**SCENE III. A street.**

*Enter ROSCOE and BARNEY with the Watch*

**ROSCOE**

Be ye good men and true?

**BARNEY**

Well, they better be.

**ROSCOE**

First, who be in charge o this rag tag band o misfits?

**First Watchman**

That’d be me, Mr. Roscoe; I’d be the one that kin read an’ write.

**ROSCOE**

Come here, neighbor. Readin’ and writin’ is good thangs, but you caint toss a goat forty feet if you cain’t cipher.

**Second Watchman**

But we ain’t got no goats, Roscoe.

**ROSCOE**

Tha’ts no problem. If’n you ain’t got no goats, a small pig’ll do. Say, you three neighbors will be on night watch tonight. If’n you be a seein’ a goat or a pig, and he be lookin’ suspicious, ast him whut he be a doin’ and then see’s jus’ whut he’ll tell ya afore you let him go. Ifn’ you see a stranger by moonlight, and he commences to daince, don’t disturb his cosmic energy. If’n you here a howlin’ that shakes a chill up and down yer bones, apply them handcuffs.

**Second Watchman**

What if’n we happens upon some thief up to no darn good?

**ROSCOE**

Invite him to church on Sundy and send him away on a good mule.

**BARNEY**

If he’s a thief up to no good, he ain’t a true mountain man anyways.

**ROSCOE**

Take no notice of the moonlight and don’t go into the water fer 2 hours after you eat.

**Third Watchman**

We would rather sleep that talk; we be a knowin’ our jobs.

**ROSCOE**

Watch out closely fer drunks as you don’t want to accidently shoot one.

**First Watchman**

How will they know who we are, if’n they be a drunk?

**ROSCOE**

What do ya thank, ding bat. Tell ‘em they’re a drunk after they sober up.

**Watchman**

If we know him to be a thief, shall we not catch ‘em up and throw ‘em on the ground?

**ROSCOE**

If’n he’s a true thief, he’ll steal away from he, so jus’ don’t bother.

**BARNEY**

You have been always called a merciful man, partner.

**ROSCOE**

Truly, I would not hang a dog by my will, much more  
a man who hast any honesty in him.

**BARNEY**

If you hear a child cry in the night, you must call  
to the nurse and git her to that child.

**Watchman**

What if’n the nurse is asleep and caint hear us?

**ROSCOE**

Then go in peace, for the wolf that howls in the night awakens the mornin’ dew with a rooster’s crow in the pale moonlight of a limpid pool.

**BARNEY**

'Tis very true.

**ROSCOE**

If’n you run into Cap’n Jethro, don’t arrest ‘em if’n he’s awake.

**BARNEY**

If’n he’s asleep, don’t arrest him, neither.

**ROSCOE**

Most importantly, remember you are the Watch and whatever you be a doin’, don’t bother nobody.

**BARNEY**

Shhhhhhhhhh…………………

**ROSCOE**

Away Barney! Let’s be a leavin’ these fine men to their work. Any questions?  
Come, neighbour.

**Second Watchman**

Well boys, Let’s git some sleep, shall we?

**ROSCOE**

One word more, honest neighbours. I pray you watch  
about Mr. Jedediah's door; for the wedding being  
there to-morry, it could be somethin’ a happenin’ tonight.

*Exit ROSCOE and BARNEY*

*Enter OTIS and JOHN BOY*

**OTIS**

What John boy!

**Watchman**

[Aside] What’s them boys up to at this here hour?

**OTIS**

John boy, wait till you be a hearin’ this!

**JOHN BOY**

I’m all ears, Otis.

**OTIS**

Stand close, fer a drunk as I am, I’m sure to tell you everthang whut happent tonight.

**Watchman**

I’m a tellin’ ya’ll, they’re up to no good.

**OTIS**

Butch jus’ paid me 20 american dollars, all at onct.

**JOHN BOY**

What rotten deed did you do to git Butch to give ye that much, Otis?

**OTIS**

You better be a sittin’ down fer this’n. Haw! Haw! Haw!

**JOHN BOY**

Go on! Whut happent?

**Third Watchman**

[Aside] I know that ‘n. He’s as honory as a copperhead.

**OTIS**

Did you hear somebody?

**JOHN BOY**

No; it was that danged weather vane on the house.

**OTIS**

Git this! Tonight, I have wooed Beulah all the time I was a callin’ her “Daisy” right thar in front of our boss Butch, his brother Cap’n Jethro, and Daisy’s intended, Abner. Haw! Haw! Haw! Butch done tol’ Jethro and Abner that Daisy an’ meet pert near ever night to do some major smoochin’. Abner thanks it was the real Daisy and tomorry durin’ the weddin’ ceremony, he’s a goin’ to do somethin’ real bad. Haw! Haw! Haw! To git back at his cheatin’ fiancée. Haw! Haw! And me an’ Butch is behind the whole thang!

**First Watchman**

Shazam! You boys is under arrest!

**Second Watchman**

We’re a takin’ up the holler to the county judge.

**JOHN BOY**

I’m innocent! I’m innocent!

**Second Watchman**

Tell ‘at to the judge, boy!

**OTIS**

How stupid kin we be, to be bested by these here idiots?

**JOHN BOY**

Who was it that said, “You cain’t fix stupid.

*Exit*