

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT

ROBIN - AUDITION SIDES

Dialogue selections from the two key Robin audition scenes

SCENE 1 - ACT I, SCENE 3

Script pages 5-9 | Robin debates Arthur and Lancelot at Mud Castle

(ARTHUR and PATSY arrive at Mud Castle. ROBIN appears through a window of the castle wall.)

ROBIN

Hello?! Who goes there?

(ARTHUR identifies himself as King of the Britons and explains that he is seeking men to sit at the Round Table.)

ROBIN

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

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.

SCENE 2 - ACT I, SCENE 4

Script pages 12-13 | Robin discusses enlisting and reveals his attitude to fighting

(ROBIN, working as the Dead Collector, is waiting for LANCE to finish with a not-quite-dead MAN.)

ROBIN

But make it quick. I got to get to Camelot by six.

LANCE

You're going to Camelot?

ROBIN

Yes.

LANCE

What, you got a gig?

ROBIN

No, I'm going to enlist.

LANCE

What, as a Knight?

ROBIN

Maybe.

LANCE

Well I'll come with you.

MAN

I'm not dead yet.

LANCE

Shut up. I fancy some of that fighting.

ROBIN

Oh, there's fighting is there?

LANCE

Quite, a lot of fighting, mate. That's what the job's all about.

ROBIN

Oh, I see. It's not just dressing up. And dancing.

LANCE

No, no. It's mostly fighting.

ROBIN

Oh. Oh, good.

LANCE

Although some of the Scottish regiments might have a bit of dressing up and dancing.

MAN

I'd like to dance.

LANCE

Look, you're not fooling anyone you know.