

## SCENE ONE - DIGGER'S HOME

**Props:** *Fireplace, couch, telephone on stand*

**Lighting:** *Spots on narrators*

Narrator: 1. Jo and Lee have been walking their dog, Digger, in the snow.  
2. They took off his lead to let him scamper about and he ran off without them.  
3. They have been searching for two hours and he's nowhere to be seen.

**Lighting:** *Lights up full.*

*(Mum and Dad are sitting on the couch. Jo and Lee run into the room crying.)*

Mum:           Whatever is the matter with you two?

Dad:           Has someone hurt you?

Children:      It's Digger. He's run off.

Jo:             We've searched everywhere for two hours and he's nowhere.

Lee:            Yes, we followed every track in the snow we could find, but he's lost.

*(Children both cry again.)*

Mum:           Where were you when you lost him?

Lee:            We were just coming back from Glen Farm.

Jo:             We'd been up on the hill path making a snowman with Ben from school and when we looked around he'd gone.

Mum:           Why did you let him off the lead?

Dad:            Don't get upset with them, dear!

Mum:           You two are frozen. You had better get warm and then we'll all go out together to look for him.

Dad:            Yes, I'll ring the police too in case someone has handed him in.

Jo:             But he's got a name-tag on. They would have telephoned us if they'd found him.

Lee:            I can't stand it. I want Digger back now!  
*(He cries.)*

Jo:             We have to find him.

Lee:            If I don't find Digger, I'll die.

**SONG: IF I DON'T FIND DIGGER, I'LL DIE**

Mum: We'll find him. Don't worry!

Dad: Yes, he'll be glad to get back with all this snow.

*Lighting: Blackout*

*Props: Remove props on stage. Put on Village Clock.*

## SCENE TWO - THE VILLAGE SQUARE

**Lighting: Spots on Narrators.**

Narrator: 1. Poor Digger! He's really lost. He ran a long way in the snow and has just come to a small village.  
2. Here he is in the square looking very sorry for himself.

**Lighting: Lights up full.**

**Sound Effect: Clock strikes eleven.**

Digger: Oh my goodness! I'm exhausted. I must have been to at least seven villages and this certainly isn't the place where I live.  
Oh, I wish I hadn't run off. I miss Jo and Lee. Everything looks so different in the snow. I just don't know where to go next.

*(He sits down and starts to cry.)*

Supposing I'm really lost and I never get found. Oh no!

*(He looks around him.)*

Where am I going to sleep? It's so cold. *(He shivers.)* If it were the day time the sun would be out and I could get nice and warm.

### SONG: I'M LOOKING FOR THE SUN

*(Another dog arrives.)*

Ross: Hey! You don't sound too happy.

Digger: I'm lost.

Ross: What's new? Join the club.

Digger: You mean you're lost as well?

Ross: I've been lost for years.

Digger: Oh no! *(He cries again.)*

Ross: Come on now, tell me all about it.  
By the way, I'm Ross. What's your name?

Digger: Digger. *(They shake paws.)* I was out walking with my friends today and they took off my lead to let me run around in the snow. I love snow, don't you?

Ross: Are you kidding? It's freezing.

Digger: I was having a great time, running all over the place making trails in the snow. Then, when I looked up, I couldn't see them anywhere.

Ross: Do you know where you live?

Digger: Well, I know what it looks like, but I don't know the name of the place. It has a big yellow door with two big trees either side and a number 73 on the door.

Ross: *(Aside.)* Poor kid!  
Well, we'll have to go looking for it tomorrow. It's too late now and It's beginning to snow again. Come on! I'll take you to this barn where I sleep. You can meet some of my friends. Don't worry!

Digger: I never thought I'd miss home so much.

*(They leave the stage.)*

**Lighting:** *Blackout.*

*Spotlights on choir.*

**SONG: HOME'S THE PLACE - Choir -**

*Lighting : Blackout*

*Props: Remove props on stage.*

*Put on 2 beds + duvets & pillow + window frame + photo album + 2 photos of dog.*

## SCENE THREE - IN BED THAT NIGHT

**Lighting:** *Spots on Narrators*

Narrator: 3. The children and their parents have been out searching for hours for Digger, but there is no sign of him.

**Lighting:** *Lights up full*

Mum: Come on you two, get into bed now! We'll look again in the morning.

Lee: I'll never get to sleep without Digger on my bed.

Dad: He may be back in the night. I'll leave the backdoor light on and keep an eye out for him before I go to bed.

*(Mum and dad kiss the children goodnight and leave.)*

Jo: I wonder where he is. It's so cold out. He'll be freezing, poor thing.

Lee: Maybe someone's seen him and taken him in for the night. Do you think that's what's happened, Jo?

Jo: I hope so. I can't bear to think of him spending the night alone. He'll be so unhappy.

*(Lee gets up and looks at his photographs.)*

Lee: Look. I found a couple of pictures of him when we were on holiday last year.

Jo: Let me see. *(She looks as well.)* Oh Digger, please come home!  
*(She kisses the photograph.)*

Lee: Do you think if we stare at his photo and think hard about him, he'll hear us and we can guide him back?

Jo: Yeah. Let's look out of the window and send messages to him.

### **SONG: SOMEWHERE IN THE NIGHT**

Lee: I'm going to put my picture under my pillow so I can dream of him.

Jo: So am I. We'd better try and sleep so we can look for him tomorrow.

Lee: Goodnight, Jo

Jo: Goodnight, Lee

Children: Goodnight, Digger.

***Lighting: Blackout***

***Props: Remove stage props. Put on hay bales and covers.  
Have Snitch's Back and White Van with trailer ready.***

## SCENE FOUR - THE BARN

### *Lighting: Spots on Narrators*

Narrator: 1. Ross takes Digger to the barn where he lives at the moment with some of his friends.  
2. They are all very pleased to meet him, especially Sheba.  
3. Digger is really surprised at how friendly they are to him. Usually he only meets dogs in the park and there they're not too friendly.

### *Lighting: Lights up full*

*Dogs are sitting in the barn on the hay bales. Digger and Ross enter)*

Ross: Hi everyone! This is Digger. He's lost and feeling pretty miserable. I said he could stay. All right?

*(The dogs all agree and come over to greet Digger.)*

Sheba: Hi, I'm Sheba. Say, you're a good-looking dog.

Rocky: She's off again. Only got to look at a dog before she's drooling all over him.

Nan: You're just jealous, Rocky. Come on let's find out about him. I'm really interested.

### *Lighting: Dim lights. Spots on Narrators.*

Narrator: 1. Digger tells his new friends all about himself and how he got lost.  
2. Then Ross takes up the story and tells them where he found poor Digger.  
3. The barn dogs feel really sorry for him. They all have their own tales to tell.

### *Lighting: Lights up full.*

Boxer: You're a lucky dog, Digger. Some of us have never had a real home in all our lives. Just roamed the streets.

Rover: Home, you must be joking. I've lived most of my life in a kennel at the end of a garden. Some home that was.

Marshall: You were lucky. I just lived in the garden without the kennel. Soaked when it rained. Boiling hot in the sun all day. Tied up on a rope. Watching that stupid fat cat next door laughing at me all day.

Nan: It was the cats that did for me. I hate 'em. Stupid and spoiled, that's what they are. They got fed and I starved. Ran away. That's what I did. Had enough.

Marshall: And their claws really hurt. I've got the scars to prove it. Look!

Digger: Oh, you poor things! And there was I feeling so sorry for myself.

Bruno: Yeah! You are lucky you've been loved. I wished I'd been loved.

Rosie: *(Going over to him and hugging him.)* I love yer, Bruno. I think yer real special.

Bruno: Do you Rosie? That's nice!

Sheba: Love is in the air.

Boxer: You're right. It's been there right under our noses all the time and we just didn't see it.

Rosie: Take no notice of them. You remind me of my first puppy. *(She starts to cry.)* Same colouring and same floppy ears. Snatched off me before he was even 6 weeks old. Next door neighbours got him. Then they moved away.

Boxer: You might love Bruno, Rosie, but you can't go down the road and buy him a giant tin of CHUM when he's hungry can you. That's what proper loving is.

Patch: Yeah! I'd like to live in the lap of luxury. Three big meals a day. Nice fire to curl up in front of. Lots of cuddles and fuss.

Digger: Haven't any of you had a real home?

Patch: I had one once. Ages ago. *(She starts to cry and the dogs comfort her.)*

Nan: I lived with this rich family once but they had two disgusting spoilt brats for children. One day, one of them was hitting me with this stick so I bit her leg. Next thing I knew, I was thrown out the door.

Sheba: Everybody can see that with my stunning looks I should have been born into better things.

*(All the dogs groan.)*  
I could be in films. One day someone is going to discover me.

*(All the dogs laugh.)*  
Then you won't be laughing.

## **SONG: A HAPPY GIRL**

Ross: Come on everyone! I think it's time we got some sleep now.

Nan: Here Digger! You sleep over there. Put some straw over you, you'll feel warmer.

Digger: You're all very kind.

Rocky: It's my turn to keep watch tonight. Anyone want to join me?

Rover: Not me, mate. I need my beauty sleep.

Sheba: So do I.

*(Everyone groans.)*

Patch: I'll come with you, Rocky. I don't feel very sleepy tonight.

Rocky: Really? (Looking at her.) Hey, are you all right?

Patch: Not really. It must be listening to Digger. It's made me remember the family I used to live with. They were lovely to me when I was a puppy. Then I grew up.

Rocky: People! Why do they have dogs if they can't look after them. Come on! The night air will make you feel better.

**Lighting: Dim**

***Spots on Narrators***

Narrator: The dogs all try to get a good night's sleep in the cold drafty barn. Rocky and Patch talk things over in the cold night air. But there is danger lurking in the night as the dogs are about to find out.
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**Lighting: Lights up full.**

Rocky: Quick everyone! It's Snitch. Get up! The dogs in the next village have seen his black and white van.

Digger: Who's Snitch?

Dogs: **(Shout)** WHO'S SNITCH? HE'S THE DOG CATCHER

**SONG: SNITCH, THE DOG CATCHER**

Rosie: Quick everyone, hide!

**Lighting: Dim lights**

**Spots on Narrators**

Narrator:	1. Everyone finds a place to hide in the barn as Snitch's van appears. 2. Rosie makes sure that Digger is well hidden. 3. Look out dogs!
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**Lighting: Lights up full**

*(Enter Snitch and Snatch with a black and white van full of stray dogs.)*

Snitch: I know you're here you scrawny little mutts and I can't wait to get my hands on yer. Come on, Snatch! Give us a hand!

Snatch: All right, boss.

*(The dogs in the van start barking.)*

Snitch: Shut up the lot of yer!

Snatch: Oy, you heard 'im. Shut up!

Snitch: Now let's see. There's only one exit to this barn and this is it. *(Pointing.)*

Snatch: Are you sure there's not another exit, Snitch?

Snitch: Nah, I've been 'ere before. That's the only one.

Snatch: Good! Then it'll be easy, eh Snitch?

Snitch: Yeah. Now I'll just go peekies and see what I can see. *(Evil laugh.)*

Van Dogs: Look out friends! Here comes Snitch.

Snitch: Shut up I said, or you might just end up in a sausage factory.

Snatch: Yeah, you 'eard him. Shut up!

Snitch: I love sausages, don't I, Snatch.

Snatch: Yeah, he loves 'em.

Snitch: Especially HOT DOGS! *(Evil Laugh.)*

Van Dog 1: What have dogs ever done to you to make you so evil?

Snitch: Shut up! I'm not telling yer again.  
Me? Evil? Am I, Snatch?

Snatch: Well, yeah, Snitch. You are evil, ain't yer?

Snitch: Well I'll tell you why I hate dogs. It's me past. Me terrible, unhappy past.

## **SONG: SNITCH'S SONG**

Snitch: That's why I hate dogs.  
Now! *(He walks over to where Digger is hiding.)*  
What's this little ear I see poking up through the straw? Why if it's not a little doggie. *(Laughs then shouts at Digger)* Come here my little dear, Snitchy wants to say "Hello"

Digger: Leave me alone! I haven't done anything.

*(All the dogs jump out from their hiding places.)*

Rocky: Yeah! You leave the poor thing alone.

Marshall: You're a big brute. And you're drunk as usual.

Snitch: Who're you calling drunk, you flea bitten little mutt.

Snatch: Yeah, look at the state of yer.

*(Digger tries to hide but Snitch turns back to find him.)*

Rover: Keep away from him you drunken slob! He's terrified.

Snitch: *(Yelling.)* Terrified is he? Poor thing. Come here little doggie!  
Snitchy wants to give yer a little kissie.  
Get hold of 'im, Snatch. Come on!

Snitch: Yeah, you and whose army?

Boxer: Run, Digger! We'll get him.

*(All the dogs charge at Snitch and hold him down. Snatch tries to pull them off but they get him as well.)*

Rosie: Run, Digger! Good luck! Take care!

*(Digger runs off.)*

Digger: Thanks! Bye!

Marshall: Quick! Let the poor dogs out of the van. Then we can put Snitch and Snatch in it and lock them up.

*(All the van dogs are freed.)*

**Lighting: Dim lights**  
**Spots on Narrators.**

Narrator:	1. Thanks to Digger's friends he is free. 2. They tie up Snitch and Snatch up and put them in the van. 3. Sadly, now all the dogs will have to find somewhere new to live.
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**Lighting : Lights up full.**

Van Dog 2: Thanks. We thought we had it.

Snitch: Wait till I get out of 'ere. You'll cop it then.

Ross: Ignore him. You're welcome.

Nan: Now we'll have to start again and find another home.

Van Dogs: Can we join you?

Boxer: If there's enough space you can.

Ross: Not so clever now are you, Mr Boozy Snitch?

Snitch: Grrr. I'll get you. Come 'ere yer scrawny little mutts.  
Let me out! Let me out!

*(They dogs all run off laughing.)*

**Lighting: Blackout**  
**Spots on choir.**

## **SONG: HOME'S THE PLACE**

*Lighting: Blackout*

**Props: Remove all props on stage.**  
**Put on caravan + campfire + clump of grass.**  
**Have bowl of dog food ready. Hand guitar to Carlos as he enters.**