

(ARTHUR reins in the "horse" and surveys the castle. A GUARD appears through a window of the castle wall.)

ROBIN

Hello?! Who goes there?

#3 KING ARTHUR'S SONG

ARTHUR

I AM ARTHUR KING OF THE BRITONS
LORD AND RULER OF ALL
OF ENGLAND, AND SCOTLAND
AND EVEN TINY LITTLE BITS OF GAUL

ROBIN

And I'm the Emperor of Norway. Bugger off.

PATSY

HE IS ARTHUR KING OF THE BRITONS
AND WE ARE OUT SEEKING MEN
VERY STRONG MEN
AND VERY ABLE

ARTHUR

TO SIT AROUND OUR VERY, VERY ROUND TABLE

ROBIN

What is it you want?

ARTHUR

I am looking for men.

ROBIN

I had a feeling.

ARTHUR

We have ridden the length and breadth of the land in search of knights to join me in my court at Camelot. I must speak with your lord and master.

ROBIN

What, ridden on a horse?

ARTHUR

Yes!

ROBIN

You're using coconuts!

ARTHUR

What?

ROBIN

You've got two empty halves of coconut and you're banging them together.

ARTHUR

So? We have ridden since the snows of winter covered this land, through the kingdom of Mercia, through...

ROBIN

Where'd you get the coconut?

ARTHUR

We found them.

ROBIN

Found them? In *Mercia*? The coconut's tropical!

ARTHUR

What do you mean?

ROBIN

Well, this is a temperate zone.

ARTHUR

The swallow may fly south with the sun or the house martin, or the plover may seek warmer climates in winter; yet these are not strangers to our land.

ROBIN

Are you suggesting coconuts *migrate*?

ARTHUR

Not at all. They could be carried.

ROBIN

What? A swallow carrying a coconut?

ARTHUR

It could grip it by the husk!

ROBIN

It's not a question of where he grips it! It's a simple question of weight ratios! A five ounce bird could not carry a one pound coconut.

ARTHUR

Well, it doesn't matter. Will you tell your master that Arthur from the Court of Camelot is here?

ROBIN

Listen, in order to maintain air-speed velocity, a swallow needs to beat its wings 43 times every second, right?

ARTHUR

Please!

ROBIN

Am I right?

ARTHUR

I'm not interested!

(LANCE appears at the opposite window)

LANCE

It could be carried by an African swallow!

ROBIN

Oh, yeah, an African swallow, maybe, but not a European swallow. That's my point.

LANCE

Oh, yeah, I agree with that... Beautiful bird, the African swallow. Lovely plumage.

ROBIN

The plumage don't enter into it. And besides, African swallows are non-migratory.

LANCE

Oh, yeah...

ROBIN

So they couldn't bring a coconut back anyway...

ARTHUR

Will you ask your master if he wants to join my court at Camelot?

LANCE

Wait a minute, supposing two swallows carried it together?

ROBIN

No, they'd have to have it on a line.

LANCE

Well, simple! They'd just use a strand of creeper!

ROBIN

What, held under the dorsal guiding feathers?

(ARTHUR, despairing of any further sensible conversation, gallops off/left with PATSY.)

LANCE

Well, why not? Hey! Who was that then?

ROBIN

That's a king.

LANCE

How can you tell?

ROBIN

He hasn't got shit all over him.

NI KNIGHT

But not an Andrew Lloyd Webber.

ALL

Ahhh. No. No.

C'mon lets go

(ex.

Ecky, ecky, F

Have you heard

ROBIN

Yes, Sire, and we don't stand a chance.

ARTHUR

Why not?

(ROBIN steps toward the audience)

ROBIN

Because Broadway...

#19C BROADWAY UNDERSCORE

... is a very special place, filled with very special people; people who can sing and dance, often at the same time. They are a different people, a multi-talented people, a people who need people, who are in many ways the luckiest people in the world. I'm sorry, Sire, but we don't have a chance.

ARTHUR

But who are these special people?

ROBIN

Well, let me put it like this.

#20 YOU WON'T SUCCEED ON BROADWAY

(ARTHUR and PATSY sit on stools, as ROBIN begins his song)