

SCENE 3

Was Ellen a witch?

Brad and Jerry are in Mrs Morgan's village shop. There are two men and three women in the shop, and Mrs Morgan.

MRS MORGAN Yes? Are you next?

JERRY Yes. Two cokes please. And two of those sandwiches.

BRAD I'm not hungry.

JERRY Man, you must eat. You can't sit in your room all day and wait for a ghost.

Mrs Morgan gets the cokes and the sandwiches.

MRS MORGAN That's six pounds, please. *(Jerry gives her the money.)* What ghost's this? Ellen Bannister?

BRAD *(Angrily)* Yes!

JERRY Do you know about Ellen Bannister?

MRS MORGAN Oh, people in our village had no money then. Of course they stole things. And Ellen Bannister sold them. She only wanted to help.

JERRY Was she a witch? Some people say that.

MRS MORGAN A witch? *(Laughing)* No, of course not. The men loved her. She helped them, you see. The women didn't love her so much. She was beautiful, you see.



'He stole things from rich people.'

WOMAN 1 Her boyfriend was the bad one, that Matthew. It wasn't her.

BRAD *(Drinking his coke)* Oh. What did he do?

WOMAN 2 He stole things from rich people. Then she sold them and he took all the money. He took all her money, too. But she loved him.

BRAD Did he love her?

MAN 1 No. He had two or three women.

WOMAN 3 No, he didn't! He loved her. He lived for her.

MAN 2 Who are you talking about? That witch Ellen Bannister? She ate cats for breakfast.

WOMAN 3 *(To Brad and Jerry)* Oh, don't listen to him.

MRS MORGAN *(Laughing)* Don't listen to these people, you boys. What happened to Ellen Bannister? You want to know that? Matthew killed her.

SCENE 4

Where is Ellen now?

It is night time. Jerry is sitting on the bed. Brad is walking up and down.

BRAD Seven hours. We waited seven hours. Where is she, Jerry?

JERRY I said this before. I don't know. Just wait.

BRAD She isn't coming, because you're here.

JERRY Brad, I say again. One. I sleep here. This is my room. Two. I am your friend and I am not leaving you like this.

BRAD Jerry, is this all a big laugh for you?

JERRY No. Not now. I want to see Ellen, too. I want to help.

BRAD OK. Thanks, Jerry. Sorry. Hey, here she is.
The ghost of Ellen comes into the room.

BRAD Ellen, Ellen. It's me, Brad, Matthew.

JERRY Man, oh man! It's all true!

BRAD Ellen, please. Tell me, what happened, in 1760?

ELLEN You must remember!

BRAD No.

ELLEN We sold things, you and me. Rich people's things. You stole them, remember?

JERRY Wow! Brad, you were Robin Hood! Sorry!

ELLEN The rich people didn't like me. They said bad things about me. 'Ellen Bannister is a witch.' They said that, but it's not true.

BRAD Of course not.

ELLEN Then, one day, they came for us. Twenty men.

BRAD What happened?

ELLEN We ran away. You found a ship. A ship going to America. You said, 'See you at one-fifteen. At the harbour. We can go away, you and me.'

BRAD And then what happened, Ellen?

ELLEN The ship went early. I wasn't there in time. You went on the ship. You didn't wait for me.

BRAD Oh no!



'You didn't wait for me.'

- ELLEN When I arrived, there were a lot of ships there. I didn't know the name of our ship. I looked for you. I waited and waited and waited.
- BRAD Ellen! Oh Ellen, I'm sorry.
- ELLEN Then the men came. They put me in prison. I died three months later. And then I came back home. Here. And I waited again. I waited for you.
- BRAD I love you, Ellen.
- ELLEN I love you too, Matthew.

SCENE 5

What is Brad going to do?

It is dark. Brad is standing at the window of the room. Jerry comes in. Brad always has his back to Jerry in this scene.

- JERRY Do you want to die? Do you want to go to Ellen?
- BRAD Before today, the answer was 'Yes'. Matthew wanted to die and go to be with Ellen. Do you understand that?
- JERRY Yes.
- BRAD But Matthew is dead and I am Brad now.
- JERRY And what does Brad want?
- BRAD I don't know. I'm thinking. Is there a train from here to London tomorrow?

- JERRY Yes. We can put our bicycles on the train. We can get the next plane back to America. Do you want to do that?
- BRAD I don't know. I'm going to tell you tomorrow.

