

An Ogre and His Ass

By

Hannah Ward, Chris Burch, Leica Wilde, Alex Stompoly, Adam
Shepley, Joe Penn, Katie Markey, Anna Kurtz, Jonathan
Handley, Haley Karlson, and Jeff Wolfthal

A Staged Shakespearean Parody of

Shrek

By

Ted Elliot, Terry Rossio, Joe Stillman, Roger S.H. Schulman

Based on

Shrek

By

William Stieg

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire

2775 Lebanon Rd

Manheim, PA 17545

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Alex Stompoly - WALTER

Jeff Wolfthal- MARCO

Leica Wilde- SABRINA

Hannah Ward- MEERA

Adam Shepley- FERGUS

Joe Penn - ELIAS

Katie Markey - JANE

Anna Kurtz - GWENDOLYN

Jonathan Handley - SONNY

Chris Burch - DON

Haley Karlson - BRIDGET

PRE-PRE-SHOW-- 5 MINUTES BEFORE CURTAIN

*SONNY and GWENDOLYN are
hawking the show.*

*ELIAS, SABRINA, and MEERA are
setting up props.*

*BRIDGET and WALTER bantering
about name of the show.*

*MARCO making last minute
changes to production, JANE
is following him around
making expensive suggestions.*

*FERGUS is trying to take a
nap somewhere.*

DON is swabbing the deck.

SCENE 1 PRE-SHOW--CURTAIN TIME

WALTER

[improvs the opening]

FERGUS

Wherefore must I play the ogre?

ELIAS

Where? We're doin' the show here, FERGUS!

FERGUS

'Wherefore' means WHY, ye illiterate cretin!

ELIAS

I believe 'tis pronounced 'cree-tin.'

WALTER

[improv nice, calming things to say]

MARCO

[improv nice, calming things to say]

BRIDGET

Because thou art fat! And Scottish! But mostly fat!
The COMPANY experiences a wincing silence.

MEERA

Well doth that mean ELIAS be playing the Donkey?

COMPANY

[exclamations and protestations directed at MEERA]

MEERA

[looking appalled] Nay, not THAT. Because he be an
ASS!

COMPANY

Ooh.

WALTER

Nay, nay, JANE be the ass.

COMPANY

Ooh.

JANE

I prefer the term 'mule'.

SONNY

Well then who shall ELIAS be?

GWENDOLYN

Be he the ginger bread man?

SONNY

Nay, the gingerbread man tis I. He's a Farquad!

COMPANY

[shooting SONNY a look]

GWENDOLYN

Nay, I am the Farquad! I am the one best equipped to play someone of high rank.

MARCO

[aside] Clearly someone has not read the ending.

SABRINA

Well mayhap he be the dragon?

BRIDGET

[comes from offstage in costume, falling off the bar]

COMPANY *[EXCEPTING WALTER]*

[looking concerned]

WALTER

[exasperated] Nay, clearly t'would be BRIDGET.

DON

[having been sweeping the entire time]

Nay, ELIAS be Fiona! He hath all the markings of a classic ingénue.

MEERA

Well, it doth be the only part left.

WALTER

[quickly, trying to get control of the situation]

And everyone else t'will be playing various fairy tale creatures. Places, everyone! *[clapping]*

BRIDGET

[claps right after, scaring WALTER]

SCENE 2

MADRIGALS (SONNY, DON, MEERA, AND GWENDOLYN)

[*doo doo ala SHREK*]

MARCO

MARCO Chicolini proudly presents,

JANE

[*having ascended the water tower with a fishing pole, sitting on top like the Dreamworks logo*]

In disassociation with Dreamworks (please DON't sue us).

WALTER

An Ogre and His Ass!

MADRIGALS

[*"All Star" by Smash Mouth, Madrigal style and Henricianized*]

WALTER

One swampy household, very low in dignity,
In fair Duloc where we lay our scene,
Where a single verdant ogre,
Maketh life unclean.

FERGUS

If ye wannae cast me as the bloody ogre, I'm gonnae
dee it my way! We only got twenty five minutes, get
on w'it!

[*storming in, grabbing the page of the book for toilet paper*]

SCENE 3

WALTER

Aye tis well, settle thy sporrán, we shall commence with the story! The Ruler of Duloc, Lord Farquard, had ordered all fairy tale creatures be exiled to the domain of the Ogre, named in the common tongue as Sherk-

BRIDGET

[from offstage] Shrek!

WALTER

Shark-

BRIDGET

Shrek!

WALTER

Shriek-

FERGUS

My bloody name is Shrek!

WALTER

Oh, NOW he's committed to the role. As I was saying, various fairy tale creatures came to Shrek's swamp, such as the Gingerbread Man!

SONNY

[comes on, ala Godfather] Do not mess with my gumdrop buttons. *[pleased with the audience's response]*

WALTER

The animated puppet, Pinocchio!

DON

[coming out with a mop handle pointing out of his nose]

I'm a real boy!

[turning the mop so the head is on his face]

WALTER

And the three blind mice!

SABRINA

[coming on with MEERA] Good den everyone, I be Claude. This be Maude.

MEERA AND SABRINA

[pointing to air] And this be Bartholomew.

MEERA

Say hello Bartholomew!

FERGUS

Who are ye pointin' at, there be only two of them-

JANE

[coming out with a flat mouse, shhing FERGUS]

FERGUS

And who might thee be?

JANE

I be Donkey! And we shall be steadfast bosom friends-

FERGUS

Nay.

JANE

Aye!

FERGUS

Nay!

JANE

Aye!

FERGUS

A'right.

JANE

Excellent well! When Apollo doth begin his charge in the Eastern sky, I'm makin' waffles!

FERGUS

Let us embark on a quest to seek this Farquad-

COMPANY

[another look]

FERGUS

FAR-QUAD,

[COMPANY all goes OOOOH]

and regain ownership my swamp!

COMPANY

YAY!

SCENE 4

WALTER

Meanwhile, at Lord Farquad's palace-

COMPANY

[behind the stage doors, doors pop open, doo-doo the Duloc theme, WALTER shuts the doors on us, one person goes OW]

GWENDOLYN

[enters on stage, with SABRINA as magic mirror]

Lo, magic mirror who doth portend events both future and past, though I know I may ne'er be king until princess I do wed, show me fair and available maidens that I may extend my hand and marry unto!

SABRINA

Lord Farquard, welcome to... MARRY. THAT. MAIDEN!

COMPANY

[from behind doors, gameshow music]

SABRINA

Maiden the first is a mentally and emotionally abused girl with a foot fetish and an affinity for glassware!

MEERA

[coming out to behind the mirror frame, does singing bit]

SABRINA

Maiden the second cohabitates with seven far shorter men, but she's far from easy. Kiss her dead, frozen lips and find out what a live wire she is.

BRIDGET

[coming on to the mirror]

I swear 'tis consensual. *[sings]*

SABRINA

Last but not least, maiden the third tis an auburn-haired mistress who is all but unattainable, as she is guarded by a fierce dragon and locked in a high tower. And let us not forget, the floor upon is lava.

ELIAS

[tone deaf singing]

GWENDOLYN

Alack! This quandary does vex me thoroughly.

WALTER

It DOTH?

DON

[poking his head out from behind a door]

Pick number three, m'lord!

GWENDOLYN

One of these maidens I shall wed, and do with
whate'er I please, for by our archaic laws, she is
but my property.

COMPANY

[audible cringe]

DON

Oooh. He's the bad guy.

GWENDOLYN

[at audience] Fine gentles, which maiden shall be
mine?

Pause for audience.

GWENDOLYN

[silences audience] Rhetorical question, I have
decided! Tis number three!

COMPANY

*[rushes stage signing Pina Coladas and picks up
ELIAS in joy]*

ELIAS

[distressed, very much against this]

SCENE 5

WALTER

And so Shrek and Donkey arrive at Duloc.

COMPANY

Welcome to Duloc
Tis a perfect town
Here we have some rules
Let us lay them down
Make not waves, keep thy line
We shall get along fine
Duloc is a perfect place
Keep thee off of the grass
Shine thy shoes, wipe thy-

WALTER

FACE!

BRIDGET

ASS!

FERGUS

Well alrigh'. [*wipes down JANE*]

GWENDOLYN

[*bursts in*] Good people, I am looking for a champion to rescue my property- I mean wife! Who among you will risk their lives in this great quest?

COMPANY

[*rushes stage with foam swords, ready to go*]

FERGUS

[*lumbering towards GWENDOLYN*] If t'will get me back my swamp, I shall do it!

COMPANY

Oh, yeah, okay. [*shrugging*]

DON

I'm more of a lover than a fighter anyway.

GWENDOLYN

Deal. Ogre, bring me back my wife
and thou shalt have thy swampy life.

SCENE 6 - TRAVEL MONTAGE

*FERGUS and JANE begin to
march across the stage.
COMPANY, using various found
foliage, run in the
background to simulate
motion.*

JANE

Why dealest thou with Farquod, this pompous puppet
of the privileged plutocracy when thou couldst most
simply (improv crazy lines of violence towards the
upper class)

FERGUS

Nay, there be more to ogres than simple violence and
foul humors. Ogre's be like... be like...

MARCO

Get on with it! Boo! [*throwing an onion at him*]

FERGUS

[*catching the onion*] Ogres be like onions!

The spicy globe that underground doth grow
That be layered fruit of nature's undertow
With juices savory and earthen skin
Onion and noble ogre both are kin
Peel back the outer husk that girds the core
Beneath which lies the humble heart of yore
A fearsome hand and fire-y soul a glow
When wound betakes the teary eye doth flow.

Long pause.

JANE

Well I like parfaits. [*producing a parfait prop*] OH
LAYER'D DAIRY PRODUCT OF MINE HEART-

MARCO

[*jumping in*] I doth not care what any of thee like.
I hath only paid for twenty five minutes upon this
stage, speed it along!

SCENE 7

WALTER

Skip ahead, skip ahead... We arrive at the castle
where the princess doth lie in wait for a prince
most charming in the highest room of the tallest-

BRIDGET

Water!

WALTER

Tower... Water tower...

ELIAS

[*comes on*] Finally my days of deep and enduring
captivity hath come to an end,
Alone in the tower no more, finally a friend.
I shall feign sleep for one more mome',
So true love's kiss can take me... out of this tower.
[*pretends to be asleep*]

FERGUS

[*to JANE*] Thou findest the princess, I shall find me
the dragon.

JANE

[*exits to sneak behind audience with
BRIDGET*]

FERGUS

[turns, ELIAS is there] Oh hey, a princess. *[staring at him]*

ELIAS

[clearly out of character] FERGUS! Thou hast to kiss me!

ELIAS and FERGUS improvise not wanting to kiss the other.

MARCO

[stands up from audience] Look, I paid you two to act, so you better act like you're gonna kiss each other.

FERGUS and ELIAS make as if they are about to kiss. From behind AUDIENCE, JANE and BRIDGET come out screaming and begin chase sequence into the backstage.

ELIAS

Thou didst not slay the dragon?

FERGUS

I was gonnae dee it eventually!

BRIDGET and JANE burst from behind stage, FERGUS and ELIAS get pulled into the chase sequence. At some point, BRIDGET and JANE lock eyes, porn music plays (JANE playing the tin whistle), chase resumes.

JANE

WALTER, help!

WALTER

[gets up from his seat, goes over to BRIDGET ala JURASSIC PARK, takes her over to captivity]

RUN! Next scene!

SCENE 8

WALTER

[while tying up BRIDGET] We catch up with our protagonists en route to Duloc, having stopped to make camp for the night.

ELIAS

Clarify, if thou wilt, thou didst risk life and limb to collect me on someone else's behest?

BRIDGET

Women be not property! *[gets bopped by WALTER]*

FERGUS

Nay, BRIDGET might be right on this one. Women deserve as much say in their destinies as men do, for the fault, dear ELIAS, is not in our genitalia, but in the social morays that women are underlings.

ALL WOMEN

[coming out from wherever, all murmuring in agreement]

ELIAS

NOBODY ASKED YOU.

ALL WOMEN

[returning away]

ELIAS

By the way, wot's a moray?

FERGUS

I think 'tis an eel.

SONNY

[entering] Nay, you fools! It is like when the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, THAT's amore!

MEERA

[entering] Nay! It be when the world seemeth to shine like you've had too much wine, THAT's amore!

SABRINA

[coming out] I have three lines in this thing. Get on with it, this be but simple folly!

DON

[coming out] Nay it be not folly. Besides, amore is when two people find love in one another because of who they are, not what they look like.

FERGUS and ELIAS lock eyes.

DON

[mopping around them singing] Bells will ring, tingalingaling... *[exits]*

JANE

[stuck in the middle in an awkward moment, looking between the two]

MARCO

We're losing daylight here!

ELIAS

[Improv until exit, hitting the door]

JANE

What strange and suspicious character behavior! This warrants investigation!

[opens the door, no one's there]

Oh goodness! It's hideous, it's horrible, it's a conveniently placed plot device! Let us now engage in deep meaningful discourse that none shall overhear.

FERGUS

[left alone onstage] Where hath everyone gone? I want to be included! *[starting to head backstage]*

SABRINA

[running out and grabbing FERGUS by the shoulders]
By night one way,
by day another
this shall be the norm
Until you find true love's first kiss
And then take love's true form.

DON

[from backstage] Who would want to kiss a giant monster?!

SABRINA

[pointing backstage, waving arms about as she walks backwards off stage]

FERGUS

[lip trembling] 'Hideous monster?' Me mum says I'm just husky! I didn'ae want to play this stupid part anyway. *[throws off ears, storms off]*

WALTER

[improv protestations against FERGUS leaving]

MARCO

You keep going with the show, I'll go get the husky one. *[leaves to get FERGUS]*

BRIDGET

[starts to pitchily sing Hallelujah]

WALTER

[cutting her off] Then keep it a secret!

COMPANY

[starting to peek out, looking confused, murmuring]

SABRINA

Where didst FERGUS go?

DON

Did he think we was talking about him?

MEERA

Did he not read the part in the script where Fiona turns into an ogre at night due to a witch's curse?

SABRINA

I prefer the term 'holistic healer.'

WALTER

The show must go on, as they say, and someone must take upon the mantle of Shrek!

COMPANY

[rushes in to a group huddle]

SONNY

[coming in late] I'ma coming, I'ma coming!

COMPANY

[stops, slowly looks over at him, in unison] SONNY!

SONNY

What? I had the chili for lunch!

WALTER

Congratulations, thou art now Donning the mantle of *[garbled Shrek]*.

SONNY

Wait, wait, I thought that Shrek needeth be fat and Scottish!

BRIDGET

One out of two ain't bad!

COMPANY

[with fond exasperation] BRIDGET! Haha.

SCENE 9

WALTER

Quickening a pace!

GWENDOLYN

[breaking off from the huddle, which quickly disperses backstage] Ah, Shrek! How glorious that thou hast returned to Duloc to bring me my shiny new trophy- wife! Trophy wife!

ELIAS is looking more and more panicked as the sun is setting.

SONNY

[panicked, looking to cast]

What's my line?

[gets shrugs from everyone]

Onion?

GWENDOLYN

Of course Ogre, thou mayest indeed have thy swamp back.

SONNY

Not my gumdrop... onions!

WALTER

Donkey and Shrek exit.

[meaningful glare at JANE and SONNY]

EXIT.

[hateful whisper] Get. Out.

SONNY and JANE exit hastily.

WALTER

[improv about moving the plot to the wedding]

COMPANY

[moves onstage for a wedding tableau]

SABRINA

Mawwiage. Mawwiage is wot brings us togevver. Today.

WALTER

WRONG. PLAY.

SABRINA

[singing] Marry that girl!

COMPANY

[speaking] Marry her anyway!

SABRINA

[singing] Marry that girl!

COMPANY

[speaking] No matter what you say!

WALTER

SAY. YOUR. LINES!

SABRINA

[speaking] Why ya gotta be so rude?

WALTER

THE LINES IN THE SCRIPT!

SONNY

[bursting in from behind audience]

I OBJECT!

FERGUS

[coming from STAGE LEFT audience entrance]

Nay, I object!

BRIDGET

I refuse to be objectified!

COMPANY

[starts the sitcom BRIDGET]

WALTER

DON'T ENCOURAGE HER. We are so close. To the end.

GWENDOLYN

Praytell, what meaneth this? Nay, truly, what is happening?

SONNY

Fiona, Farquard be not thy true love. I am!

FERGUS

He is no'! He's no' even the real Shrek, I am!

SONNY

Well I've got the funny ears.

FERGUS

He's no' even Scottish!

SONNY

They said 'One of out two ain't bad!'

*FERGUS storms over and grabs
the ears.*

GWENDOLYN

I thought I was the one getting married here!

[turning to ELIAS]

After all, she is mine to objecti-

*During the fight between
SONNY and FERGUS, JANE has
untied BRIDGET, who runs on
stage at GWENDOLYN.*

BRIDGET

WOMEN AREN'T OBJEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEECTS.

*[tossing GWENDOLYN over shoulder and
carrying her off]*

JANE

Baby come back! *[following BRIDGET off]*

SABRINA

Alright, we're gonna do the quick, quick version.
[to FERGUS] Do you?

FERGUS

I do.

SABRINA

[to ELIAS] Do you?

ELIAS

I do.

SABRINA

Good! You're married! Kiss her!

FERGUS and ELIAS reluctantly kiss. ELIAS begins to back up, shaking, towards backstage. COMPANY does Little Mermaid OOHs.

ELIAS

(reciting prophecy, except last line)

ELIAS gets to the door, throws up a sheet.

DON

[stepping forward from sheet with his mop]

And take love's true form.

COMPANY

[all scream] It's hideous!

FERGUS

Is that what you were talkin' about earlier? She's no' hideous, she's beautiful! But she was also beautiful before. I want both!

WALTER

Thou canst not have both.

FERGUS

I. Want. Both.

BRIDGET

Monogamy is a social construct!

WALTER

Fine. Have both. And from that day forward, Shrek and Fiona and Fiona lived happily ever after in his swamp. The End. Thank. God.

COMPANY

[all rejoin on stage to bow while FERGUS and JANE play I'm a Believer]

BRIDGET

[runs across stage with GWENDOLYN]

OUTRO

THE END