

ACT ONE - PROLOGUE

**MUSIC CUE 1: OVERTURE**

**FX1: CHURCH BELLS PEALING**

**MUSIC CUE 1a: FAIRY ENTRANCE (INSTRUMENTAL)**

**FAIRY BOW-BELLS enters DR.**

FAIRY: Ring out, you bells of Christmas cheer  
As Fairy Bow-Bells doth appear!  
The City of London's very own Fairy.  
You may not think that's necessary -  
But deep in the sewers, beneath this fair town,  
Lurks a creature who longs to bring London down.

**MUSIC CUE 1b: KING RAT'S ENTRANCE (INSTRUMENTAL)**

**Flash: FX2: THUNDERCRASH**

**KING RAT enters DL.**

KING RAT: She speaks of me! My name - King Rat!  
A subterranean aristocrat!  
Cunning, cruel, clever – they say my heart is black!  
The Epitome of Evil...and the leader of the pack!

FAIRY: Please, go away, you monster! I've a tale to tell.

KING RAT: Well, you can take your tale and go to...

FAIRY: Well! I'm here to tell the boys and girls a story  
Of Dick Whittington, and his search for glory;

KING RAT: I've never heard of this boy, so why should I care?

FAIRY: Because one day he will become London's Lord Mayor!

KING RAT: I'll still rule London; your Whittington can't change that!

FAIRY: But Dick has a friend who might,  
He's called Tommy, the cat!

KING RAT: Don't mention cats to me, you know they make me sick!  
If he's a friend of felines, then watch out Master Dick!  
For if I can do him any ill  
You all may rest assured, I will!  
I'll ruin him, that's what I'll do  
And then I'll turn my spite on you!  
Oh you may hiss and boo and jeer,  
But there's nothing on this earth I fear!  
And Whittington's mangy, stupid cat  
Will be no match for me – the great king rat.