

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT
LANCELOT - AUDITION SIDES

Dialogue selections from the two key Lancelot audition scenes
SCENE 1 - ACT II, SCENE 6

Script pages 74-75 | Lancelot receives Herbert's message with Concorde

(LANCE rides in with his page CONCORDE. He is a very flashy rider.)

LANCE

Here we go, Concorde. And side saddle. Well done. And backwards, lovely. And Big jump, very Big jump. And steady, and over we go. Well taken, Concorde.

CONCORDE

Thank you, sir.

(CONCORDE gets an arrow in the chest which knocks him flat backwards on his back.)

CONCORDE

Message for you, sir.

(LANCE pulls the message from the arrow and reads.)

LANCE

"To whoever finds this note, I have been imprisoned by my father, who wishes me to marry against my will. Please, please, please come and rescue me. I am in the tall tower of Swamp Castle." At last! A...erm...?

CONCORDE

Cry of distress, sir?

LANCE

A cry of distress! This could be the sign that leads us to the... er... small shining drinking object... erm...

CONCORDE

The Holy Grail, sir.

LANCE

Exactly. Well done, Concorde! You shall not have died in vain!

CONCORDE

I'm not quite dead, sir.

LANCE

Oh, I see.

CONCORDE

Actually, I think I'm all right to come with you...

LANCE

No, no, no sweet Concorde! Deeds like this must be accomplished...

CONCORDE

Single handedly?

LANCE

Yes I knew that one. Single handedly. So, stay here, take your lunch, and I shall return as soon as I have accomplished a heroic and daring... thing where you free someone from jeopardy...

CONCORDE

Rescue?

LANCE

Rescue. Thank you. Farewell, Concorde!

(LANCE rides off heroically. CONCORDE rises painfully and exits banging his coconuts.)

CONCORDE

Ow! Ow! Ow!

SCENE 2 - ACT II, SCENE 8

Script pages 83-87 | Lancelot rescues Herbert and confronts his father

(LANCE rushes in, his sword drawn and bloody. The GUARDS smile happily.)

GUARD #1

Ah. Now you're not to leave the room until...

(LANCE stabs him.)

GUARD #2

Hic.

(LANCE stabs him too and races up the stairs to kneel before the PRINCE.)

LANCE

Oh fair one, behold your humble servant, Sir Lancelot from the Court of Camelot. I have come to take you ...away ...and oh ...I'm terribly sorry...

HERBERT

You got my note?

LANCE

Well... I got a note.

HERBERT

You've come to rescue me?

LANCE

Well, yes, but I hadn't realized...

HERBERT

I knew someone would come. I knew that somewhere out there... there must be...

(HERBERT begins to sing.)

HERBERT

Here are you, here are you, here are you, Sir Lancelot...

(FATHER rushes in.)

FATHER

Stop that! Who are you?

HERBERT

I'm your son.

FATHER

Not you.

LANCE

I'm Sir Lancelot from Camelot, sir.

HERBERT

He's come to rescue me, father.

LANCE

Well, let's not jump to conclusions.... Say, these are nice curtains.

HERBERT

Aren't they?

LANCE

They're wonderful! Wherever did you find them?

HERBERT

Well, there's a little chap with a stock of adorable fabrics...

FATHER

Excuse me! Did you kill those guards?

LANCE

Yes... I'm very sorry. But I can explain everything...

HERBERT

Don't be afraid of him, Sir Lancelot. I've got a rope here all ready.

(HERBERT throws a rope made of knotted sheets, tied to the castle rampart, out of the window.)

FATHER

You killed eight wedding guests.

LANCE

Er, well, the thing is... I thought your son... was a lady.

FATHER

I can understand that.

HERBERT

Hurry, brave Sir Lancelot.

FATHER

You killed the bride's father.

LANCE

Oh, no. Oh, dear. I didn't really mean to...

FATHER

Didn't mean to? You put your sword through his head.

LANCE

Gosh, is he all right?

FATHER

You kicked the bride in the chest!

LANCE

Oh, well, now she was asking for it, sir. Wearing white and crying.

FATHER

This is going to cost me a fortune.

HERBERT

I am ready, Sir Lancelot. I am ready...

(FATHER nonchalantly slices the rope. HERBERT disappears. There is a pause then a thump from below. LANCE follows FATHER downstairs.)

FATHER

Would you like to come and have a drink?

LANCE

I say, sir. Was that entirely necessary? I do believe you just killed that poor little fellow.

FATHER

Oh, let's not bicker and argue about who killed who. After all, I am a recently bereaved father, who has just lost his son, my boy Herbert, who has just fallen to his death.

(HERBERT is carried in, in the arms of CONCORDE.)

HERBERT

I'm not quite dead.

FATHER

Herbert.

HERBERT

I'm feeling much better.

FATHER

You fell from the Tall Tower, you creep!

HERBERT

No, I was saved at the last minute.

FATHER

How?!

(Music starts. HERBERT tries to explain through song; FATHER stops him and menaces him with a halberd. LANCE steps between them.)

LANCE

Leave him alone! This poor little chap is your son, sir. All he ever wanted was a little love and affection, but did you ever give it to him? No, no...

(Becoming emotional.)

LANCE

... I'll wager you denied him. You try to kill him, and worse, far worse, you try to marry him off to some girl, some female that

he obviously has no feelings for whatsoever.
Yes, yes I know a little bit about bullying
fathers, you bastard. Have you no heart? Have
you no human tenderness? Can't you see that
all he's asking for is a little love and
understanding?

(Almost overcome.)

LANCE

Is that too much to ask? Is it? Too Much! To
Ask!

FATHER

My god! You're gay.