

Jimmy No, you just sweep it under the carpet (*exits*)

Squire (*knocking on door*) Dame Trot, are you within? (*Dame Trot opens door*)

Dame No, I'm without

Squire Without what?

Dame Without the rent (*shuts door*)

Squire Dame Trot, open up!

Dame (*opening door*) Have you tried the window?

Squire No

Dame Well why don't you? (*closes door*)

Squire Very well I will (*goes to window, opens it, duster in face. Knocks at door again*) RENT!

D and J (*opening door*) SPENT!

Squire Dame Trot, have you my final demand note?

Dame Yes

Squire And?

Dame I've decided not to join

Squire Dame Trot I want my money

Dame Now that is a strange coincidence

Squire (*tapping foot, ready for worst*) Why?

Dame Because, because I said to Jimmy only this morning. (*to Jimmy*) What did I say to you only this morning?

Jimmy That's right you did! You said to me only this morning. What did you say to me only this morning?

Dame That's right I did! I said to you only this morning, the Squire will be wanting his money

Jimmy That's right you did! You said to me only this morning, the Squire will be wanting his money

Dame And then what did I say?

Jimmy Let him want!

Squire (*through clenched teeth*) Woman! You're late with your rent for the autumn quarter, you're late with your rent for the winter quarter

Dame And I'll tell you something else

Squire What?

D and J (*singing*) Spring will be a little late this year

Squire In that case I shan't modernise the property

Dame Modernise it? That's a laugh. This house should be scheduled as a listing building

Squire You mean listed

Dame I know what I mean! This house gives a new definition to lean to. Why it's so old it's even got William the Conquerors initials on one door

Squire It's a perfectly good house. There's running water in every room.

Jimmy Yes, down the walls. Listen, when you rented us this house you said it had a heated swimming pool.

Squire I did

Jimmy You didn't say it was a tropical fish tank

Dame And we have to bath in it

Squire What do you do about the fish?

Dame Blindfold them. And another thing, there are wild rats in the drains

Squire Drains? But there are no drains

Jimmy That's what makes them wild

Squire If it's so awful why don't you leave?

Jimmy Well maybe we will. *(to Dame)* Tell you what Mam, we'll move into a tree house

Dame That's no good, we'd only fall out

Squire Look, I'll meet you halfway. Pay up inside twenty four hours and I'll forget half the debt

Dame Excellent! And I'll meet YOU halfway

Squire Good!

Dame I'll forget the other half *(Exit Dame and Jimmy into cottage)*

Squire Curse it, I'm never going to get this rent. I'd take legal advice but that costs money. The last time I went to a barrister I said "how much do you cost?" He said "four hundred pounds for three questions". I said "How much?" He said "Four hundred pounds, now, what's your third question?" *(sighs)* Still needs must *(exits)*

(Music for entrance of Bloodshot and Squint from opposite sides. Dressed as Secret Agent types with dark glasses. They circle and bump into each other)

Squint Who's that?

Blood Me!

Squint It can't be me, I'm me. It must be you

Blood Idiot! Take those glasses off *(They both do)* This disguise is no good

Squint I know, I hardly recognised myself

Blood You looked like a right little twerp

Squint Well that's what's so clever cos I'm really a right big twerp

Blood *(In hushed tones)* Let's remember why we're here

Squint *(loudly)* We were sent by Giant Grimm

Blood Ssshh! I know that. You know that. But no one else must know that. Let's read our secret instructions *(takes paper from pocket and reads)* From Giant Grimm to my Secret Agents Bloodshot and Squint, that's us

Squint Is it?

Blood Yes, idiot. *(to audience)* I'm Bertie Bloodshot

Squint And I'm Sammy Squint

Blood *(reading again)* You are engaged to locate and kidnap the beautiful daughter of Squire Grabbem of Sunnyside and bring her to my kingdom in the clouds. Signed Giant Grimm

Squint Well. What do we do?

Blood Start looking for the girl

Squint Right! *(produces large magnifying glass and moves around. Sees B's feet then moves up body to face. Screams)* AAAAAAGGGGGGHHHHH!

Blood Idiot! How do you manage to do so many stupid things in one day?

Squint I get up early!

Blood Now let's try and do this job properly. You know what happened last time?

Squint Yes, we bungled it

Blood That's right, you bungled it. So now we must put our heads together

Squint Right *(he leans in, they bump heads)* OW!

Blood Idiot! I mean we must conspire

Squint I'm already conspiring, it's hot in here isn't it?

Blood We must form a plan to capture the Squire's daughter

Squint Oooh, the Squire's daughter *(He drools and slurps)*

Blood *(hitting him)* You've been on the wine gums again. Where were you when they handed out brains?

Squint In the wrong queue

Blood Now start thinking, where are we going to search?

Squint *(determinedly)* I shall search every cole and horner

Blood Hole and corner

Squint Every crook and nanny

Blood Nook and cranny

Squint And leave no turn unstoned

Blood You'll have the RSPB onto you! You're soft you are. You have to be tough and ruthless

Squint That's me, rough and toothless

Blood You've got to be hard. We're villains pure and simple. I'm pure..

Squint And I'm simple! (*looking confused*) Hang on a minute

Blood To be a villain you have to be nasty, horrible and revolting (*his face is close to Squint's who bursts into tears*). Now what's the matter? You're trembling, are you frightened?

Squint No, it's the wind blowing up my trousers. I don't know where it's coming from, but I know where it's going to

Blood To work. We must track down the Squire's daughter. Just imagine you are in Line of Duty

Squint That'll be easy, I never know what's going on there either

Blood We must look for the Squire. Wherever the Squire is, his daughter is sure to be too

Squint They go together, so do we. Where there's you there's me

B and S (*Singing together*) They go together, so do we. Where there's you, there's me (*they exit, enter Squire*)

Squire Curse it, I'm never going to collect this rent from Dame Trot. What money she has paid me wouldn't cover the cost of the rent book. Time for a little gentle persuasion (*tip toes to cottage door and then knocks furiously. Enter Jimmy*)

Jimmy Are we all happy? Good. Mam! (*to offstage*) Dracula's back (*enter Dame*)

Squire Ah Dame Trot, can I make a suggestion?

Dame How very dare you! Never in all my life, well not for a long time, well perhaps last week

Squire Wait until you hear what I have to say

Dame I'm waiting

Jimmy Don't keep us waiting Squire

Squire (*now talking to Jimmy*) This is my offer. If I can't have the rent, I'll have the old cow

Dame Oh Squire, how romantic, I thought you'd never ask

Squire Not you! Your cow Jessie

Dame What, part with Jessie? (*start music*) I wouldn't dream of it. Why that cow's been as good a friend to me as any woman could wish for

Squire Very well then. Tomorrow morning out you go. Lock, stock and barrel!

Jimmy Do you really mean that Squire?

Squire I do

Jimmy It's no good Mother, you'll have to let Jessie go