

**Princess Marion**

**Audition Piece**

**Bessie**            Come along Princess Marion, the coast is clear!

**Marion**            *(Entering SL.)* Thank you Bessie, but please, don't shout my name out loud.

**Bessie**            Sorry your majesty!

**Marion**            And don't call me your majesty either. Someone might be listening and we need to keep who I am a secret.

**Bessie**            It might be a bit late for that.

**Marion**            What do you mean?

**Bessie**            The boys and girls, they've been listening all along.

**Marion**            So they have, hello boys and girls! I say boys and girls, will you be our friends? And will you help keep our secret? I am Princess Marion and this is my Lady In Waiting, Lady Bessie...

**Bessie**            Hello!

**Marion**            My Father King Richard is away and has heard there are terrible things happening in Nottingham, is that true boys and girls? Well, he's asked me to come and see for myself and let him know. But no one must know that we're here, so we can be his spies.

**Bessie**            I wanted to be disguised as a shepherd. That way, I'd be a shepherd's pie! But look, someone's coming, what shall we do?

**Marion**            Just act naturally. And whatever you do, don't call me your majesty...

**Bessie**            No your majesty... err... Marion... Princess... eek!

*(Enter Robin.)*

**Robin**            Well look what we have here; two beautiful young maidens alone in the forest? Do you know who I am?

**Marion**            No, but if you wait a bit and think hard, you might remember...

**Robin**            What?

**Marion**            Oh I know, you're Peter Pan.

**Robin**            No, I'm Robin, Robin Hood!

**Marion**            Hello Robin Robin Hood.

- Robin** I'm THE Robin Hood. Swashbuckling outlaw, saviour of Nottingham, righter of wrongs! Doesn't the very sound of my name set your hearts a-flutter?
- Marion** No but I like your little hat.
- Robin** *(Rattled.)* Oh... and you are?
- Marion** Me?
- Robin** Yes, what's your name?
- Marion** He wants to know my name. *(To Bessie.)* I can't tell him, what shall I say?
- Bessie** She's Kylie. Kylie Minogue.
- Robin** Kylie Minogue! I should be so lucky... to make your acquaintance. Well Miss Minogue, you are free to pass through Sherwood Forest.
- Marion** But before we go; I'm interested in what you said about saving Nottingham. Standing up to the Sheriff, robbing the rich to pay the poor? I wonder if we might join your band, and together we could help you right all wrongs...
- Robin** No thanks, we don't need more girls.
- Marion** Are you saying you have a problem with girls?
- Robin** No, only posh ones. You see, you are clearly noble maidens of great privilege. Whereas we are rough outlaws and we lead a rough life. We live on nuts and berries, sleep in trees and hide in bushes. We rob the rich, give to the poor and are hunted by the Sheriff's men. It's no life for delicate, noble maidens like you.
- Marion** Don't get too cocky Robin. You should never underestimate a woman, even a noble one.
- Robin** Of course. But please just stick to tapestry making and daisy chains, I'd hate you to break a fingernail.
- Bessie** Shall you punch him or shall I? You, Robin Hood, are a rogue!
- Marion** *(Aside.)* But a lovable one!
- Robin** And now ladies, we bid you farewell; it must be exciting to be this close to a swashbuckling hero – and I'd hate you to overdo it. Goodbye boys and girls! *(They exit.)*
- Bessie** Well of all the cheek! A swashbuckling hero? I wish he'd swash his buckle elsewhere!
- Marion** But he is a hero I suppose. So brave - and very good looking!

**Bessie** Yes, I notice you didn't put up much of a fight. And why didn't you tell him you're the best with the sword and bow in the whole country?

**Marion** Well, there was no need to show him up. Robin may be big headed but his heart's in the right place. And he has a noble cause; to beat the Sheriff and save Nottingham. He just needs a little help - and maybe, a little competition! Come on Bessie...

**Bessie** Where are we going?

**Marion** If we can't join his gang, we'll play Robin Hood at his own game!