# Time Paradox House - Technical Script

#### Cast

Villagers

Tabitha Bunden

Young Thomasina Bunden

Queen Elizabeth

Queens guards.

Gerald

Orla – Gerald's niece

Finn - Gerald's nephew

Older Thomasina Bunden

Inspector Bunden

PC Butt

**Plague Doctor** 

Caesar

Voice of Yorkshire God

Cowboy

## Colour key:

## Lacewood school music

Sound effects - Lacewood school

Music by Bradfield school sheffield

Sheffield workshop - initial

Siren song

York St John

Horizon school effects

## Music intro and underscore- arrangement of siren song.

**Narrator:** This story takes place in 2 very different places in time. The story is mostly set in the current day, but first our story begins in years gone by. We meet Tabitha Bunden and her daughter Thomasina, who were classed as outcasts and witches. The villagers feared them and wanted to chase them out of the village. We begin the story with the villagers surrounding the Bundens and chanting insults at them.

#### **SCENE 1**

Scene opens in a small cottage in the woods. Tabitha and her daughter Thomasina are feeding chickens and cooking in a cauldron attached to a wooden machine.

**Sheffield workshops chant:** You cast spells.... Devils child.... Where's your cat.... Not like us....

## Sound effect made by lacewood

Tabitha and her daughter Thomasina are feeding chickens and cooking in a cauldron attached to a wooden machine. sound effects from Lacewood workshops... outdoor noises (including birds) and creaking locks with effects).

Tabitha: Thomasina, please pass me the sage.

Thomasina: Yes mother.

Tabitha: Thank you darling.

Thomasina: What does this bit do? (sound effect - shed lock lacewood)

Tabitha: That bit uses gases to turn the wheel and power the machine. The sage is the key ingredient to ensure that we will be safe from new diseases in the future. Please can you also bring me more horse dung? I'm about to reach a breakthrough – I need more fuel....

Thomasina: Mother, there's someone coming...

Tabitha: Lacewood marching recording] Sweetheart, go inside the cottage and don't come out until I say.

Thomasina: Yes mother...

Queen Elizabeth and her guards enter Sound effects - Halt

Tabitha: [to the Queen] I have told you, I am not interested.

Queen: I beg your pardon? I am here to request... wait let me rephrase that. I am here to DEMAND your land.

Tabitha: You can't take this land away from me!

Queen: I do not want to take it from you Mrs. Bunden! I feel the deal presented to you is more than adequate. You and your daughter will be secure and more than comfortable for

life.

Tabitha: Some things are more important...

Queen: [aggressive and whiney] but this spot is perfect for my retreat. How can you deny your queen her woodland home? I will take it by force! You will pay the price if you refuse!

Tabitha: I am refusing! I can't let you take away my house! You don't understand. This land is...

Queen: Going to be mine. This land is going to be mine!

Tabitha: This land is not simple. This land is complex. This land has a 'resource' that you simply could not manage...

Queen: I am the Queen! I shall decide what I can and cannot manage. If you will not accept our deal, I shall take it by force - Guards!

Tabitha: At least let me talk to my daughter one last time.

Queen: Very well...

Tabitha: Thomasina!

Darling girl, listen to me. When I say, turn the handle on the machine. You must not leave this land – until the curse is broken. Do you hear me? Say you won't, promise you will never leave this land?

Thomasina: I promise mother...

Tabitha: You will regret this decision, your majesty.

Queen: I doubt it... Guards.

Tabitha: Now Thomasina – turn the handle. Sounds effects - lacewood lock scraping on gate

Narrator: Although Tabitha and Thomasina were outcasts, some of the villagers were sympathetic to their cause, and knew that the land had special powers. They began to chant hoping to change the mind of the queen:

Tudor style drum beat to accompany villagers chant written and recorded by Bradfield students:

The Queen has decreed this land as hers Despite the Bunden claim.
For centuries we have nursed this land, Through summers and through rain.
But this land has special powers,
That only we can serve.
And to remove a Bunden from it,
Is to damn it with a curse.
Bunden blood shall now remain here,
A house in time on the fiddle.
When only Bunden blood can save it,
Through thought, heart and riddle.

Queen: Guards, off with her head! (sounds from library)

Queen: Come along. I would like building to begin tomorrow.

Queen: You girl? You can stay on your land. I will need a new house-keeper to keep an eye on my new woodland retreat. [aside] This land is mine!

The sky gets darker and there is a flash of light (sounds - thunder, Laughter, lacewood effects and sound library). Tabitha is executed and all returns to normal.

## SCENE 2 - The house - current day.

Sound effects - birds recorded by lacewood

Narrator: Now we move swiftly on in time, to the current day, Gerald and his nephew Finn and nieces Orla are out for an afternoon stroll when they stumble upon something quite unexpected and unusual!

Scene opens in wood.

Gerald enters with his niece, Orla and nephew, Finn. Walking sounds - lacewood

Gerald: Come on you two, just a bit further and I promise we'll go to the café!

Orla: But we've been walking for hours Uncle Gerald. I'm exhausted.

Finn: Me too. I could murder a hot chocolate!

Orla: When mum said we'd be spending the weekend with you, I didn't realise we'd be walking a bloomin' marathon!

Gerald: I am sorry guys. I'm not used to going for walks with people with shorter legs... also, I'm not 100% sure where we are.

Finn: You mean, we're lost?

Gerald: Well, not lost exactly. But I don't remember this part of the woods - and I've been here many times.

Orla: Now he tells us!

Siren's song (this continues in background as scene is played out) just a single voice - no accompaniment.

Gerald stops in his tracks.

Gerald: Orla, Finn, stop! Listen...

Orla: Listen to what Uncle Gerald?

Gerald: That beautiful song... what is that?

Siren song plays with strange metallic sound (Bradfield sound effect)

Finn: Where did that house come from?

Orla: Was that here a minute ago? Why are all the lights flashing? It's like someone's having a rave!

Finn: I'm confused, what? – that wasn't here a minute ago! Uncle Gerald...

Gerald: That song... Never have I heard such a beautiful song... song slightly louder....

Finn: Uncle Gerald – hello? [pause] He's gone...

Orla: Wait, Finn look. There's someone at the window..... What on earth is Uncle Gerald doing, gawping open mouthed, looking like some kind of demented goldfish staring at the woman in the window! Siren Song again Uncle Gerald, what are you doing?

Gerald: Lets take a look inside, I must meet the exquisite lady inside...

Orla: Not a good idea

Gerald: Come on!

Narrator: Poor Gerald!! Little did he know that the song he was hearing so clearly had the effect of a siren song. Within moments he had lost his mind, and his heart, to the woman in the window - the eternal Thomasina.

#### **SCENE 3 - Inside the house**

Narrator: The siren song had a profound effect on Gerald. Before he knew what was happening he opened the door and stepped inside. The house was ancient and creaked like the bones of an old ship that had held many a whispered conversation. Unfortunate Gerald - although Finn and Orla wanted to leave - he found himself under the spell of the song......and His life was about to change forever.

(effects of door creaking and short piece of 'doom' upon entering the house - Recorded by Bradfield)

Finn: Er.... Uncle Gerald – can we go home now?

Gerald: Oh Finn, Orla, I forgot you were there!

Orla: Apparently you did. (DEFIANT) so, er who are you?

Gerald: Orla, don't be so rude!

Thomasina: Please, don't chastise the beautiful girl. She is right to be a little wary. My dear, my name is Thomasina Bunden. Welcome to my house.

Finn: Yeah about that, why did your house just appear from nowhere? And why is it so bloomin noisy?

Gerald: My love, this is my niece Orla, and nephew, Finn.

Orla: [to Finn] Did he just call her 'my love'?

Finn: [to Orla] I think he did...

Thomasina: It's an honour to meet you both.

Orla: I honestly wish I could say the same, but seriously, what the heck is going on here? Who are you? Where did your house come from? Why has Uncle Gerald suddenly decided that you are the love of his life and gone all gaga after five minutes and a sing-song?

Gerald: I have **not** gone all gaga!

Finn: Seriously? What day is it?

Gerald: Er...

Thomasina: You are right to be curious children.

Orla: Tell you what, let's carry on walking and go for a cup of tea, and you can tell us all about it. I am actually craving that cuppa and a flapjack now, and I can't hear myself think over this durge! And your creepy song that seems to be turning Uncle Gerald into a love sick lap dog is not going to win ME over so easily!

Thomasina: Unfortunately, I cannot do that. I can't leave this house... and as of now neither can you!

Finn: Seriously, what the heck is going on?!

## (siren song quietly in the background)

Gerald: I have to say my little sugar pie, I am also a little confused. I feel like I've known you forever and feel I could tell you all my innermost secrets, yet it has only been (looks at watch) 6 minutes...

Thomasina: Please, sit down all of you. You'd better get comfortable.

Narrator: Thomasina explained her life - and death. When the queen killed her mother and took over the land, she found that she could not control the complexities of the woodland - a curse was cast and Thomasina was thrown into a time paradox, waiting for

her knight in shining armour (so to speak) to rescue her. Finn and Orla were quite alarmed and confused, but Gerald was now besotted.

Orla: So, let me get this straight – this house is cursed.

Thomasina: yes...

Orla: And you can't leave?

Thomasina: no...

Gerald: and you're 400 years old?

Thomasina: Oh, but darling, I don't feel a day over 21. (kissing sounds - library)

Orla: This is insane!

Gerald: Insane, but truly marvellous!

Orla and Finn together: Uncle Gerald!!!! Both mutter words like 'Disgusting' 'Old people kissing - urg' etc.

Finn: So, how do we get out of here?

Thomasina: Get out?

Finn: Yes out, leave, Bye bye...

Thomasina: Ah, did I not mention that?

Finn: mention what?

## (underscore by Lacewood student)

Thomasina: I have only ever been visited by one other person, 200 years ago. A young lady by the name of Elouise. She had been running from a marriage that she didn't want to go through with, and hid inside the house to get away. Unfortunately for Elouise, once she had entered, she found that she could not leave. She was stuck here for 50 years. She didn't become immortal like me, she just got older and eventually passed from old age. I was her only companion. I miss her terribly.

Orla: Wait a minute, so you're saying once we enter this house, we can't get out again? (fade out)

Thomasina: I thought that much was clear...

Gerald: I never want to leave your side anyway my darling...

Orla: **You** might not, but I'd quite like to!!! Mum and Dad will be worried. And we're going to Disneyland this year!

Thomasina: Well there is one way...

Orla: Hurrah! What is it?

Thomasina: You can't leave as the strength of the curse is too strong. If you were to help me break the curse, the restrictions wouldn't be there.

Finn: Right, let's get started then.

Thomasina: We need somebody alive from my bloodline. They must help us to break the curse.

Orla: Do you know anyone from your blood line?

Thomasina: I do as it goes. There are some cousins of cousins of cousins of more cousins who live not far from here.

Orla: How on Earth do you know that?

Thomasina: I have my ways...

Finn: But if we can't leave, how do we get them in here?

Orla: Could we ring them? Send a snapchat? Whats App? Do we know anything else about them?

Thomasina: (confused) A what what? They are law enforcement officers. The police I think you call them.

Finn: So we need to ring the police?

Orla: What are we waiting for? (holds up a mobile phone frantically trying to find a signal).

Black out -Lacewood underscore repeats with wind and birds

SCENE 4 - outside the house - Bunden and Butt

Narrator: Every story needs to have an unsung hero, even if they do seem like the most unlikely candidate! Our story takes us to Inspector Bunden and PC Butt, the most unlikely policemen you are ever likely to meet. But are either of them hero material? Mmmmm...

Birdsong and the sound of Butt dragging His feet, blowing his noise loudly. Lacewood sound effects

Bunden: Do hurry up!

Butt: I'm coming sir, I just don't like murder scenes...

Bunden: Then why on earth did you become a PC?

Butt: Well, my Nannan said...

Bunden: Oh, do be quiet.... Let's get on with this job, then we can go home. It might not be a murder scene anyway. It's all a bit strange – the phone call made no sense at all.....

He knocks on the door (lacewood sound effect). Nobody answers. He's knocks again. The door swings open but nobody is there. (Bradfield short piece of doom repeats)

Butt: Er, sir...

Bunden: Put your big girl pants on, Butt.

Butt: B-b-but there's nobody there sir!

Bunden: There's always someone there! Hello! Hellooooo...

Thomasina: (over the top cheerful) Hello! Darlings - so good to meet you! Sound of 4 loud kisses

Orla: He's your cousin? The one picking his nose (disgusted) and possibly eating it?!

Thomasina: Oh goodness, no! The Bunden's have always been quirky, but they definitely have class. The other one is my cousins cousins cousins cousin.

Bunden: Good afternoon madam, we have received a call calling for some domestic assistance. Was it you who made that call?

Thomasina: It was us, yes.

Bunden: What is it that we can do for you?

Finn: A lot!

Thomasina: Do come into the drawing room. We'll explain all.

Narrator: The unusual bunch of people, still finding the situation slightly impossible, found themselves under the spell of the house and began to tell each other a little bit about themselves and their lives so far.

## Song by Lacewood students 'this is me'.

Thomasina: I've been here for over 400 years

I think I might be drowning in my own tears

I've been alone all along, singing this lonely song,

I feel crazy.

Gerald: I feel happy that i've met my true love, Butt: I feel glad that I can make people laugh

Bunden: I feel glad that I can...inspect like a man - I'm amazing!

Chorus (all) This is me, this is me, this is me x2

Orla: I am 12 and I'm a little bit shy
Finn: Im 14 and some day I'd like to fly

All: we have one thing to say, we're together today, We're all happy.

Chorus (all): This is me, this is me, this is me x 4

Bunden: So let me get this straight, you're my 400 year old cousin?

Thomasina: yes...

Bunden: And you were accused of being a witch?

Thomasina: yes...

Bunden: ...and now you're stuck in this house and a continual time paradox forever until a blood relative, aka me, breaks the curse so that we can all leave and you can move on?

Thomasina: Sums it up, yes.

Butt: Wait... I need to get home sir. I can't sleep without my buddy bear and me mam's making corned beef 'ash tonight.

Bunden: I apologise for my colleague. He's er... well, he's an idiot.

Thomasina: You can't win 'em all!

Finn: So inspector, you'll help us won't you?

Bunden: I Don't really think I've got a choice have I?

Orla: Not really, no.

Gerald: Thanks anyway, shall we get started then?

Bunden: Where do we start? Although I'm not altogether convinced that this isn't some kind of hoax!

Thomasina: As a consequence of the time paradox, each room in my house is stuck in a different era.

Bunden: You mean, like a different moment in time?

Butt: Like in Back to the Future?

Finn: A little bit, yeah.

Butt: Coooool.....

Sounds of the future sound effects by Bradfield Students

Thomasina: In each room there is a puzzle to solve. When the puzzle is solved we will receive a piece of a jigsaw. We need all 4 pieces to release the curse. Good cousin Bunden is required to put the jigsaw together to lift the curse.

Butt: Will we be finished before tea time? You don't know the temper of mi mam if im late...

All: Shut up Butt!

Thomasina: Let's get started in the Medieval Room.

Repeat sounds of the future sound effects by Bradfield Students.

Mediaeval Incidental music as scene changes, supervised by lacewood students. Cracking fire - sound effects from lacewood recordings.

#### Scene 5 - Medieval Room

## Underscore continues.

Finn: This is so cool!

Orla: Look at all those books!

Gerald: And that fire is so warm.

Butt: Who's that scary man in the corner?

Bunden: I thought I'd seen everything, this is amazing! A real life plague doctor?.....So, what's the plan?

Thomasina: To break the curse, the riddle in each room must be solved by any one of you and the jigsaw piece must be given to someone with Bunden blood. [She turns to the Plague Doctor]. Mr Plague Doctor, this man has Bunden Blood, please tell us your riddle.

Plague Doctor: to receive the first part of the jigsaw you must solve this riddle:

A vessel have I, that is round as a pear, moist in the middle, surrounded with hair; and often it happens, that water flows there. What am I?

Finn: [confused] Is that it?

Orla: They don't call them riddles for nothing you know!

Gerald: I'm sure the fair Thomasina will be able to solve it.

Thomasina: Thank you darling Gerald...

Finn: Surely one of these books has the answer?

Orla: Good idea Finn, you start that end, I'll start this end.

Bunden: So "a vessel have I, that is round as a pear, moist in the middle surrounded by hair. And often it happens that water flows there..."

Butt: What's a vessel?

Bunden: Oh, Butt... a vessel is something that holds something else.

Butt: So, a jug is a vessel for me gravy?...

Bunden: In a word, yes.

Gerald: But what vessel is shaped like a pear?

Finn: And surrounded by hair?

Orla: Everybody, get thinking!

They all stop and think. PC Butt begins to cry.

Butt: I'm never gunna get out of here!

Bunden: Here we go again. Somebody get that soft lad a tissue. Its a all going pear shaped.

Wipe his eyes...

Thomasina: Wait, what did you just say?

Bunden: Get soft lad here a tissue?

Thomasina: No, after that!

Bubden: I said 'it's all going pear shaped, wipe his eyes"

Orla: You've got it Thomasina!

Finn: What are you two going on about?

Orla: What is a vessel, round as a pear, surrounded by hair, water flows there – well, it's an eye isn't it?

Thomasina: Correct Orla – are you sure you're not my cousin? You are cleverer than them two put together!

Gerald: My beautiful girl – how amazing you are!

Bunden: Mr Plague Doctor – is the answer 'an eye?'

Plague Doctor: If the eye is what you seek, then please touch the plague doctor's beak.

They all look at each other, nobody wanting to do it ..... Finally, Gerald steps forward.

Gerald: I'll do it – anything for you my love.

Bunden: Don't be daft! We're the police, here to protect and serve etc... so Butt will do it

Butt: [in a shaking voice] Me? Why me?

Bunden: Because you're a copper!

Butt: Oh... OK. Here we go!

## (short snippet of future music from bradfield)

Thomasina: Thank you young sir. I'll keep hold of the first part of the puzzle.

Finn: So, is that the first riddle solved?

Orla: I think it might be. That was easy.

Butt: [sneezes and coughs] I think I might have the plague sir...

Bunden: Why?..... Why did I get stuck with you?

Butt: Just lucky I guess sir...

Gerald: Well done everyone! Where to next?

Thomasina: How does a dinner party in Ancient Rome sound to everybody?

Orla: Oh my God – really?

Thomasina: really!

Future music from Bradfield segue into....

Scene 6 Roman Dinner Party sound effects and library snippets from lacewood

Thomasina: Wine, don't mind if I do... Ah Caesar, how good to finally meet you!

Caesar: Thomasina. You see before you two chalice. One has poison in, one has wine in. You have to drink the correct one... or... die!!!! He he, I love this game!

Gerald: My loved, are you OK?

Orla: I'll just have a hot chocolate please

Finn: And some Flapjack?

Bunden: Now this is a tricky one – any ideas anyone?

Butt: Could we sniff them sir? I'm starting to feel a bit squiffy already.

Thomasina: Butt, pull yourself together. And don't be an absolute numbskull. Poison doesn't smell.

Caesar laughs

Caesar: One goblet of wine, feeling fine.... Drink from the other and you will suffer.... Come on friends and country folk, time is marching on.... Deadly nightshade in one poisoned chalice, wine from grapes will bear you no malice. (with reverb)

Finn: Well it's 50/50.... Someone needs to try the wine but there is an equal likeliness that they could die.... Let's take a vote. Turn and look at the person you would like to complete the taste test.

Butt: What? Eh? Me?..... oh no no NO! I'll have to say no to this one. I can't even get wine on my skin without some very strange side effects happening....

Gerald: What side effects? And why?

Butt: I'm allergic to grapes!!

Orla: PERFECT! Butt, get your... Butt over here! Lets see which one is the poison....

## Grape pox rap part one by Lacewood students - rapped by Butt

Butt: When grapes touch my skin,
Infection begins, I start to feel dizzy and my legs get busy.....
My skin starts to pop, I get the grape pox
I turn bright red and I cry for bed!....

Butt: awwwww..... ermmmmm (Makes some strange panicked gurgling noises)

Bunden: BUTT!!!! In the name of good honest police work, volunteer yourself to science!

Butt shuffles over muttering 'im gunna die, im gunna die....'

Orla: Don't be stupid Butt or you will become the BUTT of your own jokes (*laughs to herself,*) Take one of the drinks and pour it onto your hand. If nothing happens we will have chosen the poisoned chalice but if you start suffering your unusual side effects then we will know we have chosen the wine! Simples!

Finn: Please choose the wine... I really want to see these side effects!

Gerald: Ah yes, because even grapes on the skin send him bananas!

Butt: ermmmmmm..... oookkkkaayyyy???? I really don't want the wine though....

Thomasina: BUTT!!!! (sarcastically) You really are a credit to the force aren't you? Your bravery knows no limits. .....Now choose your chalice!

Butt: Thank you ma'am...

which one to chose,
I cannot lose,
I cannot die but cannot lie,
I do not want to ....

I chose that one! Pour it on my hand! (points to one of the chalices)

A few drops of wine are poured onto his hand. Rest of the Grape pox rap as the side effects take place

He's got the grape pox
His legs go numb,
He falls on the floor and he breaks his bum!

He tries to get back up but he fails again, He tries to get back up but he faints again.

When he wakes up he says 'what happened?' His cheeks puff up like a fluffy chip-monk

His arms start flailing, his feet start tapping, He finally wakes up and does some serious rappin'......

Caesar: Well, that was worth losing the puzzle for! I haven't laughed that much since 45BC! Under the plant at the side of the stairs, you will find your puzzling wares. The second part of the jigsaw is yours, according to tabitha's laws.

Future music snippet from Bradfield

Orla: Come on Butt - Butt your ideas up haha.

Thomasina: Onwards to the heart of Yorkshire.

### Scene 6 - Yorkshire Room

Brass band music playing over speaker - chosen from sound library by lacewood

Voice Over: EY UP, welcome to Yorkshire. Gods own county. I'm gunna to be testing thi tastebuds t'see if you can tell your Yorkshire from your Tetleys.. Who is goowin to accept the challenge...

Gerald: Hello mate – God of Gods own county..., and here we have Butt [Pushes him forward - Butt says oww] ... he needs to solve your challenge.

Butt: Great – another taste test (sarcastically - Then cheers up), but I am ready for a good cuppa tea! One thing mi nannan taught me was how to make a reyt good cuppa!

Thomasina starts singing siren song with piano in background.... Gerald goes into a world of his own...

Gerald: My darling Thomasina, you have the voice of an angel,

VO: Gerald...... Gerald...... EYUP Gerald lad!! Gerra grip! Flippin love struck idiot.

Song stops and Gerald snaps back into reality

Gerald: Erm... what... who? (looks confused)

VO: Bunden, does tha like a nice cuppa tea?

Bunden: Well yes, who doesn't?

Finn: Me, its horrible, smells of wet dogs!

Orla: Shuurp Finn, we wanna to get outta ere – and why have I suddenly developed this stronger than normal Yorkshire accent?...

Bunden: well, I like to think I have rather discerning taste buds. Particularly when it comes to the finer things in life... Unless you would like to accept the challenge Thomasina, you are of the Bunden bloodline too after all?

Thomasina: I think my taste buds have decayed somewhat!

Butt: Come on Bunden, tha's always gooin on abart ow tha likes a brew int morning...

VO: come on Bunden Lad, tha needs to try this challenge for thisen – stop mekin everyone else do al' hard work.

Butt: Hard work? Drinking a cup of tea?

Orla: [picks up a flat cap off the table] Whose is this hat? Hey, Finn, what kind of hats do you war on your logs?

wear on your legs?

Finn: dunno

Orla: Knee caps [silently laughs to herself] [others Groan]

VO: Oh for the love of god..... Bunden, sit thisen darn lad. Tek a sip from all 3 cups ..... which one is the cup of Yorkshire tea? Think, and taste carefully or tha'll be trapped forever

Bunden sits down noise of cups etc Lacewood sound effects.

He slurs and makes sounds of uncertainty

Butt: Move over sir – leave it to a pro! Mug 1, (slurps) smooth, pleasant enough with a light, delicate flavour that's somewhat thirst quenching and quite nice - more like a flavoured water though.... Mug 2 – disgusting. (pouring and cup noises) And quite obviously the milk had been put in BEFORE the tea bag, quite unacceptable and a budget brand at the best. Cup number three; The taste of heaven! A black tea blend. A stronger, bolder tea with an ever so slightly bitter taste.... The taste of Yorkshire! Brass Band music plays in triumph

VO: Bye eck lad... that's a bit impressive! Tha can go... all't lot o yer. Si then agen maybi. Dunt forget thi jigsaw piece ont way art.

## Bradfield future music

Bunden picks up the piece of puzzle.

Thomasina: one more piece to go! Lets head to the ranch - yeehhhaaaaw!

### Scene 8 - Cowboy room:

## (Whistling and bells of doom - recorded by St John students)

Cowboy: howdy partners! Come and join the hoedown -y'all need to join the dance to enter the saloon!

Cowboy: Well howdy young folk, you seem to find yourself in one hell of a cowdam mess!

Gerald: Yes sir, we are looking for the final question or challenge or whatever it will be – my nephew and niece need to leave here.... So do Bunden and Butt.

Cowboy 1: What the holy hoof is a Bunden and Butt?

Thomasina: The law enforcement officers here – Officer Butt and Inspector Bunden.

Cowboy: What, you means you's boys are like sheriffs or somethin?

Gerald: (sarcastically) In a manner of speaking.....

Cowboy: You'd better get yourselves outta here before Sheriff Cowtail come in and finds you here. He don't like folks trespassing on his property – particularly folks posing and posturing as fake Sheriff law officials!

Bunden: I can assure you sir, there is no posing and posturing going on here! Do you have anything for us? A clue or a challenge perhaps?

Cowboy: Well, there was something a little unlikely arrived by cow this morning.... Let me see... a letter addressed to Bunden, Butt and Co... Care of Cowhide ranch, Cowpat lane, Cowtown.

Finn: Uncle Gerald, you mentioned something about *us* all getting out of here, but what about you?

Gerald: well, you know.... My darling Thomasina, I seem to have developed some very unusual and most unexpected feelings within the last half an hour or so..... let me try and explain. Sings a love song - written with st john students.

She makes me feel like life has just begun I am a satellite but she is the sun I've never felt like this before If I were to leave my heart would be at war

Could I ever leave my family behind?
Stuck forever, suspended in time
I've never felt like this before
If I were to leave, my heart could take no more

She smells like autumn rain with eyes of silvery blue

I've never had a dream like this come true, Ever since the siren song, from then I always knew.... My darling I love you.

And so my darling I have to choose

Every way I look at it im gunna loose,

I've never felt like this before

Do I stay with you or walk out of the door?

Gerald: Anyway..... Bunden! What does the letter from Sheriff Cowtail say?

Bunden: Solve this riddle to receive the final part of the puzzle.

Orla takes the sheet and reads

Orla: "A cowboy rides into the town on Friday, he stays for 3 days and leaves on Friday. How does he do it?

They all look at each other — speechless for a while - all mutter 'erm' and cowboy whistle and bells again with chatter in the background.

Thomasina: Maybe we need to think out of the box a little, maybe this is not about the days of the week.

Cowboy: Great jumping **cowhides**, if you don't mind me saying so....at this rate you are going to be stuck here forever! Every day of the week, for every week to come!

Cowboy: Cowslip tea while you wait anyone? (Lacewood pouring sounds again)Little tour of the town on the back of my very own black and white heifer daisy?

Orla: No wonder we can't think straight with cowboy sonny Jim here walking around talking about cows nonstop.

Finn: Yeah – everything seems to revolve around cows here ...

Orla: Yeah – I thought Cowboys rode on horses anyway? Strange obsession if you ask me! Although they are called COWboys so makes sense.....

Sound effect of a penny dropping...

23

Bunden: HORSES! NOT COWS! A HORSE! That's it.... The cowboy owns a horse called Friday! He rode in on Friday and out on Friday! (looks very smug and clever with himself). Friday is a

horse.

Cowboy: Finally the penny drops. Great balls of cowpat, I thought you were never going to

get out of here! Look under the fake cowpat near the piano for the final part of the puzzle!

Thomasina: come along then, off to the dining room to assemble the jigsaw.

Marching away to the dining room Bradfield future music

**FINAL SCENE** 

Thomasina: So there we are my darlings, the curse is lifted and you are free to leave!

Orla: At last!

Orla: It has been pretty cool though - visiting all those places and times from the olden

days....

Butt: What time is it? My tea will be ruined! Corned beef hash too, a nice big dollop of

brown sauce and lashings of gravy.....

All: Shut up Butt!

Gerald: I've had the time of my life.....

Thomasina: Same here my little sausage pie

Finn.... MMM sausages. (dreamily) a nice big plate of sausage and mash.

Butt: I'll be reduced to eating jam sandwiches at this rate. My corned beef ash will be just

that. Ashes.

Gerald: Sing me that beautiful song one more time my little snufflekin....

Thomasina (begins to hum but the tune is different and out of tune with sound effects) I

can't remember it!!! The tune has gone!

Gerald: NO!

Thomasina: You must leave now.... Because the curse is broken the house will soon disappear, taking me along with it. Gerald, my love you can come with me if you wish and we can live together in eternity....

Butt: But Gerald sir..... Don't go! What would I do without you? I've become quite attached to you in the last 40 minutes! (Starters crying again)

Bunden: (kinder than normal) Now now Butt, We'll get you a new teddy or something - and name him Gerald.

Orla: Uncle Gerald you can't - what would we tell mum?

Finn: No Uncle Gerald! What about our Saturdays together?

All start protesting together.....

Gerald: STOP! All of you - let me think.

# Siren song with effects - Horizon students 'siren mix'..

Thomasina: My love, the house is fading, and I am too. There is one more thing you should know. When the house disintegrates, your memories will too.

Gerald: This is the hardest decision of my life. Thomasina, I would ask you to marry me, but.....

Butt: Im terribly sorry sir, mr Gerald Sir, Very bad luck to find your one true love and lose her in less than an hour. (Starts crying again- really over the top)

Bunden: Although Butt has the diplomacy of a donkey, I echo his thoughts - this must be very hard.

Orla: Uncle Gerald, are you OK? You look very pale. I feel really bad for asking you to choose us now - but so happy to have you with us.

Finn: Uncle Gerald?..... UNCLE GERLAD? HELLO?

Gerald: I feel a bit faint

Orla: I'm starting to feel dizzy...

Finn: what is happening....

Bunden: The air is a funny colour.....

Butt: have I been on the grapes again?

Finn: The house is disappearing!

## Chaos end scene Bradfield sounds mixed by Lacewood and Bradfield

Narrator: And so it was, half an hour since their adventure had begun, and with no memory of it whatsoever, Gerald, Orla, Finn, Bunden and Butt found themselves, inexplicably, in local woodlands, with no recollection of each other.

Gerald: Orla, Finn, Im feeling a bit strange - how did we find ourselves in these woods... And who are you two gentlemen??

Butt: Good afternoon Sir, I am PC Butt

Bunden: And I am chief inspector Bunden - but I have no idea what we are doing here!

Orla: Some policemen!

Finn: Yeah (sniggers). Butt of his own jokes maybe

Gerald: Listen! LISTEN!.....

Orla: What is that terrible noise? I feel like I've heard it before

## Sirens song in background - crescendos.

Gerald: Its not terrible, it's beau..... beautiful! And who is that breath taking creature walking towards us out of the fog?....

Thomasina: Good afternoon friends - you appear lost! I am lost too. Maybe you could help me?

Gerald: Of course, anything for one as beautiful as you....

Thomasina: oh Gerald my little snuggle- wuggle pumpkin pie...... in another life you asked me to marry you, but you won't remember!!! Walk with me and i'll try to explain

Gerald: yes my beautiful baby cake sugar lump

Bunden: how am I going to write this up in my police report?????

Butt: Can I be a page boy?..... IM GUNNA BE A PAGE BOY!,,,,,

Narrator: And so it came to pass. Although Thomasina's treasured Gerald never really understood, or 100% believed the story, they were happily married for many years. Butt got his wish to become a page boy. He insisted that we serve corned beef hash at the wedding but luckily sensible inspector Bunden (who could never quite shake the feeling of there being something strange and unexplainable out there) talked him out of it. He now works for a secret government agency investigating UFO's and suspected alien life forms. Butt decided that police work wasn't for him, and the hours didn't fit well around his meal times. Instead he became a taste tester for a famous drinks company - he excels in his role. Orla, Inspired by her new found sense of humour in the time paradox house, has good success as a stand up comedian.

Finn opened a bakery specialising in all flavours of flapjack.

As for Thomasina - She still doesn't feel a day over 21 and she has no idea how long she may live for.......

Church wedding bells and siren song to end.