

Cowardly Lion

Audition Piece

(Our three heroes are creeping through the forest, when suddenly a ferocious Lion jumps out from the bushes!)

Lion Rawr! What have we got here then? Wanna piece of me, huh huh HUH? D'you want some? Do ya, do ya? Cos I'll give it to ya, come on! I've a black belt in origami. I'm a Feng Shui Ninja. I'm top of the food chain! Who's the king of the jungle?

Em Scarlett Moffat.

Lion Oh, yeah. Well anyway, aren't you afraid of me? Aren't you going to run away?

Dorothy Um no?

Lion So, wanna fight then do ya, is that the way it is, huh huh HUH? Come on! I'll take you all on at once. I'll fight ya with one hand behind my back, standing on one leg and with my eyes closed *(closes them.)* Hang on, it's dark I'm a bit dizzy...

Dorothy Oh we haven't got time for this, excuse me... *(She pokes him in the arm to get his attention and startles him.)*

Lion Argh! *(Starts to cry.)* Whaaaa! That really hurt!

Dorothy Pardon?

Lion My arm, is it broken? Am I bleeding? On second thoughts, don't tell me! I hate the sight of blood. Especially my own. *(Dorothy approaches,)* Don't hit me again!

Dorothy I won't hit you. Goodness you're making such a fuss, I only poked you...

Em And you can't be going round trying to scare people like that, that's a cowardly thing to do.

Lion You're right, that's because you see, I am a coward.

Tin Man A cowardly lion? That's embarrassing...

Em Tin Man!

Lion He's right though. I mean just look at me, I'm a wreck! I can't sleep at night; I'm afraid of the dark. And I'm so stressed, what I wouldn't do right now for a mocha locca chocca wocca latte with a sprig of mint!

Dorothy Hmm you're not very good at being scary are you?

Lion If I said yes, I'd be lyin'. Lion, get it? *(Tries to laugh then wimpers again.)*



- Em** What did you do that for anyway?
- Lion** Well, I thought if I shouted loud, I could scare you before you scared me! It's the only way I know to hide what a coward I am. I'm so sorry.
- Dorothy** And I'm sorry too, for poking you in the arm when you had your eyes closed.
- Lion** That's ok, I'd have been more scared if I saw you coming.
- Dorothy** Now see here, we're on our way to the Emerald City to see the Wizard.
- Em** We're going to ask him the way home
- Tin Man** I'm going to ask him for a heart...
- Scarecrow** And I'm from Luton.
- Lion** So you're gonna ask him for a brain?
- Dorothy** Why don't you come with us and ask him for some courage, I'm sure he'll help you...
- Lion** Wouldn't you feel humiliated having a cowardly Lion with you?
- Tin Man** Yes.
- Dorothy** Of course we won't. So long as you won't try to eat us.
- Lion** Of course not, I'm a vegetarian, I couldn't hurt a fly!
- Em** Well that's no surprise!
- Dorothy** And if ever you're feeling scared, we'll be there to hold your hand and look after you.
- Lion** You will?
- Em** Of course – ya big wuss!