

# MARY QUEEN O SCOTS

## Cast in order of appearance

Narrator

James V o Scotland

Mary Queen o Scots

John Knox

King Henry VIII o England

Scots Lords

The Four Marys

Rizzio

Ladies in Waiting

Darnley

Francis

Hepburn

A soldier

Queen Elizabeth I o England

## Scene 1 IT CAM WI A LASS

In this scene -

NARRATOR, JAMES V, MARY (age 5), JOHN KNOX, CHORUS

Curtain up on NARRATOR, JAMES V and MARY (age 5)

NARRATOR: (*with an emphatic rhythmic beat*)

Mary Queen o Scots AKA Mary Stuart

Mary Queen o Scots that wis queen at six days auld

Her faither James Five as he dee'd, this royal Stuart,

Didnae want a doachter whitever she wis cawed.

JAMES V: (*crosses arms on chest as if in death then fades into background as he delivers his lines*)

The Stuart line wi me shall pass

For it cam wi a lass

And it'll gang wi a lass

EXIT JAMES V, MARY ALONE, LOOKING AROUND FOR HER DAD

MARY (*in child's voice*): I am Mary. I am a queen.

JOHN KNOX (steps forward, brandishing bible): Aye, mibbe a queen but jist a female, jist a wummin, jist a lassie.

*Exit KNOX*

Enter CHORUS

CHORUS (as *other children walking round and pointing at BUT not pushing the young Mary*):

Cam wi a lass Gang wi a lass

Cam wi a lass Gang wi a lass

Cam wi a lass Gang wi a lass

MARY(*fights back against the pointing by speaking in a child-like voice at first then growing in confidence*): I am Mary.

CHORUS: Cam wi a lass Gang wi a lass

MARY: I am a queen.

CHORUS: Cam wi a lass Gang wi a lass

MARY: I am Mary Queen o Scots.

CHORUS: Cam wi a lass Gang wi a lass

(silence)

MARY: I am Mary Queen o Scots. And wan day I'll be Queen o France

## Scene 2 THE ROUGH WOOING

In this scene -

NARRATOR, MARY age 5, HENRY VIII, SCOTS LORDS, SOLDIERS

During this scene, Mary is piggie in the middle, being pulled one way by Henry, then pulled another by the Scots lords

NARRATOR: Oh-oh, Henry the Eighth o England. Whit's he waantin? This cannae be guid.

HENRY: Dear Scots lords...

SCOTS LORDS: (*in defiance*) Whit?!

HENRY: Dear Scots lords...

SCOTS LORDS: (*mair defiant*) Whit?!

HENRY:

Yous jokers up in Scotland, let's hae some fun.

I waant your Mary Queen o Scots tae mairry ma son.

SCOTS LORDS: (*in surprise and shock*) Whit???

HENRY:

I'll pey ye money

I'll even flatter ye

But if there's nae weddin

I'll send ma airmy up tae batter ye.

LORD 1: She cannae stey here.

LORD 2: Here come the sodgers.

LORD 3: Nae fear. Nae danger.

LORD 2: Hunners o English sodgers.

LORD 1: But we cannae send her aff wi ony auld stranger.

LORD 2: Thoosands o English sodgers.

LORD 3:

Whit if they get oor queen?

We cannae tak that chance.

LORD 1: Quick, let's send Mary tae her relatives in France.

LORD 3: Aye, and see thae English. We'll stoap them at Pinkie.

(End with Battle scene)

### Scene 3 MARY ON BOAT TAE FRANCE

In this scene -

NARRATOR, MARY, SAILORS

SOLDIERS from Battle Scene become SAILORS who form shape of a ship. The SAILORS are pulling on oars as they sing.

SAILORS (*singing*): Frère Jacques Frère Jacques

Dormez-vous? Dormez-vous?

Sonnez les matines

Sonnez les matines

Ding-dang-dong

Ding-dang-dong

MARY (as adult, *coming forward from back of ship*):

They taen me

Across the stormy sea

Tae the place where they dinnae sae Aye

They say Oui

#### Scene 4 MARY IN FRANCE

In this scene -

NARRATOR, MARY, THE FOUR MARYS

NARRATOR: Mary Queen o Scots - in France.

MARY as child & THE FOUR MARYS (singing, in a light childish fun way): Frère Jacques Frère Jacques Dormez-vous? Dormez-vous? Sonnez les matines Sonnez les matines Ding, dang, dong. Ding, dang, dong.

MARY: Jouer. Danser. Parler. J'ai entendu. Je suis Marie. Haud on, I can speak French noo?

THE FOUR MARYS: Jouer. Danser. Parler. J'ai entendu. Je suis Marie. Haud on, we can aw speak French noo.

NARRATOR:

A beautiful childhood

Fu o dreams and sangs and dances

Soon it wis time

For Mary tae mairry Francis

Mary's faither in law

He wis King o France

Joustin wan day

Got killed by a broken lance

And like that, Mary wis Queen o France

Her life wis a dream

Her life wis perfection

Til Francis up and dee'd

Fae a lug infection

#### Scene 4 MARY COMES HAME

In this scene -

NARRATOR, CHORUS, MARY, KNOX

CHORUS:

FUFTEEN

FUF-FUF-TEEN

FUFTEEN SIXTY-WAN

SCOATLAND- AGAIN!

NARRATOR:

Mary landit in Leith

Tae a land chynged in faith and belief  
As a bairn, she had left a Catholic nation  
And while she wis awa, they'd went and had a...  
JOHN KNOX (*shouts, raised fist*) Reformation!

### Scene 5 MARY v KNOX

In this scene -

NARRATOR, MARY, KNOX, REST OF CAST

(in the style of a Rap Battle)

NARRATOR:

In the reid corner, lookin bonnie, Mary Queen o Scots

ALL: *Cheers*

NARRATOR:

And in the blue corner, the Bible Basher himsel, John Knox.

ALL: *Boos*

KNOX:

Scots boarn

French raised

A poash French wifie

Aw o yir days

MARY:

Ye can stick yir Reformation

I'm the Queen o aw the nation.

KNOX:

You will neither waant nor wirk  
And ye're no gettin intae ma kirk

MARY:

Ye can see I'm the people's sovereign, can't ye?

KNOX:

Aye, mibbe. But see the people? The people dinnae waant ye.  
And ye're spendin too much time wi that wee Spanish fella,  
whit's his name?  
MARY: Spanish nothin. He's Italian. He's Rizzio. David Rizzio.

## Scene 6 THE ROOM WHAUR IT HAPPENED

In this scene -

RIZZIO, DARNLEY, MARY, SCOTS LORDS, LADIES IN WAITING

NARRATOR:

Mary and her Italian secretary Rizzio. Holyrood Place,  
Edinburgh.

In the room whaur it happened.

*(MARY (stage right) and RIZZIO (stage left) standing, holding hands)*

MARY: Sweet Rizzio. Talk tae me.

RIZZIO: Mia amata, siamo destinati a stare insieme. Che provino a fermarmi, gliela farò vedere

(MARY is standing stage right, LADIES IN WAITING enter stage right from behind MARY, they grab her shoulders from behind.

RIZZIO is standing stage left. DARNLEY and SCOTS LORDS enter stage left from behind Rizzio, SCOTS LORDS grab his shoulders from behind

MARY and RIZZIO still holding hands, but struggling to keep holding hands as the people behind them tighten their grip on their shoulders)

DARNLEY:

Ye think ye're funny, eh?

Talkin aw Italian tae ma wife.

Ye'll no be sae funny noo

At the end o your short life.

MARY: Darnley, husband! Whit are ye daein?

RIZZIO: Non ho fatto niente, ti sei sbagliato. Ritorna da tua moglie e lasciami andare.

(MARY is pulled away right by LADIES, RIZZIO is pulled away left by LORDS. MARY faints, is laid gently onto floor by LADIES, the LADIES step stage front of her. RIZZIO is knocked to the ground by DARNLEY & LORDS, DARNLEY & LORDS step in front of him. LADIES, DARNLEY & LORDS front of stage, break into song and dance:

Ye dinnae want tae be in the room whaur it happened

The room whaur it happened

The room whaur it happened.

Ye dinnae want tae be in the room whaur it happened  
The room whaur it happened  
The room whaur it happened.

DARNLEY: In the room whaur it happened David Rizzio isnae there.

But he left his mark on Scottish History.

Ciao, Rizzio

(Close up shot of RIZZIO's hands on floor being dragged roughly away)

### Scene 7 MARY'S THREE HUSBANDS

In this scene -

MARY, FRANCIS, DARNLEY, HEPBURN, A SOLDIER

MARY singing each section for FRANCIS, DARNLEY & HEPBURN

FRANCIS and MARY wedding scene

MARY:

I cam intae this world  
And they made me Queen  
When I wis juist a lassie

I wis mairried at sixteen  
Tae a canny lad, a quiet loun  
We loved each ither in the spring o Youth  
But daith took him too soon

(*FRANCIS retreats off stage*)

(*DARNLEY dances onto stage, twirls and dances around as Mary sings*)

MARY:

Darnley, dear darlin dementit Darnley  
You gied me ma bairn  
You were King tae ma Queen  
But you were crazy and starin  
You were as jealous as ye were braw  
And daith came for you and aw

(*DARNLEY dances off stage*)

(*HEPBURN struts onto stage, arrogantly. MARY kneels before him*)

MARY:

Ma nixt Guid Man wis no a guid man  
I wis juist a wee pairt in big plan  
Hepburn brocht nae licht  
He juist brocht dark  
And daith foond Hepburn  
In a prison cell in Denmark

(HEPBURN led away off stage by a SOLDIER)

### Scene 8 MARY'S EXECUTION

CHORUS, NARRATOR, MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH, LADIES IN WAITING

CHORUS:

FUFTEEN

FUF-FUFTEEN

FUFTEEN EICHTY SEEVEN

NARRATOR: And here's QUEEN ELIZABETH the FURST

CHORUS: *make a mocking sound*

ELIZABETH: Wheesht, yous lot. Aye, I kept my cousin in captivity for years. But she wis a pain and she threatened little auld me. (*draws a finger across her throat*) Ken whit? She had tae go.

(ALL EXIT EXCEPT MARY)

MARY: (*sings*)

In ma beginnin

I wis born a queen

There wis sufferin and trauchles

In ma reign

I did aw I could

In the warld o men

In ma end I wis alane

MARY(*speaks last line*): At the end I wis alane.

*Curtain*