! I have a plan.

[MARIAN whispers her plan to ROBIN while LITTLE JOHN and WILL SCARLETT speak.]

LITTLE JOHN  (knocking his staff on the floor on the word ‘knock’) We’ll knock the door down if we have to! We won’t let Much die!

WILL SCARLETT  (who has been watching Marian and Robin) Hang on, John! Let Robin tell us the plan first.

ROBIN  Ok Marian! I’ll meet you by the old castle gate at midnight. Hoot like an owl three times when all is clear.

[As MARIAN leaves, ROBIN calls to her.]

Take care, the Sheriff is very cunning.

SCENE 5 Marian Frees Much

MARIAN FREES MUCH - Incidental music

[VILLAGERS settle down to sleep. At the castle, the GUARD posted next to MUCH also sleeps. While the music plays, ROBIN mimes telling the OUTLAWS his plan. Then, as they settle to sleep, ROBIN goes to wait for MARIAN by the Major Oak. Meanwhile, MARIAN mimes the rescue of MUCH, taking keys from sleeping GUARD, setting MUCH free, leading him out of the castle and hooting three times. ROBIN goes to meet them, and takes MUCH back to camp. The OUTLAWS stir as they approach.]

WILL SCARLETT  (kneeling up) It’s Robin, and Much!

[OUTLAWS stand to greet them as they speak]

ALAN-A-DALE  They’re safe!

LITTLE JOHN  (to MUCH) Are you hurt?

MUCH  I’m fine. But if it hadn’t been for Marian... (shakes head at the thought)

WILL SCARLETT  Lady Marian did well, didn’t she John?

LITTLE JOHN  If it wasn’t for her, (winking) there wouldn’t be much left of Much!

[VILLAGERS lift heads to groan at his joke, then return to sleep.]

WILL SCARLETT  (laughing/pointing) Not that there’s much of Much in the first place!

[Groans as before]

MUCH  (indignant) I’m not that small, thank you very much...

[VILLAGERS giggle, but continue sleeping]
OUTLAWS  *(laughing, ad lib.*)  Oh, thank you very much!

WILL SCARLETT  You’re just too much, Much!

MUCH  *(raising hands)*  That’s enough! Stop! Listen! I heard the guards talking outside the dungeon.

ALAN-A-DALE  What did they say?

MUCH  There’s going to be a special shipment of gold for Prince John. They’re bringing it through the forest tomorrow!

LITTLE JOHN  We’ll be there, won’t we, lads?

WILL SCARLETT  We can’t miss an opportunity to get back our Saxon gold!

ROBIN  *(as if he has a plan)*  I know! Where can we find a friar?

*[OUTLAWS look puzzled.]*

ALAN-A-DALE  *(puzzled)*  A friar? Er… What about Friar Tuck! I know where he’ll be!

ROBIN  *(pleased)*  Ah! Friar Tuck! I’d like to meet him. We’ll find him first thing in the morning.

*[OUTLAWS exit, except ROBIN and WILL SCARLETT, and put on their monks’ habits, offstage. VILLAGERS continue to sleep.]*

**SCENE 6  Friar Tuck Takes Robin For A Swim**

*[VILLAGERS wake up and go about their business, with ad lib dialogue: “Good morning” etc. Enter FRIAR TUCK.]*

VILLAGER 1  Good morning to you, Friar Tuck.

FRIAR TUCK  And good morning to you, Sir. *(or Madam!)*

VILLAGER 1  Off to do some fishing, then?

FRIAR TUCK  I certainly am!

VILLAGER 1  Well I hope you’ll be lucky with your catch!

FRIAR TUCK  Thank you! The Lord will provide.

*[FRIAR TUCK settles down to fish. He eats his bread. ROBIN creeps up from behind, and gently prods FRIAR TUCK with his sword.]*

FRIAR TUCK  *(jumping up, startled)*  Ouch! *(angrily)*  Can’t a man be left to enjoy his bread in peace? What do you want, sir?

ROBIN  *(pointing his sword at FRIAR TUCK)*  Take me across the water, Friar.

FRIAR  *(crossly)*  And why, good sir, should I do that?

ROBIN  Because I do not wish to get my feet wet!
FRIAR TUCK (to the audience, incredulously) He does not wish to get his feet wet? Who does he think he is?

[FRIAR TUCK sits down and gets on with his fishing, grumpily. FRIAR TUCK needs to sing the line 'I will take you for a ride' with an understanding of the double meaning.]

TAKE ME 'CROSS THE WATER

ROBIN (indignant) Ugh!

WILL SCARLETT (laughing and clapping) About time you had a bath, Robin!

ROBIN (sarcastically) That was a fine Christian trick you played on me, Friar!

FRIAR TUCK Nothing more than you deserved, Sir. Who are you, anyway?

WILL SCARLETT Don’t you know this man? He is our brave leader, Robin Hood.

FRIAR TUCK (aghast) Robin Hood? But I’ve heard so much about you!
(mortified) I would never have..... Oh dear!
(to audience) I’ve just dropped Robin Hood in the water!
(apologetically, to Robin) Oh, dear me! I’m so sorry!

ROBIN HOOD Oh don’t worry, (deliberately) it’s all water under the bridge! (wiping water off himself)

[ALL groan / laugh]

FRIAR TUCK But I’ve been meaning to find you. The Sheriff is no friend of mine.

ROBIN I’m glad to hear it!

FRIAR TUCK (shaking his head sadly) My flock are starving. I do what I can, but we need your protection from the Sheriff and Gisborne.

ROBIN And we need your help too. Come, Tuck. I’ll tell you my plan. (as they leave) We need your help with disguises... (calling back to OUTLAWS) I’ll warn you, men, this could lead us into... (tapping nose) bad habits!

[ROBIN, WILL & FRIAR TUCK exit in discussion. Backstage, ROBIN & WILL quickly put on monks’ habits.]

SCENE 7 The Gold Is Prepared

[At Nottingham Castle SHERIFF, GISBORNE & SOLDIERS are preparing gold for transportation.]

SHERIFF (impatiently) Isn’t that gold ready yet? Get a move on!

SOLDIERS Yes sir!

SHERIFF If any of this gold is missing, I’ll lock you all in the dungeon and throw the key in the moat!
SOLDIERS
Yes sir!

SHERIFF
And Gisborne –

GISBORNE
Sir?

SHERIFF
Keep a careful watch for that thieving outlaw, Robin Hood...

GISBORNE
Indeed I will.

[SOLDIERS exit, followed by GISBORNE.]

SHERIFF
(as they leave) I mean it, Gisborne – it’s the gold or the dungeon!

SCENE 8 Robin’s Plan Works

[Enter ROBIN HOOD & OUTLAWS dressed in monks’ habits. They process, chanting their prayer. Meanwhile SOLDIERS enter slowly carrying the heavy gold. ROBIN & OUTLAWS pass the SOLDIERS, then they surprise them with an attack from the rear.]

SANCTUS / THE CHASE

ROBIN
(to SOLDIER 1, holding up the gold) Tell the Sheriff the gold will be returned to its rightful owners.

[LITTLE JOHN lets go of SOLDIER 1, but stays close to him.]

SOLDIER 1
(defiantly) Gisborne and the Sheriff will get you for this!

LITTLE JOHN
(comically) Oh we are so terrified!

ROBIN
(indicating the gold) We do like to make a habit of returning things to their rightful owners.

[FRIAR TUCK begins to laugh to himself.]

WILL SCARLETT
A habit we don’t want to break!

[FRIAR TUCK laughs more obviously.]

ROBIN
Although I’m sure the Sheriff would love us to give up our bad habits.

FRIAR TUCK
(laughing loudly, indicating his habit) Bad habits! Oh, that’s a good one!

ALAN-A-DALE
(laughing) Bad habits? I thought they were quite convincing, really. Didn’t you, John?

LITTLE JOHN
Well yes, I thought they were very good habits.

WILL SCARLETT
As a matter of fact I could get into the habit of wearing a habit!

[ALL laugh.]
SOLDIER (defiantly) You can laugh now, but Gisborne will be back. But not tomorrow. Tomorrow, at noon, he is to wed the Lady Marian.

[ALL gasp. LITTLE JOHN grabs SOLDIER 1.]

ROBIN (aghast) This cannot be true!

ALAN-A-DALE (to ROBIN) It is you she’d marry, not Gisborne!

WILL SCARLETT He must be forcing her to marry him!

FRIAR TUCK No woman would wish to marry such a cruel man. What’s to be done, Robin?

ROBIN (pointing to SOLDIER 1) Get this wretch’s uniform. I need to pay a visit to the castle tonight.

[ALAN-A-DALE and LITTLE JOHN take SOLDIER 1 offstage.]

And Friar Tuck! There’s something else I’d like you to do. Come with me.

[Exit ROBIN and FRIAR TUCK. ROBIN puts on SOLDIER costume. WILL SCARLETT and MUCH take the gold offstage.]

SCENE 9 At The Castle

[Enter SHERIFF, GISBORNE and SOLDIERS.]

SHERIFF You idiots! Call yourselves soldiers? Now all of our gold is gone!

GISBORNE Robin Hood and his men have won again!

SOLDIER 2 (protesting) But it wasn’t our fault!

SOLDIER 3 We were tricked!

GISBORNE Speak again, and I’ll cut your tongues out!

SHERIFF Just listen! Tomorrow is a very important day. Sir Guy and Lady Marian are to be wed.

GISBORNE You fools are to guard the castle. Do you think you can manage that?

[SOLDIERS mutter and grumble.]

SHERIFF Silence! No-one is to enter the castle without an invitation. Do you understand?

SOLDIERS Yes, Sir!

GISBORNE Get moving then!

SOLDIERS Yes, Sir!

[ALL exit, apart from two soldiers, who are on guard.]

ROBIN HOOD OUR HERO - Incident. music
[Enter ROBIN in soldier disguise; makes his way to the castle.]

GUARD 1  (stepping forward)  Who goes there?

GUARD 2  (pulling him back)  It’s all right - he’s one of us.

[ROBIN waves to them, and looks around, as if expecting someone. Enter MARIAN’S MAID.]

ROBIN  What news of my lady Marian?

MAID  (curtseying)  Sir - thank goodness you’re here! Marian’s heart is broken! She’s being forced to marry Guy of Gisborne!

ROBIN  There will be no marriage tomorrow! Tell Marian not to worry. I have a plan!

MAID  Oh that’s good news, Sir!

ROBIN  (more quietly)  In the morning, the Bishop of Hereford will be passing through the forest on the way to the castle....

[ROBIN’S voice fades to a whisper]

MAID  (delighted)  Marian will be so relieved! But do take care, Sir. (deep curtsey)

[ROBIN exits, Maid then exits.]

SCENE 10 - The Bishop Gets Involved

WE NEED YOU NOW - Incidental Music

[OUTLAWS, FRIAR TUCK and VILLAGERS are in the forest glade. Enter MARIAN and MAID, who help to comfort the poor, sick and injured. Enter BISHOP, walking slowly.]

FRIAR TUCK  (spotting the Bishop)  Your Grace! Welcome to Sherwood.

BISHOP  Thank you brother.

FRIAR TUCK  It is a blessing that you are able to stop on your way to Nottingham. May I introduce my good friend, Robin Hood?

BISHOP  (outraged)  Hood? Did you say Robin Hood? (to Robin)  You’re nothing but a thief and a vagabond, Sir! You’re the most wanted outlaw in the whole kingdom!

ROBIN  (making peace)  My Lord Bishop, we mean you no harm. We need to show you something, before you marry Lady Marian to Sir Guy.

[During the song, ROBIN, WILL SCARLETT & ALAN-a-DALE show the BISHOP the misery being suffered by the VILLAGERS.]

WE NEED YOU NOW
WILL SCARLETT (showing an injured child) This is an example of Gisborne’s cruelty. He tortures the weak and innocent.

FRIAR TUCK (showing a ragged villager) Look, your Grace - rags instead of clothes. Poverty instead of riches.

WILL SCARLETT Gisborne and the Sheriff have taken everything they owned.

BISHOP I can see what you say is true.

ROBIN And...?

BISHOP (deciding) And... something tells me I am going to get lost in the forest...

OUTLAWS Yes?

BISHOP And if I’m lost, I won’t be there to marry them!

OUTLAWS (triumphantly) YES!

BISHOP There’ll be no wedding today!

[Excited buzz for a couple of seconds.]

FRIAR TUCK (to BISHOP) Come with me, your holiness. We’ll get lost together!

[Exit FRIAR TUCK and BISHOP. OUTLAWS and VILLAGERS are delighted and relieved, especially ROBIN and MARIAN, who talk together. Enter MUCH excitedly, with a poster.]

MUCH Robin! Look at this! There’s going to be a great archery tournament in Nottingham! (reads) ‘Nottingham Fayre Archery Tournament. The best archer in England will win a Silver Arrow!’ (to ROBIN) You’d win it for sure, Robin!

ROBIN Let me see that... (looks at poster)

LITTLE JOHN This must be a trap, Robin, the Sheriff’s wicked trick to tempt you.

ALAN-A-DALE You mustn’t go, Robin. You’ll be caught.

ROBIN You’re forgetting that I am a master of disguise!

[In the next song, everyone tries to warn ROBIN not to go. He mimes reassurance, and then, ignoring them, puts on a beggar’s disguise.]

YOU’RE IN GREAT DANGER

[Exit MARIAN, dejected, with her MAID.]

ALAN-A-DALE (seeing Marian’s departure) Lady Marian - wait! Lady Marian!

[She’s gone - he turns back.]
ROBIN  
(in comical disguised voice) I am old William of Worksop! (or other local name) I’m on my way to the fayre!

[VILLAGERS and OUTLAWS smile and laugh, realising that they won’t prevent ROBIN from having his way. Everyone joins in singing the next song, including guards at the castle. Enter KING RICHARD during fayre.]

SCENE 11 - The Fayre

LET’S GO TO THE FAYRE

ANNOUNCER  (shouting twice) All challengers for the Silver Arrow now step forward!

[Spectators encourage the contestants. Enter GISBORNE, SHERIFF and SOLDIERS. GISBORNE and SHERIFF sing their song.]

NOTHING THAT WE WOULDN’T DO

GISBORNE  Pray, silence for the Sheriff of Nottingham!

SHERIFF  Let the archery tournament begin!

ANNOUNCER  Archers: take your positions!

[ARCHERS move into a line or group. As each ARCHER is announced, he/she steps forward and aims at target – no arrows!]

ANNOUNCER  (reading names on scroll) Number One: Peter of Nottingham! (cheers) [Hits the target, to polite applause.]

Number Two: Sir Guy of Gisborne! (jeers, mutterings) [Hits the target, to muted applause.]

Number Three: Robert the Builder! (wearing hard hat) [Misses, and hits someone’s window.]

VILLAGER 1  (to VILLAGER 2, pointing) Oops, that’s old Bertha’s bedroom window smashed!

VILLAGER 2  (folding arms, shaking head) The things Robert the Builder will do to keep himself in work!

VILLAGER 3  (opening out hands) But can he fix it?

ALL  Yes he can!

ANNOUNCER  (crossly) Enough! Robert the Builder, you’re disqualified. On with the contest! Number Four: Sheila of Sherwood! (polite applause) [Hits, to more polite applause.]

…and finally, an old beggar from Worksop. (or other town)
[Surprised mumbles from the crowd.]

SHERIFF The first rounds of the archery tournament are now complete. The finalists are: Peter of Nottingham (cheers) Sir Guy of Gisborne (jeers, mutterings) and the old beggar from Worksop. (or other town)

ANNOUNCER Take your places, finalists!

[The archers shoot in turn.]

ANNOUNCER Peter of Nottingham has hit the red! (polite applause) 
(dramatically) Sir Guy of Gisborne has hit the Bull’s- Eye! 
(gasps, excited chatter) And the old beggar has split Sir Guy’s arrow! 
(stunned silence for a second, followed by enormous cheers)

SHERIFF Let the champion step forward and receive his prize from Lady Marian.

[ROBIN steps forward.]

SHERIFF (pointing) Seize him! It’s Robin Hood! Don’t let him escape this time!

[GISBORNE and his soldiers surround ROBIN & pull off his disguise. The OUTLAWS rush forward and try to rescue ROBIN. MARIAN joins in. KING RICHARD reveals his identity by removing his cloak, and stands in a prominent position to shout.]

KING RICHARD (shouting) Stop!

[Everyone stops, turning with surprise, and then recognition.]

WILL SCARLETT The King! (he kneels)

ALAN-A-DALE Richard The Lion Heart! (kneels) Our true king!

LITTLE JOHN Home at last!

[ALL kneel, except for SHERIFF & GISBORNE. KING RICHARD moves to ROBIN, and places his sword on his shoulder.]

KING RICHARD Arise, Sir Robin. You have looked after my people well.

[ROBIN stands.] Sheriff! Gisborne! Why do you not bow to your king!

[SHERIFF & GISBORNE bow, scowling.] You have mistreated my people and now you insult me!

SHERIFF But your majesty…

KING RICHARD (swiftly stopping him with a raised hand) Silence! Your disloyalty and wrong-doing will be punished. (to some soldiers) You men! Take them straight to the dungeon!

[SOLDIERS seize SHERIFF & GISBORNE and lead them off. VILLAGERS quietly show approval of this move.]
FRIAR TUCK Your majesty, it gives me such enormous pleasure to see justice be done!

KING RICHARD We aim to please, Friar! And now: Sir Robin of Loxley! I mean to reward you! Ask for what you desire, and it shall be yours.

ROBIN My king, there’s just one thing I desire, and only she (indicating MARIAN with outstretched hand) can give it. The hand of the Lady Marian.

[MARIAN goes to him and offers him her hand.]

KING RICHARD I give you both my blessing.

ALL Long live King Richard! Long live Robin Hood!

DO THE ROCKIN’ ROBIN

OUR STORY’S TOLD

[During the last lines of the song, MARIAN presents ROBIN with the Silver Arrow].

ENCORE - DO THE ROCKIN’ ROBIN

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