



Scene 1

*(As **Introductory Music** plays (CD track 10) the cast members enter and take their places – see staging suggestions. A Narrator stands to one side of the stage.)*

Narrator ~ Welcome to Fiddlers' Town. This is a magical, musical place, home to lots of talented violinists. Tonight they are having a Hoedown dance, and everyone has come along! So take up your fiddle.... and strike up the band!

*(The lights come up on 'Fiddlers' Town' – see staging suggestions/scenery. A wooden sign bearing the town's name stands to one side. Bales of hay give the proceedings a 'Hoedown' feel. All the residents have a violin – **these need only be cut-out instruments** - see staging suggestions/props. All are ready to sing and dance.)*

Song 1 – Fiddlers' Town (CD track 11, lyrics p16) *(led by the Fiddlers)*

(Everyone cheers as the song ends. The Mayor of Fiddlers' Town addresses them all.)

Mayor ~ Welcome everybody to our Hoedown! I'm very pleased to hear that you have all been practising on your violins. Remember, practise makes perfect! Now, are you all enjoying yourselves?

All ~ Yes!

(Suddenly they are interrupted by the arrival of Frosty, the leader of the flute players, along with his/her musicians.)

Frosty ~ No Mr/Mrs Mayor, **we** are not enjoying ourselves!

Fiddler 1 ~ Oh no! It's him/her again!

Fiddler 2 ~ And it looks like s/he's in a bad mood as usual!

Mayor ~ Welcome to you...er...sorry, I seem to have forgotten your name!

Frosty ~ You know perfectly well who I am! I am Frosty the Flautist, leader of the Flooters!

Flooter 1 ~ Yes, you just find it too difficult to say!

Mayor ~ Well it is a bit of a mouthful, isn't it?

Frosty ~ For you, maybe! But enough! I need to speak to you. What is the meaning of this party? We Flooters were never told about it! We've been stuck at home while you Fiddlers are here having a good time! We feel jolly left out!

Flooter 2 ~ Jolly left out!

Flooter 3 ~ You don't take us seriously!

All Floopers ~ So, we've got just one question for you.....

Song 2 – What's Wrong With A Flute? (CD track 12, lyrics p17)
(Frosty and the Floopers)

Frosty ~ We've had enough of this place being called 'Fiddlers' Town'!

Flooter 1 ~ We live here too! You need to come up with a new name - one that everybody likes!

Flooter 2 ~ How about 'Fiddlers' and Flooters' Town? That's a good one!

All Floopers ~ Yes!

(Over the backing **Fiddlers' And Flooters' Town** (CD track 13), the Flooters attempt to sing a re-worded version of Fiddlers' Town, as heard on CD track 3)

All Floopers ~ Bring out the flutes tonight, 'cause party-time is here!
We're getting down in Fiddlers' and Flooters' Town.....oh!

(The words don't scan and the song breaks down.)

Frosty ~ Yes, well, there may be a little bit of work to do there, but never mind!
This matter needs addressing immediately!

Mayor ~ Well, I'll give it some thought. Can you leave it with me? It's just it's getting a bit dark now. I think we all need to turn in for the night.

Frosty ~ Well, we won't wait forever. See that you do it!

All Floopers ~ (angrily) Toot! Toot!

(Frosty and the Flooters exit.)

Mayor ~ Toot...Toot?! Ooh, they're so miserable! Can't they understand that the violin is the best instrument? Who needs their constant tooting! Bah!

(As **Continuity Music** plays (CD track 14), all exit)

Scene 2

Narrator ~ And so, as it was getting dark, everyone went home. It had been a wonderful evening, but now they were tired and needed some rest. But one young fiddler, Tom, couldn't sleep. He was kept awake by strange noises coming from far, far away...

(As **Strange Noises** are heard (CD track 15), Tom enters, rubbing his eyes.)

Tom ~ Oh, I wish I could get just a wink of sleep! I keep hearing these strange noises. Weird thumps and screeches! It's a bit scary! (Lucy and Peter enter, rubbing their eyes. Tom peers at them through the dark) Lucy? Peter? Is that you?

Lucy ~ You can't sleep either, eh Tom? Are these strange noises keeping you awake too?

Peter ~ Well, I'm relieved it's not just me who's hearing things! But what is it? I can't work it out.

Song 3 – Sounds In The Night (CD track16, lyrics p18)
(Tom, Lucy, Peter and chorus)

(An instrumental section is included for some eerie choreography from your dancers.)

Peter ~ Well, we're never going to find out what it is by staying here!

Lucy ~ He's right, Tom! We've got a mystery on our hands and we're jolly well going to solve it!

(They give a joint 'high 5' and start walking. Suddenly Tom stops dead in his tracks.)

Tom ~ Hang on! Back in a second!

(Tom runs offstage and comes back clutching his violin.)

Lucy ~ Your violin?! Why do you need to take that?

Tom ~ I don't know why – I just have this funny feeling that it's going to come in useful somehow. Come on, let's go!

*(To the backing track of **Sounds In The Night** (CD track 17) they set off again. Cardboard trees move behind them to show 'motion' on their journey. Fade the music when ready.)*

Narrator ~ So the three intrepid explorers walked off into the night, hoping to discover the origin of these strange sounds. It was very dark and soon they became lost. Totally lost!

(They stop walking and now peer around nervously. The cardboard trees could have moved in behind them to give a greater impression of threat!)

Peter ~ Oh, this is awful! I wish we'd never left Fiddlers' Town!

Lucy ~ I can't see where we are! I'm really scared!

Tom ~ *(producing his violin)* Lucky I brought my violin along then! Maybe some music will ward off anything horrible, and keep our spirits up.

*(Peter and Lucy look distinctly unimpressed. Tom starts to play a **Short Snippet** of 'Sounds in the Night' (CD track18). Lucy stops him.)*

Lucy ~ *(frightened and angry)* Well don't play that! It sounds scary! It's hardly what we need at this precise moment, is it!

Tom ~ Ok! Keep your hair on! How about... *(thinking)*...this?

*(He plays a **Magical Motif** which is followed by a sudden **Bang!** (CD track19) There is a puff of smoke! The children scream in shock. A Wizard, dressed in traditional cloak and hat, stands before them.)*

Wizard ~ You called?

Tom ~ Wow! Cool! *(to Lucy and Peter)* I told you this violin would come in handy! It must be a magic violin!

Wizard ~ Of course it's magic! It summoned me – the magical, musical wizard! Every time you play that little tune on your special violin, I will appear!

Lucy ~ Really?!

Wizard ~ Really! Whenever you need a helping hand, all you have to do is play those notes.

Song 4 – I'm Here To Help You *(CD track20, lyrics p19)*
(Wizard and Chorus)

Peter ~ That's all very well, but unless you're good with directions, you're not really of any use to us!

Wizard ~ I am always of use, little boy, for I know everything and can do everything. I am also extremely modest!

Lucy ~ So it seems! Well, right now we need you to help us find what's making the weird sounds we've been hearing night after night?

Wizard ~ Aah, yes! Those sounds are being made by the people who live beyond that hill, in a huge castle called Forte Loud. If you take the road, over the highest, hardest point of the hill, you will arrive in two days.....if you arrive at all!

Tom ~ Two days! Don't you know a short cut?

Wizard ~ Yes. *(pointing off stage)* Just walk off over there, turn around, and after about half a minute walk back again. *(winking at the audience)* That should do the trick!

Tom, Peter & Lucy ~ Great! Thanks, Wizard!

(The three start to walk off stage.)

Wizard ~ Remember, I'm here to help you - just play your magic violin!

*(As **Continuity Music** plays (CD track 21) they all exit, the lights fade, and the stage is made ready for the next scene – see staging suggestions.)*