

Chainmail

A Play
by
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CHARACTERS:

SIR RENDER ~ timid new knight in the kingdom

SIR TAIN ~ experienced but overly confident knight, kind of an idiot

KING JOE ~ ruler of the kingdom who only seems to care about himself

SIR VIVAL ~ knight and wilderness enthusiast with an Australian accent

ACT I

LIGHTS UP ON:

INT. CASTLE THRONE ROOM - DAY

SIR RENDER stands anxiously tapping his toe and looking around the room. He looks down at his wrist at his sundial watch but there isn't enough sun where he is standing. He walks around the room holding his wrist in various ways trying to see the time.

SIR RENDER

Come on, it should be here any minute!

Enter SIR TAIN from stage left. He sneaks up on SIR RENDER from behind and pushes down the mask on his knight helmet. SIR RENDER screams and jumps in surprise as he tries to get the mask up.

SIR RENDER

Was that the jester again? I swear to God if it was that was NOT a very nice gesture.

SIR RENDER finally gets his mask up and turns around to see SIR TAIN.

SIR TAIN

Oh Sir Render, how are you a knight when you are so timid?

SIR RENDER

Well Sir Tain, I'll have you know that I graduated at the top of my class from knight school. All those late evenings of studying and work really payed off.

SIR TAIN

Well a good knight would be guarding the castle instead of staring at his watch. What exactly are you doing?

SIR RENDER

Last night the newest collection of chainmail was released and I was able to order a set for myself before they sold out. I was so excited that I got them shipped to me as fast as possible. It really should be here by now! Maybe the order status changed on my tablet.

SIR RENDER pulls out a literal medieval writing tablet and begins fiddling with it. Suddenly a package is tossed over the heads of SIR RENDER and SIR TAIN. It lands to the side of SIR TAIN.

SIR RENDER

Ah yes, I love over knight shipping!

SIR TAIN

Well don't just stand there, open it!

SIR RENDER tears into the package, tossing aside tons of packing peanuts. The only other thing he finds in the box is a note.

SIR RENDER

(reading the note)

Ye hath been cursed by the plague of internet shopping. If thou doth not forward this message to three other knights and return to the castle tower by dusk, thine king will perish.

SIR TAIN

Oh my God, who would believe something like that?

SIR RENDER

Sir Tain, do you not fear for the life of our king?

Enter KING JOE from stage right holding his royal scepter.

KING JOE

What is all of this commotion.

SIR RENDER

Sire! You have to read this.

SIR RENDER hands KING JOE the letter. KING JOE quickly reads through it.

KING JOE

You have got to be joking.

SIR TAIN

Him Joe King? No, you're King Joe!

KING JOE pauses for a minute staring at SIR TAIN in confusion. When he finally gets it he hits SIR TAIN on the head with his scepter.

KING JOE

No you idiot. I mean I hope you're kidding about this letter...

SIR TAIN

Just like I said Sir Render, no one should believe such a silly...

KING JOE

(interrupting)

Because if you're not my life is in serious danger!

SIR RENDER

But my king, how will I get this to so many other knights in such a short time?

KING JOE

Well young lad, Sir Tain is right here so you can give one to him. I can deliver one to Sir Cumference on my way over to the round table. As for a third knight I believe the rest are out on quests.

SIR TAIN

Yeah Sir Fing is out at sea, Sir Loin is on a high steaks mission, and Sir Mon is far away doing missionary work.

KING JOE

What about Sir Vive? I think he's out in the nearby forest somewhere testing out some new methods to withstand the wilderness.

SIR RENDER

That's it! I'll go give it to him! Let's go Sir Tain!

Exit SIR RENDER and SIR TAIN stage right.

LIGHTS FADE.

ACT II

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Enter SIR RENDER and SIR TAIN from stage right.
They look around the forest for SIR VIVAL.

SIR TAIN

Ugh can you hurry up and find him? He's gotta be around here somewhere.

SIR RENDER

We must take the time find him! We need to save the life of King Joe! I won't give up! I won't surrender... oh wait.

SIR TAIN

Fine, you can keep searching but I need to take a little break. Come here and get me if you find him.

SIR TAIN goes to sit down on what he thinks is a log. As he does it jolts up.

SIR VIVAL

Ow!

SIR TAIN

Found him!

SIR RENDER

Sir Vival! We've been looking for you for hours.

SIR VIVAL

Crikey mate, you've ruined my hiding spot!

SIR RENDER

We're awfully sorry sir but we've been on a quest to find you. We need to pass this chainmail onto one last night and you're the only other one near the kingdom.

SIR RENDER goes to hand SIR VIVAL the note but he swats it away and does a somersault across the stage.

SIR VIVAL

I'll only take your note if you help me track down the mighty beast I've been searching for in these parts. It's not gonna be a very g'day for you g'knights unless you prove your worth to the wild.

SIR TAIN

Alright, we'll help. What is the beast you're hunting?

SIR VIVAL

The mighty fire breathing dragon!

SIR RENDER jumps behind SIR TAIN hiding and shaking.

SIR RENDER

I... I... I don't know if we can help with that.

SIR VIVAL

Well if ya don't, I'm not taking your note.

SIR TAIN

We'll just leave. This stupid chainmail is a scam anyway.

SIR VIVAL begins sharpening a dagger while SIR TAIN begins to walk away. SIR RENDER runs in front of SIR TAIN and stops him.

SIR RENDER

We can't leave! What're we gonna do about the letter?

SIR TAIN

Well you're too scared to help him fight the dragon and that's the only way he's going to take the note.

SIR RENDER

But the king's going to die if we don't give it to him.

SIR TAIN

You can't possibly still believe in that childish fake curse Sir Render. Let's just go back to the castle where the king will perfectly live on happily ever after.

SIR RENDER begins diligently walking back towards SIR VIVAL.

SIR VIVAL

Ya up to the challenge now mate?

SIR RENDER

I g...g...guess so.

SIR VIVAL hands the dagger he was sharpening to SIR RENDER and then pulls out a dragon call and blows into it making a loud whistling noise. The two look around but see nothing. Suddenly, a DRAGON ROAR is heard from stage left. SIR RENDER lets out a HIGH PITCHED SCREAM. SIR TAIN covers his ears and SIR VIVAL drops to the floor. A loud THUMP is heard on stage left. SIR TAIN approaches SIR RENDER in shock. SIR RENDER drops the dagger.

SIR RENDER

Did I just kill a fire breathing dragon with my girly scream?

SIR TAIN walks closer to the stage left wings to inspect the dead dragon.

SIR TAIN

I can't believe I'm saying this but yes, I believe you did. In fact, I'm certain.

SIR RENDER

Well well well Sir Vival, I killed the dragon and now you can take my...

SIR RENDER turns around to see SIR VIVAL laying dead on the ground, also killed by his girly scream.

SIR RENDER

DAMMIT!

SIR TAIN

Come on Sir Render, let's go back to the castle.

LIGHTS FADE.

ACT III

LIGHTS UP ON:

INT. CASTLE THRONE ROOM

Enter SIR RENDER and SIR TAIN from stage right looking defeated. SIR RENDER clutches the note in his hand looking down at it and then around the room.

SIR TAIN

What about Sir Up? Is he around anywhere?

SIR RENDER

No, he went on a quest to a far away land called Canada.

SIR TAIN

Sir Geon?

SIR RENDER

Off at med school.

SIR TAIN

I hate to say it but I think we're all out of knights. I'm sorry.

Enter SIR PRISE from stage left, sneaking at the back of the room holding a bunch of balloons. SIR TAIN turns around and catches him.

SIR TAIN

Sir Prise? What are you doing here?

VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE KINGDOM pop out from behind furniture and from the sides of the stage.

ALL

SURPRISE!

KING JOE walks forward and shakes SIR RENDER's hand.

SIR RENDER

What is all this?

KING JOE

We heard about how you defeated the dragon with your little girl scream and really proved your worth as a knight in this kingdom.

SIR RENDER

But what about the letter with the curse? I didn't complete the quest.

KING JOE

Well it turns out that our good friend Sir Prise over here was playing a prank on us, weren't you?

EVERYONE turns to look at SIR PRISE.

SIR PRISE

(shyly)

Surprise!

EVERYONE sighs.

KING JOE

So what happened to Sir Vival? Did you forget to give him the note in the heat of the battle?

SIR RENDER

Uhhhh he didn't survive the scream.

KING JOE

That's it! I'm putting you under Sir Valence!

SIR RENDER

Anyone but him!

THE END