

HARE 1

(Enter Palace Card. He delivers an envelope to Hare and exits. Hare opens the envelope and reads. Exit Card.)

Hatter: What's is it Hare?

Hare: It's from the palace sir. The Queen of Hearts is having a tarty at the palace, tomorrow evening.

Hatter: A tarty?

Hare: That's a party, with tarts.

Hatter: What a perfectly delicious idea. Is Mary-Ann still not here?

Hare: Not yet. But I shall set a place for her, just in case.

(Enter Alice.)

Alice: Excuse me...

Hatter: **(Shaking Alice's hand)** Ah Mary-Ann, you're here.

Alice: I think you must be mistaken. I'm not...

Hatter: **(Taken aback)** You're *not*?

Alice: No. I'm not.

Hatter: You're not *here*?

Alice: No! I *am* here. I'm *not* Mary-Ann.

Hatter: But of course you are. Who else would you be?

Alice: Don't you think I would know who I am?

Hatter: You would think so, wouldn't you?

Hare: Indeed you would Hatter.

Alice: You must have me confused with somebody else.

Hatter: Who?

Alice: Mary-Ann?

Hatter: Mary-Ann! **(Shaking Alice's hand)** Glad you could make it. Have you met Hare?

Hare: Would you like some tea?

(Hare seats Alice.)

Alice: Well I'm in a real hurry. But I am thirsty. Maybe just *half* a cup.

(Hatter cuts a cup in half and gives it to Alice.)

Alice: The cat said you might be able to help me. I'm looking for a rabbit. A white rabbit.

Hatter: This isn't a pet shop Mary-Ann. **(Aside to Alice)** Although, I could possibly do you a good deal on a hare.

Alice: A hare?

Hatter: **(Aside to Alice)** A *March* Hare! On the chair. Right there. Don't stare.

Alice: No, I'm really looking for a rabbit.

Hatter: Not a hare?

Alice: No.

Hatter: Do you even know the difference between rabbits and hares?

Alice: Well I...

Hatter: Rabbits have *hairs*, but *hares* don't have rabbits.

Alice: I don't want to be rude. But if you can't help me then I really must be going.

Hare: Where to?

Alice: To look for the white rabbit.

(Alice makes to exit.)

Hare: Ok but, I wouldn't go that way.

(Dormouse appears from teapot.)

Dormouse: What's going on?

Hare: Mary-Ann here is trying to find a rabbit. A white rabbit.

Dormouse: She's probably looking for Sonny. He's a rabbit, and he's white as snow.

Hatter: Oh I don't think so Dormouse. Sonny's not a rabbit. He's a hare, a white hare. I'm sure of it.

Hare: No, no. Dormouse is right. He's a rabbit.

Hatter: Are you sure? I could have sworn he was a hare.

Dormouse: Don't you know the difference between rabbits and hares?

Hatter: Hares have habits but... haven't we done that one already?