



COMMEDIA THE BARGAIN

WRITTEN BY IAN BREEDS



STAGE SCRIPT

Commedia The Bargain



Page Count: 6



Age Group: 10+



No. Characters: 4

Logline:

In this farcical tale, the boastful Capitano, scheming Doctor, and calculating Pantalone must fulfil a mysterious bargain with a sharp-tongued Witch, leading to a chaotic scramble of mischief, misunderstandings, and absurd solutions in classic Commedia dell'Arte style.

Character List:

- Witch
- Pantalone
- Doctor
- Capitano

Synopsis

This lively and farcical tale brings together the boastful Capitano, the scheming Doctor, the calculating Pantalone and a sharp-tongued Witch in a hilariously chaotic encounter. Capitano, the Doctor and Pantalone find themselves at the Witch's cottage, where they must deliver on a mysterious bargain they previously struck.

As tensions rise, the Witch demands her reward: a child to raise as her own in her lonely woodland home. Misunderstandings and mischief abound as Capitano tries to maintain his façade of bravery while repeatedly being startled by the Witch's antics. Pantalone scrambles to outwit the Witch or shirk their responsibilities while the Doctor navigates the situation with quick-witted remarks, offering one of his own eight children as a solution.

With sharp humour, exaggerated characters, and witty banter, the script captures the essence of classic Commedia dell'Arte, weaving a story of outrageous deals, absurd fears, and the timeless comedy of human folly.

Have fun with it!



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4 Character Script

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Capitano, Pantalone & the Doctor enter the Witches cottage

PANTALONE

The nest seems to be empty, let us
take our leave.

Th Witch appears out of nowhere.

WITCH

Welcome, thank you for blessing me
with your presence.

DOCTOR

Did we have a choice?

WITCH

There's always a choice.

CAPITANO

It feels like the choice was not ours.

WITCH

Well, the consequences are far
greater than normal, are they not? But
that being said you still had a choice.

DOCTOR

Had?

WITCH

Well here you are, I take your minds
are made up?

PANTALONE

There is a possibility they are not

WITCH

If they are not then tis a very bold
move to turn up, only to turn me down.

The Capitano moves towards the Witch

CAPITANO

We do not scare easily.

WITCH

Boo!

The Capitano jumps back as the Witch cackles.

PANTALONE

He doth but I assure you we do not.

WITCH

Give me what is owed.

DOCTOR

Now about that.

CAPITANO

Yes about that!

The Witch angrily replies.

WITCH

What?!

CAPITANO

I believe he was speaking.

DOCTOR

I believe, WE believe.

CAPITANO

More he than we.

PANTALONE

Be quiet you fool

The Capitano nods his head.

DOCTOR

We believe that all that was promised
to us has not been fulfilled.

WITCH

Hath not been fulfilled? Do you hear
that, they say it hath not been fulfilled.

PANTALONE

Who doth she speak to?

DOCTOR

Demons and the devil for all I know.

CAPITANO

I say we make our leave and risk
whatever may befall us