

MONOLOGUES FOR ALICE IN WONDERLAND JR. AUDITIONS

ALICE

Should I or shouldn't I? You know what they say: "If you don't explore, you'll never discover." But my sister Mathilda always says, "Look before you leap." Well, I'm looking and it looks pretty deep and dark and I can't see the bottom and maybe it goes all the way to the center of the earth and I'll be burnt to a crisp in the molten core like the bad marshmallow we've all heard so much about! *(pause)* Or not. *(pause)* Ok, I looked. Now it's time to leap! *(ALICE jumps down the rabbit hole and falls a long way. Her dress acts as a parachute.)*

WHITE RABBIT

(The WHITE RABBIT runs on, blasting a trumpet. ALL snap to attention.) Attention, attention, inhabitants and subjects and all other direct or indirect objects of Wonderland: fall to your knees and tremble before her majestic majesty, her royal regality, yes, folks, your favorite monarch of mean and mine, The One, The Only, Queen of Hearts!!!.... And, uhm, well, let's not forget the King of Hearts. Yeah, him too.

CATERPILLAR

(Speaking to Alice about the Flowers) Oh, don't let those dried out little annuals get you down, kid. Sweetiepie, lambchop, honeydew – they're just gonna wind up sitting around in somebody's imitation cut glass vase for three days 'til they wither and die, then it's "thanks a lot" and out with the garbage! But enough about them. *(Snaps his fingers)* I'm the Caterpillar, kiddo, your wonder of wonders, your miracle of miracles, your happy, happy day! I am whoever you want me to be, if I, in fact, am indeed whoever I say I am or someday hope to be. You dig? Whoooooo, pray tell, are youuuuuuuuu?

MAD HATTER or MARCH HARE

Rules can be so limiting. It's so much more fun to make up your own rules. Part of the game is everyone making their own rules...This? Oh, this is the White Rabbit's pocket watch. He has only been late 354 times...not that anyone is counting. His watch is slow. That's why I'm fixing it. I'll need a scalpel, forceps, axel grease, peanut butter (preferably crunchy), and liverwurst. Won't it be fun?

QUEEN OF HEARTS

And just what do we have here, hmmmmm? ... *(bellowing)* Silence! We speak the Queen's English here, you nameless little whelp! ...You'll be who I say you are and no one else, do you understand? Furthermore, you will not go anywhere until you beat me in Wonderland's favorite pastime. And I don't mean a game of croquet using upside-down flamingos instead of croquet mallets. My dear young girl, croquet is so nineteenth-century. I want to play Simon Says!

THE CHESHIRE CAT

Alice is about to discover that Wonderland is nothing like she expected! It's a land filled with racing Lobsters, singing Flowers, painting Cards, and even a Cheshire Cat, that's me! Alice meets a pallid, long-eared, carrot-munching quadruped known only as...The White Rabbit! (*The CHESHIRE CAT gestures offstage, setting up a big entrance. Nothing. Shrug shoulders and throw a huge smile at the audience.*) Ahem, I saaiidd, first she meets... The White Rabbit! (*no response*) Oh, he's always late. (*yelling offstage*) Yo, White Rabbit, you're on!

MATHILDA

(*Reading a book*)...and of course these bright red uniforms made them look just like giant walking lobsters that went...(looking up into ALICE's huge face) Eeeeeek!!! (*taking the magnifying glass away from ALICE*) Give me that magnifying glass! Alice, honestly, when are you ever going to grow up? Stop pretending you are a roaring lion! You are not a lion, just a silly little girl. Remember what the Immortal Bard said: "To thine own self be true." Oh, let me find that book and I'll show you.

KING OF HEARTS

Wait my dearest Queen, before you chop off Alice's head. Why don't we have a trial? Just this once, you know, shake things up a bit. We must observe any incredibly suspicious behavior on the part of the incredibly guilty party. (*like a seasoned trial lawyer*) The prisoner is charged with enticing her majesty, the Queen of Hearts, into a game of Simon Says, and thereby willfully and with Alice of forethought, didst put a bee in her royal bonnet and cause our beloved Queen to lose her royal temper! First witness, The Mad Hatter. What have you to add to the already rock solid evidence against the soon-to-be-decapitated usurper?