

Plays for Young Audiences

A PARTNERSHIP OF SEATTLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE AND CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY-MINNEAPOLIS

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The Tiger Who Came to Tea

By
David Wood

Based on the book by
Judith Kerr

The Tiger Who Came to Tea originally premiered at the Bloomsbury Theatre, UK, in 2008.

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CAST

MUMMY – tall, versatile actress.

DADDY/MILKMAN/POSTMAN/TIGER – tall actor with very good movement and mime skills. He plays all the male roles, so needs to sing and act well too. But his movement and energy as the Tiger is a vital ingredient.

SOPHIE - small, versatile actress.

(n.b. 'Kitty' is an important character too! She is a soft toy kitten, preferably a 'ginger tabby', resembling somewhat a little tiger!)

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A **movement person** will be required to assist the **director**. Choreography, movement and mime will be very important.

It will be worthwhile to have a **magic advisor** with whom to discuss and devise the magical effects.

The **designer** needs to work in conjunction with the **magic advisor** and **director** well in advance to create the 'box of tricks' required.

If the music is to be recorded, the **musical director** will need to work in rehearsal with the company, before committing the musical accompaniment and incidental music to tape (or digital!).

SONGS

1. **HI!** Actors and Audience.
2. **A RING AT THE DOOR** Sophie, Mummy, Daddy, Milkman, Postman.
3. **TIGEROBICS** Radio voice (+ Sophie and Mummy).
4. **THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA** Sophie, Mummy
5. **DIFFERENT IN THE DARK** Sophie, Mummy, Daddy.
6. **SAUSAGES AND CHIPS** Sophie, Mummy, Daddy.
7. **THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA/GOODBYE!** Sophie, Mummy (+ Tiger) OR
Sophie, Mummy, Daddy (+ optional Tiger)

THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA

AS THE AUDIENCE ARRIVE, RECORDED MUSIC IS PLAYING (TUNES FROM THE SHOW). BEFORE CURTAIN UP, THE THREE ACTORS – WEARING MOST BUT NOT ALL OF THEIR CHARACTER COSTUMES – GREET THE AUDIENCE AND CHAT TO INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – ‘HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE THEATRE BEFORE?’ - ‘DID YOU COME ON A BUS?’ ETC.

WHEN POSSIBLE, THE FRONT TABS OR A FRONT CLOTH/GAUZE (PERHAPS WITH ‘THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA’ WRITTEN ON IT) HIDE THE SET.

AS THE HOUSELIGHTS FADE TO HALF, THE ACTORS GO UP TREADS TO THE STAGE, IN FRONT OF THE TABS OR THE DIMLY-LIT SET. THE HOUSE LIGHTS STAY UP.

THE ACTORS WHISPER EXCITEDLY, REFERRING TO THE AUDIENCE. THEY DECIDE TO SAY HELLO.

ACTORS: (SPEAKING TO THE AUDIENCE QUIETLY) Hello!

AUDIENCE: Hello!

THE ACTORS REACT HAPPILY, THEN DISCUSS TRYING IT A LITTLE LOUDER.

ACTORS: (LOUDER) Hi!

AUDIENCE: Hi!

PLEASED, THE ACTORS WHISPER ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF DOING IT EVEN LOUDER.

ACTORS: (LOUDER) Hello!

AUDIENCE: Hello!

MUSIC STARTS.

DADDY ACTOR: Let's try it with the music!

SONG 1: HI!

ACTORS: HI!

AUDIENCE: HI!

ACTORS: HELLO!

AUDIENCE: HELLO!

ACTORS: HI!

AUDIENCE: HI!

ACTORS: GOOD TO SEE YOU!

THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TODAY.

HELLO!

AUDIENCE HELLO!

ACTORS: WELCOME TO OUR THEATRE

THANK YOU FOR COMING TO OUR PLAY.

A PLAY TELLS A STORY

LIKE A STORY IN A BOOK

AND WE HAVE COME TO ACT IT OUT

AND YOU HAVE COME TO LOOK!

HI!

AUDIENCE: HI!

ACTORS: GOOD TO SEE YOU!

THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TODAY
HELLO!

AUDIENCE: HELLO!

ACTORS: WELCOME TO OUR THEATRE
THANK YOU FOR COMING TO OUR PLAY.

WE ALL NEED A STORY
TO IMAGINE IN OUR HEAD
A STORY SOMEONE TELLS TO US
OR READS TO US IN BED!

ACTORS: HI!

AUDIENCE: HI!

ACTORS: GOOD TO SEE YOU!
THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TODAY
HELLO!

AUDIENCE: HELLO!

ACTORS: WELCOME TO OUR THEATRE
THANK YOU FOR COMING TO OUR PLAY.

MUSIC CONTINUES AS THE ACTORS CROSS TO WHERE THE CLOTHES ARE
AND HELP EACH OTHER PUT ON ONE OR TWO ITEMS OF CLOTHING WHICH
IDENTIFY THEM AS SOPHIE AND HER PARENTS – MUMMY'S CARDIGAN,
SOPHIE'S HAIR RIBBON, DADDY'S HAT AND TIE.

MUMMY ACTOR: Are you ready?

DADDY ACTOR: Are you steady?

SOPHIE ACTOR: One, two, three

ALL: We'll tell you the story

THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA!

THE HOUSELIGHTS FADE AS THE TABS FLY OUT TO REVEAL (OR THE LIGHTING MORE FULLY REVEALS) THE KITCHEN. MUSIC AS THE ACTORS ENTER THE SET, BECOMING SOPHIE, MUMMY AND DADDY. THEY EXPLORE THE KITCHEN.

THE CLOCK'S INTRODUCTORY CHIMES GRAB EVERYONE'S ATTENTION. THEY LOOK FOR THE SOURCE OF THE CHIMES. PERHAPS DADDY LOOKS IN THE FRIDGE. MUMMY REALISES THE CHIMES COME FROM THE CLOCK AND GOES TO IT, DIRECTING THE OTHERS' ATTENTION TO IT. ITS HANDS ARE POINTING TO TWELVE O'CLOCK. AS THE HOURS STRIKE, ALL ENCOURAGE THE AUDIENCE TO JOIN IN COUNTING THE TIME,

MUMMY: One ...

MUMMY POINTS THE HOUR HAND TO EACH NUMBER ON THE CLOCK FACE.

DADDY JOINS IN.

MUMMY AND DADDY: Two ...

SOPHIE JOINS IN. ALL ENCOURAGE THE AUDIENCE TO JOIN IN THE COUNTING.

ALL: Three

ALL AND AUDIENCE: Four, five, six ...

PERHAPS THERE IS A SLIGHT PAUSE, DURING WHICH MUMMY, DADDY AND SOPHIE RELAX AND MOVE AWAY FROM THE CLOCK, BUT THEN SWIFTLY HAVE TO RETURN, BECAUSE THEY HEAR ANOTHER CHIME.

Seven, eight ...

THEY WAIT; NO MORE CHIMES.

ALL: Eight o'clock in the morning!

MUMMY STEPS FORWARD AS DADDY, NEARLY COLLIDING WITH SOPHIE, GOES TO THE SIDE OF THE STAGE, WHERE COATS ETC. ARE HUNG. SOPHIE STANDS TO ONE SIDE.

MUMMY: Once there was a little girl (INDICATING) called Sophie.

SOPHIE: And she was having breakfast in the kitchen with her
(INDICATING) Mummy.

MUMMY AND SOPHIE SIT AT THE TABLE. BOTH MIME EATING.

MUMMY: Toast and marmalade!

SOPHIE: Coco pops and milk!

BOTH: Mmmm!

SOPHIE: Daddy was late for work.

MUMMY: (SMILING) As usual.

MUSIC AS DADDY RETURNS AT SPEED, CARRYING HIS SHOES, HIS JACKET HALF ON, HIS TIE ASKEW. A CHOREOGRAPHED SEQUENCE.

MUMMY POURS A CUP OF TEA FOR DADDY AND HANDS IT TO HIM. TO RECEIVE IT, DADDY PUTS HIS HAT ON THE TEAPOT AND HIS SHOES ON THE TABLE. HE SIPS THE TEA. IT IS TOO HOT.

MUMMY GASPS WITH MOCK HORROR AND REMOVES THE SHOES FROM THE TABLE AND HOLDS THEM, WHILE PICKING UP TWO SLICES OF TOAST AS DADDY PUTS HIS CUP AND SAUCER ON THE TABLE.

MUMMY FOLLOWS DADDY TO THE TOASTER. HE TAKES HIS SHOES FROM HER AND TRIES TO PUT THEM IN THE TOASTER. HE REALISES HIS MISTAKE, GIVES THEM BACK TO MUMMY AND POPS IN THE BREAD.

BOTH RETURN TO THE TABLE. ANOTHER SIP OF TEA. TOO HOT. MUMMY PUTS DOWN THE SHOES AS DADDY LOOKS AT HIS WATCH, SEES HE IS LATE, AND TAKES HIS BRIEFCASE FROM A CHAIR. HE SETS OFF. MUMMY STOPS HIM. HIS JACKET IS ONLY HALF ON. DADDY TRIES TO PUT HIS ARM IN THE ARMHOLE, BUT CANNOT BECAUSE HE IS HOLDING THE BRIEFCASE. HE AND MUMMY REVOLVE FRUITLESSLY.

SOPHIE LEAVES THE TABLE AND TAKES THE BRIEFCASE. DADDY AND MUMMY REVOLVE AGAIN. DADDY PUTS HIS ARM IN THE ARMHOLE, BUT THE JACKET IS NOW ON BACK TO FRONT.

DADDY CLEVERLY RIGHTS IT BY LIFTING HIS ARMS AND PASSING THE JACKET OVER HIS HEAD. SUCCESS! HE DOES UP THE BUTTONS AND SOPHIE HANDS HIM THE BRIEFCASE. HE KISSES MUMMY AND SOPHIE, WHO GO UP TO THE DOOR TO SEE HIM OUT. HE REMEMBERS HIS HAT, BUT MISTAKENLY PUTS ON THE TEA COSY. HE GOES OUT OF THE DOOR.

MUMMY SEES HIS SHOES. DADDY REALISES HE IS WEARING NO SHOES AND A TEA COSY ON HIS HEAD AND RETURNS.

SOPHIE PLACES A CHAIR FOR HIM. HE SITS. SOPHIE AND MUMMY EACH PUT ON A SHOE FOR HIM. HE STANDS, KISSES SOPHIE, WHO REMOVES THE TEA COSY FROM HIS HEAD. HE KISSES MUMMY, WHO PUTS ON HIS HAT FOR HIM. THEN HE STARTS TO EXIT, PASSING THE TOASTER.

HE OPENS HIS BRIEFCASE AND IN IT CATCHES THE PIECE OF TOAST THAT POPS OUT OF THE TOASTER. HE SNAPS SHUT THE BRIEFCASE AND EXITS. MUMMY CLOSES THE DOOR AFTER HIM.

MUMMY and SOPHIE: (SMILING) Phew!

THEN, AS SOPHIE RETURNS TO THE TABLE, AND MUMMY GOES TO THE CLOCK...

MUMMY: Tick tock, tick tock, tick tock, tick tock ...

MUMMY MOVES THE BIG HAND OF THE CLOCK ON TEN MINUTES.

A few minutes later ...

SHE RETURNS TO THE TABLE, SITS, AND STARTS TO MIME A BITE OF TOAST. SUDDENLY ... A RING AT THE DOORBELL.

SONG 2: A RING AT THE DOOR

SOPHIE: A RING AT THE DOOR!

MUMMY: WHO CAN IT BE?

ANOTHER RING.

WE'D BETTER OPEN THE DOOR AND SEE ...

MUSIC AS THEY APPROACH THE DOOR ... TENSION! MUMMY OPENS THE DOOR, REVEALING DADDY.

DADDY: IT'S ONLY ME!

SOPHIE: IT'S DADDY!

DADDY: GUESS WHAT, I FORGOT MY KEY!

MUSIC AS HE SWIFTLY COLLECTS IT FROM A HOOK ABOVE THE WORKTOP, GRABS ANOTHER SIP OF TEA, MAKES A FACE BECAUSE IT IS NOW COLD, KISSES MUMMY AND SOPHIE AND LEAVES. MUMMY SHUTS THE DOOR AFTER HIM.

MUMMY and SOPHIE: (SMILING) Phew!

THEN, AS SOPHIE RETURNS RHYTHMICALLY TO THE TABLE, AND MUMMY GOES TO THE CLOCK ... (THIS TIME MUMMY ENCOURAGES SOPHIE AND THE AUDIENCE TO JOIN IN. PERHAPS NOW, AND ON FUTURE OCCASIONS, SHE FINISHES ON A 'TICK' INVITING THE AUDIENCE TO 'ANSWER' WITH A 'TOCK').

Tick tock, tick tock, tick tock, tick tock ...

MUMMY RESETS THE HANDS OF THE CLOCK TO TWELVE O'CLOCK, THEN AS THE CHIMES BEGIN, ENCOURAGES THE AUDIENCE TO JOIN IN COUNTING AS SHE MOVES THE HOUR HAND ROUND.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven!
(TO EACH OTHER) Eleven o'clock.

MUMMY: Once there was a little girl called Sophie.

SOPHIE: And she was having elevenses in the kitchen with her
Mummy.

MUMMY JOINS SOPHIE AT THE TABLE. THEY MIME EATING AND DRINKING.

MUMMY: Chocolate biscuits ..

SOPHIE: And orange squash!

BOTH: Mmmm!

MUMMY: When suddenly ...

A RING AT THE DOORBELL.

SONG 2 (cont):

SOPHIE: A RING AT THE DOOR!

MUMMY: WHO CAN IT BE!

SOPHIE: IT CAN'T BE DADDY, HE'S GOT HIS KEY.

ANOTHER RING.

BOTH: WE'D BETTER OPEN THE DOOR AND SEE ...

MUSIC AS THEY APPROACH THE DOOR. MUMMY OPENS THE DOOR,
REVEALING THE MILKMAN, CARRYING A BASKET.

MILKMAN: MORNING LADIES!

SOPHIE: IT'S THE MILKMAN!

MILKMAN: SERVICE WITH A SMILE, THAT'S ME!

MUMMY: Good morning.

MILKMAN: (ENTERING) Good morning! So what's it to be? Today I've got ...

HE SHOWS THE GOODS IN THE BASKET.

Cream and yoghurt
Butter and marge
Fruit juice, fizzy drinks
Small and large
Crisps and peanuts
Eggs and bread
Green beans, baked beans
Chocolate spread.

MUMMY: Well, I'd like two pints of ...

MILKMAN: I've got ...

MUSICAL STING AS HE OPENS ONE SIDE OF HIS WHITE COAT, REVEALING THE GOODS PINNED INSIDE.

Swiss rolls, sausage rolls
Honey and ham
Cheese rolls, toilet rolls
Jelly and jam

MUSICAL STING AS HE OPENS THE OTHER SIDE OF HIS COAT.

Cornflakes, fishcakes
Soap, shampoo
Teabags, bin bags
Just for you!

MUMMY: Yes, but all I want is two pints of ...

MILKMAN: Fancy a chicken?

MUSICAL STING AS HE BRINGS A CHICKEN FROM HIS COAT POCKET.

MUMMY: No!

MILKMAN: Fancy a fish?

MUSICAL STING AS HE BRINGS A FISH FROM HIS OTHER COAT POCKET.

MUMMY: No! I just want some ...

MILKMAN: Fancy a spider?

MUSICAL STING AS HE REMOVES HIS PEAKED CAP REVEALING A LARGE
DANGLING SPIDER WITH FLASHING EYES!

MUMMY AND SOPHIE REACT WITH A SCREAM – THEN LAUGHTER.

MUMMY: No! Just some ...

SOPHIE: Milk! Milk!

MILKMAN: (AMAZED) Milk? You want milk?

HE PUTS HIS CAP BACK ON.

SOPHIE: Yes!

MILKMAN: I don't sell milk!

SOPHIE: But you're a milkman!

MILKMAN: (COLLECTING HIS BASKET) Yes, but I don't sell milk.
Sorry. Good morning.

HE TURNS AND WALKS TOWARDS THE DOOR, REVEALING A SMALL MILK CRATE ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF HIS COAT. IT HAS TWO BOTTLES OF MILK PLAINLY VISIBLE. HOPEFULLY THE AUDIENCE SHOUT OUT. IN ANY EVENT, MUMMY AND SOPHIE SEE IT.

SOPHIE: Look!

SHE DASHES UP TO THE MILKMAN AND REMOVES TWO BOTTLES. THE MILKMAN TURNS ROUND AND SEES THE BOTTLES.

MILKMAN: (AS THOUGH SURPRISED) Ahhh! Milk! Why didn't you say so!

SOPHIE: We did!

MILKMAN: (LAUGHING) Just my little joke, Sophie! Bye!

MUSIC AS HE LEAVES.

MUMMY: (CALLING AFTER HIM) Thank you!

SOPHIE CARRIES THE BOTTLES TO THE WORKTOP, OR PUTS THEM IN THE FRIDGE.

MUMMY: (ENCOURAGING THE AUDIENCE TO JOIN IN): Tick tock, tick tock, tick tock, tick tock ...

SOPHIE JOINS IN AND RETURNS TO THE TABLE AS MUMMY GOES TO THE CLOCK AND PUTS THE HANDS BACK TO TWELVE O'CLOCK. THE CHIMES BEGIN. THE CLOCK STRIKES ONLY ONCE. MUMMY MOVES THE LITTLE HAND.

MUMMY AND SOPHIE: One! (TO EACH OTHER) One o'clock!

MUMMY: Sophie ...

SOPHIE: ... and her Mummy ...

MUMMY: ... were having lunch in the kitchen.

THEY RETURN TO THE TABLE AND MIME EATING.

SOPHIE: Spaghetti hoops.

MUMMY: And beefburgers.

BOTH: Mmmm.

MUMMY: When, suddenly ...

A RING AT THE DOORBELL.

SONG 2 (cont.):

SOPHIE: A RING AT THE DOOR!

MUMMY: WHO CAN IT BE?

SOPHIE: IT CAN'T BE THE MILKMAN, HE'S JUST BEEN.
IT CAN'T BE DADDY, HE'S GOT HIS KEY.

ANOTHER RING.

BOTH: WE'D BETTER OPEN THE DOOR AND SEE ...

MUSIC AS THEY APPROACH THE DOOR.

MUMMY OPENS THE DOOR, REVEALING THE POSTMAN WITH A PARCEL. HE IS SHORTSIGHTED.

POSTMAN: SURPRISE, SURPRISE!

SOPHIE: IT'S THE POSTMAN!

POSTMAN: PARCEL FOR (READING THE LABEL) S.O.P.H.I.E.

SOPHIE: S.O.P.H.I.E SOPHIE
THAT'S ME!

POSTMAN: (ENTERING AND GOING TO HAND THE PARCEL TO
MUMMY) There you go, Sophie.

MUMMY DIRECTS HIM TO SOPHIE.

Aah! There you go, Sophie.

SOPHIE: Thank you.

POSTMAN: Bye, bye, ladies! Have a nice day!

HE STARTS TO EXIT, BUT SHORTSIGHTEDLY HEADS FOR THE CUPBOARD,
OPENS IT AND COMES TO A HALT.

Oh!

MUMMY GOES AND RESCUES HIM, TURNING HIM TOWARDS THE OPEN DOOR.

Ah!

HE EXITS, LAUGHING AT HIS MISTAKE. MUMMY CLOSES THE DOOR.

SOPHIE: What is it?

MUMMY: Open it and see!

SOPHIE: It's not my birthday.

MUMMY: Open it!

SOPHIE: (SHAKING IT) It doesn't make a noise. (FEELING IT) It's soft. And squidgy! (TO THE AUDIENCE) Can you guess what it is?

HOPEFULLY THE AUDIENCE MAKE SUGGESTIONS. SOPHIE CONSIDERS EACH SERIOUSLY. NO MORE THAN THREE!

MUMMY: Go on! Open it!

SOPHIE STARTS TO UNWRAP THE PARCEL. SHE FINDS A CARD AND HANDS IT TO MUMMY.

(READING) To Sophie with love from Uncle Matty!

SOPHIE FINDS A SOFT TOY KITTEN.

SOPHIE: Look!

MUMMY: Ahh, he's lovely! Hello, (GIVING THE KITTEN A NAME)
Kitty!

SOPHIE: (STARTING TO PLAY, WAVING KITTY'S PAW TO MUMMY)
Miaow!

MUMMY: (JOINING IN, A LITTLE RESERVED) Miaow!

SHE TAKES THE PAPER AND STRING FROM SOPHIE AND TIDIES IT INTO THE CUPBOARD. THEN SHE CLEARS THE TABLE, TAKING TEAPOT, COSY AND CUP AND SAUCER TO THE SINK. MEANWHILE

SOPHIE: Thank you, Uncle Matty! (STROKING KITTY) Hello, Kitty!
Miaow! (WAVING KITTY'S PAW TO THE AUDIENCE,
ENCOURAGING THEM TO REPLY) Miaow! Come and try a
spaghetti hoop!

SHE RETURNS TO THE TABLE, PLAYING WITH KITTY, MIMING FEEDING HER A SPAGHETTI HOOP.

Miaow!

MUMMY; Tick, tock ...

SOPHIE AND THE AUDIENCE JOIN IN.

MUMMY, SOPHIE (and AUDIENCE): Tick tock, tick tock, tick tock, tick tock ...

MUMMY GOES TO THE CLOCK AND PUTS THE HANDS BACK TO TWELVE O'CLOCK. THE CHIMES BEGIN. THE CLOCK STRIKES ... MUMMY MOVES THE LITTLE HAND.

One, two, three, four. (TO EACH OTHER) Four o'clock!

MUMMY: Sophie was having tea ...

SOPHIE: ... with her Mummy and Kitty.

FROM THE CUPBOARDS UNDER THE WORKTOP MUMMY BRINGS PLATES OF FOOD. SOPHIE SITS KITTY ON A CHAIR. MUSICAL FANFARES GREET EACH PLATE. SOPHIE TAKES EACH ONE FROM MUMMY AND TAKES IT TO THE TABLE.

MUMMY: Sandwiches.

FANFARE.

SOPHIE: Sandwiches.

MUMMY: Buns.

FANFARE.

SOPHIE: Buns.

MUMMY: Biscuits.

FANFARE.

SOPHIE: Biscuits.

MUMMY: And cake.

FANFARE.

SOPHIE: Cake.

BOTH: Mmmm.

SOPHIE HOLDS UP KITTY TO SEE THE IMPRESSIVE TEA.

SOPHIE: Miaow!

MUMMY: When, suddenly ...

A RING AT THE DOORBELL.

SONG 2 (cont):

SOPHIE: A RING AT THE DOOR!

MUMMY: WHO CAN IT BE?

SOPHIE: IT CAN'T BE THE POSTMAN, WE'VE JUST SEEN HIM.

IT CAN'T BE THE MILKMAN, HE'S JUST BEEN.

IT CAN'T BE DADDY, HE'S GOT HIS KEY.

ANOTHER RING.

BOTH: WE'D BETTER OPEN THE DOOR AND SEE ...

MUMMY: (SPEAKING) You go this time, Sophie.

MUSIC AS SOPHIE LEAVES KITTY ON A CHAIR AND APPROACHES THE DOOR. SHE OPENS IT. NO-ONE IS THERE.

SOPHIE: Oh, that's funny.

MUMMY: What?

SOPHIE: (NEARLY CLOSING THE DOOR AND GOING BACK TO MUMMY) No-one there.

MUSIC AS A TIGER'S PAW APPEARS ROUND THE DOOR, FOLLOWED BY HIS HEAD, LOOKING IN. SOPHIE AND MUMMY DON'T SEE HIM.

MUMMY: Are you sure?

SOPHIE: Yes. There's no one there.

MUMMY: But I heard the doorbell.

SOPHIE: So did I.

MUMMY: I'll have a look.

BY NOW THE AUDIENCE SHOULD BE SHOUTING THAT A TIGER IS AT THE DOOR. AS MUMMY APPROACHES, THE TIGER WALKS OUT OF SIGHT. MUMMY LOOKS OUT OF THE DOOR BUT CAN'T SEE ANYONE.

SOPHIE: See?

MUMMY: (RETURNING TO SOPHIE, LEAVING THE DOOR OPEN)
Yes, you're right. No-one there. Oh well! Teatime!

THEY RETURN TO THE TABLE. IMMEDIATELY, THE TIGER RETURNS, WAVING. THE AUDIENCE SHOUT OUT. SOPHIE AND MUMMY REACT. THEY COME DOWNSTAGE.

MUMMY: (TO THE AUDIENCE) Is there someone there?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

SOPHIE: Who is it?

AUDIENCE: A tiger!

MUMMY: A what?

AUDIENCE: A tiger!

SOPHIE: A tiger?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

BOTH: It can't be!

AUDIENCE: Yes!

MUMMY: Let's look.

AS MUMMY AND SOPHIE TURN AND LOOK BACK, THE TIGER STEPS OUT OF SIGHT AGAIN. NOBODY THERE. MUMMY AND SOPHIE TURN TO THE AUDIENCE AND SMILE AS IF TO SAY "YOU'RE HAVING US ON!"

BOTH: There's no tiger!

THE TIGER RETURNS, WAVING IN THE DOORWAY. MORE AUDIENCE REACTION. MUMMY AND SOPHIE LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

MUMMY: Let's look!

THIS TIME THEY HOLD HANDS AND GO UP TO THE DOOR. THE TIGER DISAPPEARS AGAIN. SOPHIE AND MUMMY LOOK OUT OF THE DOOR, THEN TURN BACK TO THE AUDIENCE.

BOTH: There's no tiger!

MORE AUDIENCE REACTION AS THEY WALK DOWNSTAGE AND THE TIGER FOLLOWS THEM INTO THE ROOM.

BOTH: There's no

THEY TURN AND SEE THE TIGER.

TIGER!

THEY JUMP.

Ahh!

BOTH FREEZE. THE TIGER MAKES A SUDDEN MOVEMENT TOWARDS MUMMY.
MUMMY REACTS.

MUMMY: (RECOILING A LITTLE) Ah!

THE TIGER MAKES A SUDDEN MOVEMENT TOWARDS SOPHIE. SOPHIE
REACTS.

SOPHIE: (RECOILING A LITTLE) Ah!

THEN THE TIGER BOWS GRANDLY TO MUMMY.

MUMMY: (TENTATIVELY) Hello.

THE TIGER BOWS GRANDLY TO SOPHIE.

SOPHIE: (AMAZED) Hello.

MUMMY: (MOVING A LITTLE TOWARDS SOPHIE) He's a very polite
tiger.

THE TIGER DOES A LITTLE MOVEMENT.

MUMMY: Ah! (GASPING, SHE STEPS BACK NERVOUSLY).

SOPHIE: (AS THOUGH TO AN ALIEN) Can we help you?

THE TIGER RUBS HIS TUMMY.

MUMMY: (SYMPATHETICALLY) You've got a tummy-ache?

THE TIGER SHAKES HIS HEAD, THEN PATS HIS TUMMY.

SOPHIE: No, no! (TO THE AUDIENCE) What's he saying?

AUDIENCE: He's hungry!

MUMMY: He's what?

AUDIENCE: He's hungry!

SOPHIE: Oh. (TO THE TIGER) Are you hungry?

THE TIGER NODS.

He is hungry.

MUMMY: I see. Then ... (AFTER CONSIDERATION) Would you like to have tea with us?

THE TIGER NODS EAGERLY.

SOPHIE: He would! He would! Then would you like to come to the table?

THE TIGER NODS.SOPHIE INVITES HIM TO SIT ON KITTY'S CHAIR. THE TIGER APPROACHES AND GOES TO SIT.

SOPHIE (PICKING UP KITTY IN THE NICK OF TIME) Oh. Sorry.
This is Kitty. (SHE WARILY HOLDS OUT THE TOY KITTEN)

THE TIGER LOOKS AT KITTY. SOPHIE LOOKS WORRIED AS HE TAKES THE KITTEN IN HIS PAWS. WHAT WILL HIS REACTION BE? HE HOLDS IT ABOVE HIS HEAD. WILL HE HARM IT? AFTER A PAUSE, HE GENTLY ROCKS IT IN HIS ARMS, THEN PLACES IT BACK ON ITS CHAIR.

Thank you. Please sit down.

HE DOES A STATELY WALK ROUND, THEN SITS ON MUMMY'S CHAIR.

MUMMY: (TO THE TIGER) Would you like a sandwich?

SHE HOLDS UP THE PLATE. THE TIGER NODS.

SOPHIE: He would! He would!

SHE STANDS ON HER CHAIR. DURING HER NEXT SPEECH, MUMMY SLOWLY PASSES THE PLATE OF SANDWICHES ACROSS TO THE TIGER, WHO GENTLY TAKES IT.

(TO THE AUDIENCE) But the tiger didn't just take one sandwich. He took all the sandwiches on the plate and swallowed them in one big mouthful.

SOUND EFFECT AS THE TIGER EATS ALL THE SANDWICHES (WHICH DISAPPEAR FROM THE PLATE). HE PASSES THE EMPTY PLATE TO SOPHIE, WHO PASSES IT TO MUMMY.

TIGER: OWP!

MUMMY AND SOPHIE LOOK AT EACH OTHER, AND AT THE EMPTY PLATE.

MUMMY: Goodness!

THE TIGER WAITS.

 He still looks hungry.

SOPHIE: Would you like a bun?

SHE PICKS UP THE PLATE OF BUNS AND SHOWS IT TO THE TIGER. THE TIGER
NODS.

MUMMY: He would! He would!

DURING THE NEXT SPEECH, SOPHIE SLOWLY PASSES THE PLATE OF BUNS TO
THE TIGER, WHO TAKES IT.

 (TO THE AUDIENCE) But the tiger didn't eat just one bun.
 He ate all the buns on the dish.

SOUND EFFECT AS THE TIGER EATS ALL THE BUNS (WHICH DISAPPEAR).

TIGER: OWOWOWP!

HE HANDS THE EMPTY PLACE TO SOPHIE.

SOPHIE: Wow!

THE TIGER WAITS.

MUMMY: Then he ate all the biscuits.

SHE HANDS THE TIGER THE PLATE. HE EATS THEM ALL, THEN HANDS BACK THE EMPTY CAKESTAND.

TIGER: OWP!

MUMMY: Gracious!

SOPHIE: And all the cake.

SHE HANDS THE TIGER THE PLATE. HE EATS ALL THE CAKE, THEN HANDS BACK THE EMPTY CAKESTAND.

TIGER: OWOWOWP!

SOPHIE: Gosh!

MUMMY and SOPHIE: There was nothing left to eat on the table!

MUSIC

SUDDENLY WITH RENEWED ENERGY, THANKS TO THE FOOD, THE TIGER LEAPS UP AND PERFORMS A SHORT, HAPPY, CHOREOGRAPHED ROUTINE – TO SAY THANK YOU.

MUMMY CLEARS AWAY THE PLATES TO THE WORKTOP AS SHE WATCHES THE TIGER DANCE. HE PICKS UP KITTY AND DANCES AROUND WITH HER, THEN GIVES SOPHIE A RIDE ON HIS BACK.

TO SAY THANK YOU, HE MAGICALLY PRODUCES SOME FLOWERS FOR MUMMY, PRESENTING THEM TO HER, THEN DANCING WITH HER. MUMMY LAUGHS AS SHE IS TWIRLED ROUND THE KITCHEN. THEN SHE PUTS THE FLOWERS IN A VASE ON A SHELF.

THE EXUBERANT, HAPPY MINUTE OR TWO ENDS WITH THE TIGER SITTING ON THE TABLE, PANTING. SOPHIE AND MUMMY APPLAUD. SOPHIE STROKES HIS TUMMY.

MUMMY: He's a very energetic tiger.

SOPHIE: (TO THE TIGER) Are you all right?

THE PANTING TIGER STANDS BETWEEN THEM AND POINTS TO HIS THROAT.

MUMMY: What?

THE TIGER TURNS TO HER, REPEATING HIS MIME.

MUMMY: You've got a sore throat?

THE TIGER SHAKES HIS HEAD, THEN POINTS TO HIS MOUTH.

SOPHIE: No, no! What? (TO THE AUDIENCE) What's he saying?

THE TIGER MIMES DRINKING.

AUDIENCE: He's thirsty!

MUMMY: I beg your pardon?

AUDIENCE: He's thirsty!

SOPHIE: Yes, of course. He's thirsty!

MUMMY: Then, would you like a drink?

THE TIGER NODS.

SOPHIE: He would!

MUMMY FINDS THE MILK JUG, AND HANDS IT TO SOPHIE, WHO CAREFULLY TAKES IT TO THE TIGER.

He drank all the milk in the milk jug.

SOUND EFFECT AS THE TIGER DRINKS.

TIGER: OWP!

THE TIGER HANDS SOPHIE THE MILK JUG, THEN LOOKS AROUND AND SEES THE TEAPOT ON THE WORKTOP. HE PICKS IT UP AND DRINKS THROUGH THE SPOUT.

SOPHIE: And all the tea in the teapot!

TIGER: OWP!

HE GIVES THE TEAPOT TO SOPHIE, WHO PLACES IT AND THE MILK JUG IN THE SINK.

MUMMY: (FETCHING THE TWO BOTTLES OF MILK – WITH STRAWS) And all the milk in the milk bottles.

THE TIGER DRINKS BOTH BOTTLES AT ONCE (TRICK BOTTLES VISIBLY EMPTY).

TIGER: OWP!

N.B. In the original production the milk bottle section was replaced with a strawberry milk shake section. The full bottles brought by the Milkman were earlier placed in the fridge by Sophie. Then, when the Tiger devoured everything in the fridge, two empty milk bottles remained.

MUMMY: (FETCHING A JUG OF STRAWBERRY MILK SHAKE) He drank all the strawberry milk shake in the strawberry milk shake jug.

SOUND EFFECT AS THE TIGER SUCKS THROUGH A STRAW, AND THE DRINK VANISHES.

TIGER: OOOF!

SOPHIE: He was thirsty!

MUMMY: Oh dear! Whatever next?