

# ROBIN HOOD

*Series Two, Episode Three*

## Childhood

*written by Jason Sutton*

*directed by Ciaran Donnelly*

**This is not an official copy. This was typed up by a fan of the show strictly for personal enjoyment.**

## CAST

Robin Hood	Jonas Armstrong
Marian	Lucy Griffiths
Guy of Gisborne	Richard Armitage
Sheriff of Nottingham	Keith Allen
Little John	Gordon Kennedy
Much	Sam Troughton
Allan A Dale	Joe Armstrong
Will Scarlett	Harry Lloyd
Djaq	Anjali Jay
Edward	Michael Elwyn
Mark	Adam Parkinson
Daniel	Adam J Brown
Smith	Geff Francis
Servant	Péter Horkay

## Scene One

### *Sherwood Forest. A clearing near Locksley.*

*Four boys are playing in the woods. They are wearing green costumes similar to the outlaws' (Daniel's with a hood), have tags round their necks that they have made themselves and three have a small bow and arrow set. The fourth, Mark, carries a half staff.*

BOYS

Robin Hood! Woo hoo!

MARK

*Windmills his arm. This way!*

*The boys run through the underbrush.*

DANIEL/MARK

Come on! Come on!

*They climb up a small rise and spy a wild boar piglet.*

Robin, the Sheriff's in range. It's the perfect shot.

*Daniel raises his toy bow and arrow and aims.*

One arrow, it's the end of his reign of terror.

DANIEL

For your crimes against the people of Nottingham, Sheriff.

*Daniel shoots and the arrow flies harmlessly over the piglet, which runs off.*

MARK

You're rubbish, Daniel! It's my turn with the bow.

DANIEL

I'm Robin!

MARK

You're always Robin! I get this boring piece of tree.

*Mark waits a moment, then suddenly steals the bow from Daniel and runs off.*

DANIEL

Hey!

*The three boys chase Mark until he stumbles and falls. The boys reach him, see something and freeze.*

*Quietly: Mark, get up.*

*Mark stands up and stares with the rest of them. They creep*

*closer and peek out from behind a large rock down into a hollow at Gisborne below. The Smith stands next to him. A young peasant man has his ankles and wrists shackled and chained together and is wearing the breastplate of a suit of armour, trying to be brave, but is very frightened, facing a row of four of Gisborne's men with bows and arrows drawn at him. Nothing happens for several seconds.*

GISBORNE

Now!

*Arrows fly and bounce off the armour. The peasant man looks down and pats the armour in disbelief.*

MARK

*Quietly: Whoa!*

*Gisborne hurries over to the peasant man, the Smith behind him.*

SMITH

You see? I told you I could do it.

*Gisborne inspects the armour.*

Nothing can penetrate it.

GISBORNE

Excellent work.

SMITH

What else did you expect? *Folds his arms.*

GISBORNE

*Pulls out his small curved dagger. Unfortunately [puts his right arm round the peasant's shoulders, holding the dagger in front of his face], the secret cannot leave the forest.*

*Gisborne stabs the peasant man in the back. The boys cringe and turn their heads away.*

MARK

Oh!

*Gisborne hears him and looks up to see the boys behind the boulders.*

GISBORNE

*to his men: Get them!*

*The boys run away.*

**OPENING CREDITS**

### ***Sherwood Forest.***

*The boys are chased by Gisborne's men on horseback through the forest. Mark leads them on a narrow path through a thicket where the horses can't follow.*

GISBORNE

Go round! Go round!

*Mark stumbles and falls. Daniel bends over him.*

DANIEL

Mark, come on!

*Daniel runs on. The other two boys help Mark up as Daniel keeps going. Daniel runs off the trail into a gully with rock walls. The other boys run on, pursued by the horsemen. Then another man on horseback comes up the other way. The three boys are surrounded and the men draw their swords. Gisborne rides up and sees that there are only three, then walks his horse around, looking for the fourth. He makes his way through the trees towards Daniel in the gully, stops, and looks out through the mist.*

GISBORNE

Come on out!

*Daniel presses himself against the edge of the gully.*

You can trust me. I'm Lord of Locksley.

*Daniel stands still and closes his eyes. Gisborne waits, listening, but hears nothing more than birds cawing and leaves rustling. He turns his horse around and rides back to the other three boys. Daniel steps away from the wall of the gully, peers over its edge and aims his toy bow at Gisborne's back. An adult's hand closes over the bow and arrow.*

ROBIN

Shh.

*Daniel tries to pull his bow out of Robin's grip. Robin looks after Gisborne, shaking his head.*

*Quietly, with contempt:* Lord of Locksley.

DANIEL

Why have you—

*Robin lets go of the bow and holds up his hands. Daniel keeps the bow drawn and pointing at Robin, breathing heavily.*

ROBIN

It's all right. Hang on, I know you. You were Marian's table boy at Knighton Hall.

DANIEL

How do you know that?

ROBIN

*Glances back towards Gisborne.* What happened? I know Gisborne's up to something 'cause I've been tracking him.

DANIEL

I don't trust you.

ROBIN

All right. Tell me your name.

DANIEL

Daniel.

ROBIN

Daniel. Do you know who I am?

DANIEL

*Shakes his head.* No.

ROBIN

*Whispers:* I'm Robin Hood.

*Daniel looks at his hero in shock and lowers his bow.*

### ***A clearing near Locksley.***

*The three boys are tied together as Gisborne's men bring past the dead peasant. Gisborne dismounts and goes over to the boys.*

GISBORNE

So what were you doing up there?

MARK

Nothing... playing... at Robin Hood.

GISBORNE

What, playing a loser?

MARK

We didn't see anything, sir.

GISBORNE

*Leans down to Mark.* If you didn't see anything, why would you say you didn't see anything?

MARK

We won't say anything, sir.

GISBORNE

*Picks up Mark's tag.* You can be sure of that. *Pulls off the tag and tosses it on the ground.*





### Scene Three

#### *Sherwood Forest. A clearing near Locksley.*

*The gang arrive at the clearing.*

DANIEL

They've gone.

*Daniel walks around, looking, as the gang look for clues. Daniel finds Mark's tag and stoops to pick it up. Robin joins him.*

It's Mark's.

*Robin takes the tag.*

See, the M?

ROBIN

Nods. That's good.

DANIEL

We play outlaws. *A bit shyly:* I'm Robin Hood.

ROBIN

*Sincerely:* Well, I hope you're better at playing Robin Hood than I am.

DANIEL

*Looks down in shame.* No. I let go of his hand.

*Robin leans in.*

Gisborne's lot were coming and I just ran.

ROBIN

Well, then you did the right thing.

DANIEL

Really?

ROBIN

If you hadn't run, you would've been caught, too, and what good is that? *Gently:* Listen, sometimes in the heat of battle... *glances back at the gang...* there isn't time to watch your gang's back.

*Will comes up.*

WILL

Wagon tracks. *Nods behind him.*

ROBIN

*to Daniel:* They've gone to Locksley, all right? *to gang:* Come on, let's go.

† †

### Scene Four

#### *Locksley Manor. Courtyard.*

*The Smith has a work area across from the front door. His hammer clangs repeatedly. The boys are tied up in a nearby shed. The Sheriff coughs from the smoke as he approaches the Smith with Gisborne. The Smith stops hammering, but doesn't see them. He is about to start again when the Sheriff touches his arm. The Smith puts down the armour and hammer.*

SHERIFF

Let's see it then, the magic metal.

*The Smith glares at the Sheriff, who removes his gloves. The Smith gets the breastplate as the Sheriff hands his gloves to Gisborne. The Smith holds up the armour and the Sheriff takes it.*

*Taps the metal, unconvinced.* This it? *Turns the breastplate over.*

SMITH

*Proudly.* Indeed.

SHERIFF

It's very thin. *Hands it to Gisborne.*

SMITH

Thin, yes, but that is its beauty. With this on, a soldier can dance in battle.

SHERIFF

*Pulls out his dagger.* Yes, how does it work?

SMITH

That is my secret. *Sets his feet and puts his hands on his hips.* And I am the only man west of Jerusalem who knows how to make it.

SHERIFF

Oh, la-di-da-di-da.

*The Sheriff hits the breastplate with the dagger. The armour sparks as the dagger strikes it and the Sheriff recoils in pain. Gisborne smiles smugly.*

SMITH

O ye of little faith. Come. I will show you a little of my art.

*The Sheriff runs his fingers over the armour again before following the Smith to the forge. Gisborne brings over a small wooden box.*

SHERIFF

Stinks like a Turk's trousers.

SMITH

To the artist, it is a beautiful smell. Here, my special ingredient. *Opens Gisborne's box and takes out a piece of coal.* This, to me, is more precious than diamonds.

SHERIFF

I hope so. More expensive than diamonds.

SMITH

Watch. *Crushes the rock in a tall mortar with a wooden pestle.*

***Locksley.***

*Much, Will, Little John, Allan, Daniel and Djaq run in and peek out between buildings across from the manor.*

***Courtyard.***

*The Smith tosses a bit of the crushed rock into the fire. It smokes and the Sheriff coughs.*

SMITH

Don't cough. In breathe, inhale. Enjoy.

SHERIFF

*Gasping for breath:* Enjoy?

*Robin opens a window from the upper storey of the manor. Below is the Smith's work area, and through a hole in the roof he can the Sheriff sputtering. Gisborne turns to a servant.*

GISBORNE

*Irritably:* Water for the Sheriff.

SMITH

Believe me, in time you will grow used to it.

SHERIFF

*Sputters:* You will get used to it, my friend. Start production. I want 5000 suits of armour.

SMITH

My lord, that is a very great undertaking.

SHERIFF

Yes, your fee is very generous.

SMITH

The King of France would pay double.

*Gisborne scoffs.*

SHERIFF

*Thinks seriously for a moment.* Well, you are indeed an artist.

*The Smith nods in acknowledgement as the Sheriff coughs and leaves. Gisborne follows him with the box.*

GISBORNE

*In disbelief:* Double?

SHERIFF

An inconvenience, but think of the gain.

*Robin is still watching from the window.*

An army of indestructible warriors.

GISBORNE

*to his servant:* Put this safely in my room. *Hands the box to him.*

*Gisborne and the Sheriff turn to leave, but they hear the boys in the shed coughing from the smoke.*

SHERIFF

*Holds up a finger to Gisborne:* Gisborne... *walking towards the shed:* ... have you started a family without telling me?

GISBORNE

*Following:* My lord...

*Robin watches cautiously as the Sheriff opens the top half of the door to the shed and sees the boys.*

SHERIFF

Children.

GISBORNE

I caught them snooping around in the woods, my lord.

SHERIFF

Tell me they didn't see you testing the armour in the forest.

*Gisborne is quiet. The Smith starts hammering again.*

Why didn't you kill them, Gisborne?

GISBORNE

My lord, I decided we could use them in the mines. We need extra labourers.

SHERIFF

You see, just when I thought I could let you out by your-

self to flap your little wings, you go and show compassion. *Tut-tut.* When there are people who know our little secret, those people have to die.

*The boys' eyes widen in fear. The Sheriff turns away from the shed as Robin ducks out of the light and pulls the shutter closed a bit more. Gisborne shuts the door and follows. Robin pushes open the shutter again, ties a short piece of rope onto an arrow and fires it over the village.*

### **Locksley.**

*The arrow lands right by Much's hand resting on a fence. Will pulls it out and takes off the knot as Much breathes heavily.*

WILL

That's the back door plan.

LITTLE JOHN

Come on. We move.

MUCH

*Whispers, a bit annoyed at the near miss: Every time...*

*Much, Will, Djaq, Allan and Daniel follow Little John into the village towards the manor, alternating leads. Will and Little John leave the rest of the gang there, and go to the boys' shed. They peek round the corner and Little John starts peering through the cracks, looking for them.*

LITTLE JOHN

*Quietly to Will: They're here.*

*Will sneaks over and puts a small saw into a knothole. He's about to start sawing when the hammering stops.*

Wait.

*The hammering resumes and Little John taps Will's shoulder.*

OK.

*Will starts sawing.*

### **Beside the manor.**

*Behind a cow eating hay, Much, Djaq, Allan and Daniel wait, Much impatiently.*

MUCH

I don't like waiting. *Looks at the cow.* Especially behind a cow.

*The cow lows.*

It's not good for my constitution.

DANIEL

Much! Shh!

*Much stares at Daniel in indignation while Djaq and Allan look at each other and smile at how much Daniel is unknowingly like the real Robin.*

### **Behind the shed.**

*The Smith is hammering. Will is sawing. The hammering stops. Little John taps Will's shoulder and Will stops sawing. The hammering resumes. Little John taps Will's shoulder again and Will continues sawing. He breaks through the board, knocks the piece out and holds a finger to his lips for the boys to see, then starts sawing at the next board.*

### **Master's chamber.**

*Robin has found the box of black diamonds. He steps off the raised floor of the alcove, ready to sneak out, when Gisborne enters.*

GISBORNE

*Surprised: Hood!*

ROBIN

*With contempt: It's Locksley to you.*

*Gisborne quickly steps in and bars the door closed. He draws his sword and strides round the bed as Robin sets his feet.*

GISBORNE

No. Locksley's mine now.

*Gisborne attacks Robin with the sword, but Robin twists himself round the alcove's curtains to avoid it. He ducks Gisborne's second swing, but Gisborne follows with a left hook and Robin ducks it, too.*

ROBIN

Locksley will [*knocks the sword away with the box*] never be yours!

*Robin rolls over the bed to the door.*

### **The shed.**

*Will finishes taking out a fourth section of board and pokes his head in through the hole. He motions for them to come closer.*

WILL

Come on.

*The boys, tied together, inch towards him and Will reaches in to saw at their ropes.*

### **Master's chamber.**

GISBORNE  
Bah!

*Gisborne brings down his sword at Robin's back, but Robin ducks aside at the last moment. Gisborne swings. Robin ducks again, then slams into Gisborne, kicks his sword arm, forcing Gisborne to drop it, then gives him a mighty kick in the chest, sending him into the wall. Robin runs to the door.*

Still sore? Face facts, Hood.

*Gisborne pushes Robin's back as Robin tries to lift the bar on the door.*

You lost. I won.

*Gisborne pulls Robin away from the door by his jacket.*

### **The shed.**

*Little John lifts the boys out of the hole in the shed and passes them to Will, but Mark's foot is chained to an iron ring attached to a short post set firmly in the ground. Little John pulls twice, then looks in to see what's holding him up. Mark pulls on the chain.*

LITTLE JOHN  
*Realising:* Oh. Pulls his head out of the hole. Will, I need Allan and Djaq, now. Go!

*Will runs off, pulling the two boys after him.*

### **Master's chamber.**

*Gisborne pushes Robin into the wall by the door, then as he steps back, Robin tries to hit him with the box, but Gisborne blocks it with both hands, knocking the box onto the bed. Gisborne picks up Robin and throws him into the wall. Robin slams into a shelf on the wall and falls to the floor, as does a metal pitcher from the shelf.*

ROBIN  
You want hearts and minds...

*Gisborne kicks Robin in the ribs. Robin picks up the fallen pitcher.*

... but it'll never [*kicks out at Gisborne*] happen! No matter how many people you [*slams the pitcher into Gisborne's face*] kill!

*Gisborne rolls back across the bed and onto the floor.*

No matter how many children you terrify. *Drops the*

*pitcher.*

*Gisborne stands up and leans over the bed to grab the box, but Robin grabs the crosspiece above and jumps up.*

No matter how much armour you put [*kicks Gisborne back with both feet*] on!

*Drops to the floor and grabs the box before Gisborne can reach it.*

*Sneering triumphantly:* Ha!

*Gisborne stands.*

GISBORNE  
You overestimate me, Hood.

*Robin unbars the door and walks through as Gisborne speaks, barely glancing back at him.*

You know, sometimes at night I get one of your servants to rub my feet. *Shouting after him, coming round the bed:* I don't care if she has a heart or a mind!

*Gisborne follows Robin out.*

### **The shed.**

LITTLE JOHN  
*to Mark:* Right. Step over there. Cover your eyes. I'll be back.

*Little Johns turns and takes several steps away from the shed.*

OK?

*Mark covers his eyes with his arm and Little John smashes through the wall. He pries open Mark's shackle as the Sheriff approaches and opens the top door. Two of Gisborne's men are with him.*

SHERIFF  
Ah, rescued by outlaws.

*The Sheriff opens the lower door and Little John tosses away Mark's chain.*

"Quelle surprise."

*Two more soldiers appear outside behind Little John.*

LITTLE JOHN  
*to Mark:* We fight. Take this.

*Little John hands Mark a broken board from the wall.*

Defend me from above.

*Little John lifts Mark onto his shoulders.*

SHERIFF

*Turning to the soldiers:* Well, this should be fun.

*The Sheriff turns back in time for Mark to hit him in the head with the board.*

**Locksley.**

*Will, with the other two boys, runs back where Allan, Much and Djaq are waiting with Daniel.*

MUCH

*to the boys:* Come on!

DANIEL

Where's Mark? You've left Mark!

WILL

*to Daniel:* He's all right. *to the others:* We need you, now.

*Much draws his sword.*

MUCH

*to the boys:* You lot, stay here.

*Djaq taps a boy's shoulder and points behind the fence into a sheltered spot.*

DJAQ

In. Go in.

*The boys crouch behind the fence and Djaq runs after Allan.*

**Upstairs gallery.**

*Robin runs out of the master's chamber down the gallery away from the stairs and stops just around the corner. He sees Gisborne come out of the room.*

ROBIN

I'm afraid I can't let you keep these diamonds, Gisborne.

GISBORNE

And I can't let you take them. The Black Knights would be very disappointed.

ROBIN

Then it's a stalemate. *Flippantly:* Shall we toss a coin for it?

GISBORNE

Not a stalemate. *Shakes his curved dagger out of his sleeve.* Checkmate.

*Robin's eyes grow wide and he dashes down the gallery. Gisborne throws the dagger and it lands in a supporting post after Robin passes by it. Gisborne groans and rushes forward to retrieve it. Robin opens the shutter of a tall window overlooking the courtyard.*

ROBIN

Ha-ha! I'll see ya.

**Courtyard.**

*Robin tosses the box out the window to the ground below, where the Smith sees it.*

**Upstairs gallery.**

*Gisborne pulls his dagger out of the post and charges after Robin.*

**Courtyard.**

*Robin drops to the ground and goes to pick up the box just as the Smith is reaching for it, too. Robin kicks him in the face.*

SMITH

*Grabbing his face:* Ah! Son of a camel!

*Daniel sees Robin lying on the ground and comes running. Gisborne looks down from the window and sees Robin sprawled on the ground with the box.*

GISBORNE

Hood!

*Robin looks up at Gisborne poised with the dagger as Daniel aims his slingshot at Gisborne's face. Gisborne is reaching back to throw the dagger when a rock hits him sharply in the head. Gisborne falls back to the floor as Daniel runs to Robin and helps him to his feet.*

DANIEL

In the heat of battle, there is time to watch your gang's back.

ROBIN

Thanks, Daniel. Go. Go!

*Daniel runs back to the other boys and Robin scrambles to the shed where Mark is.*

**Upstairs gallery.**

*Gisborne lets out a roar and heads downstairs.*

**The shed.**

Little John hits one of Gisborne's men in the stomach with his staff.

LITTLE JOHN

Hit him!

Mark hits the back of the man's head with the board. Little John pushes him away in the back, blocks the sword of the next man with his staff, then turns the blade aside.

Hit him!

Mark hits him with the board. Little John turns to a soldier beside him and turns away his blade as Mark comes across with the board. The soldier falls and Little John knocks down the sword of the next one. The soldier stands up again.

Hit him!

Mark hits his head and he goes down. Behind them, Gisborne's two men get up again.

Hit him!

Mark drives his board into the helmet of one as Little John catches his sword, then spins round at the other, and he and Mark swing their weapons around as well. Little John drives the butt of his staff into the man's stomach and Mark comes back with the board. The last man standing falls through the doorway and Little John roars after him, then turns around and roars again, ready to fight just as Much arrives, yelling and bursting through the new "back door." Djaq comes in next, also yelling, with Allan and Will on her heels. They see all is quiet and stop. In the doorway, Gisborne's man tries to get up again, but Robin hits him in the head with the box.

ROBIN

This way! Turns to run.

All but Will run after him. Will has seen the dazed Sheriff get up.

WILL

This is for the poor.

Will punches the Sheriff's face and runs out the door.

**Courtyard.**

Djaq grabs an armpiece from the Smith's workbench as she runs past. The Smith is sitting on the ground nearby, feeling his wounded cheek and wincing. Daniel sneaks over in an attempt to use his slingshot on the Smith, but is grabbed

by Gisborne before he can strike.

GISBORNE

Gotcha!

**Locksley.**

The gang and the other boys weave their way back through the village to their original position and stop there.

ROBIN

Come on! Get in! Get in!

The gang and three boys arrive and stand breathlessly behind Robin.

Is everyone all right?

Much nods.

MARK

Wait. Looks around. Where's Daniel?

**Courtyard.**

SHERIFF

Holding his chin where Will punched him: Gisborne! Robin Hood just knocked one of my men out with a wooden box! Now you tell me it was not the box with the black diamonds in it!

Gisborne throws his head back in frustration. The Sheriff takes Daniel's slingshot from him and snaps it in his face.

Five men and a boy! Leaves.

GISBORNE

Angrily calling after him: Hostage!

**Locksley.**

The Sheriff and Gisborne walk Daniel to the middle of the village. Mark sees him.

MARK

Daniel!

Daniel struggles to get away from Gisborne's grip on his hood.

DANIEL

Robin Hood will be back. He'll rescue me.

The Sheriff slaps the back of Daniel's head.

SHERIFF

Counting on it.









## Scene Eight

### *Sherwood Forest. Outlaws' camp.*

MARIAN

*Holding up the parchment:* This is a pass for the castle gate, but underneath is an order to send Daniel back to the castle so the Sheriff can question him tonight.

ROBIN

Gisborne won't release him to us, but he will release him to... *holds up a guard's helmet...* a castle guard. *Taps the helmet with his index fingers.*

*Allan looks back at Little John and Will standing behind him.*

ALLAN

I'll do it.

*Robin agrees with a turn of his head and raised eyebrows and hands Allan the helmet.*

MARIAN

Are you aware of the risk? If Guy catches you—

ALLAN

*Interrupting, looking at the helmet:* Don't worry. He'll be putty in my hands.

MARIAN

You're a brave man.

ALLAN

*Shrugs.* Well... *Grins slightly.*

*Marian hands Allan the pass.*

MARIAN

I'll go ahead. I told the Sheriff I'd call on Gisborne so I must show my face there.

*Robin nods.*

*Smiles at Allan:* Good luck.

*Allan nods slightly.*

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

## Scene Nine

### *Locksley Manor. The back room.*

*Marian steps into the back room and hands the servant her cloak. Gisborne is being fitted with armour by another servant. Gisborne himself is bare-chested and checking the fit of an armpiece. Marian looks at him in wonder and sighs as she steps formally into the room. Gisborne notices her and looks up.*

MARIAN

*Lowering her eyes:* Forgive me.

GISBORNE

Marian, it's late. Why so urgent?

MARIAN

I wish to speak to you about a personal matter.

*Gisborne slides off the armpiece and hands it to the servant.*

GISBORNE

I'll send for you. *Jerks his head towards the door.*

*The servant nods, places the armpiece on the table and leaves. Gisborne walks over to Marian.*

Yeah? What is it?

MARIAN

There is bad blood between us.

GISBORNE

*Scoffs.* You overestimate yourself. I had feelings for you. I made no bones about that. But now... *scoffs, shakes his head...* I feel nothing.

*Marian looks disappointed as Robin creeps outside towards the window as Gisborne continues.*

(And I have) larger concerns, ambitions.

MARIAN

Well, is there no hope of a reconciliation? I know you are a man capable of compassion.

*Gisborne turns his head away.*

I offer...

*Marian hesitates and Gisborne looks up from under his brows without moving his head as Marian takes a step forward.*

... I offer friendship.

*Marian lifts her hand to Gisborne. Robin, leaning wide-eyed*

*on the sill, watches as Gisborne, breathing nervously, takes her hand.*

Guy?

*Robin moves his arm off the sill. Marian notices the movement, sees Robin at the window and starts to withdraws her hand, but Gisborne tightens his grip.*

GISBORNE

What?

MARIAN

*Marian quickly looks back at Gisborne.* I don't know.

GISBORNE

Marian, what is this all about?

MARIAN

It's about friendship, that's all.

GISBORNE

No. *Steps forward.* This isn't about friendship. *Caresses Marian's cheek.* You want your freedom back. That's what this is all about, and I can't give that to you.

*Marian pulls back her hand.*

You and your father, you've made your own bed.

*Marian is startled and Gisborne grimaces as they hear quiet footsteps enter.*

SERVANT

Sorry, master. There's a messenger from the Sheriff.

MARIAN

I should go. *Turns and leaves.*

*Gisborne signs heavily as Robin backs away from the window.*

† †

## Scene Ten

### ***Locksley Manor. Stable. Interior.***

*Marian grabs the reins and is starting to lead her horse out of the stable when Robin steps out from a stall behind her.*

ROBIN

*Bitterly:* That looked friendly.

MARIAN

*Stops suddenly. Piqued:* You were spying on me.

ROBIN

I was not spying on you. I was making sure you were safe.

MARIAN

*Still annoyed:* Well, I was safe. Shouldn't you be making sure Allan is safe?

*Robin has no reply. Marian shakes her head leads her horse out.*

*Not looking back:* I've played my part.

ROBIN

*Confused at her attitude:* Marian!

† †



*Robin turns back to face Allan.*

I'm sorry.

ROBIN

Eh, [*puts his hand on Allan's shoulder*] it's not your fault, is it?

*Allan sadly shakes his head.*

We'll tell the others and Marian. It's Mark's pitch plan.  
Come on.

*Robin and Allan leave for camp.*

† †

## Scene Twelve

***Sherwood Forest. Near the outlaws' camp. The next morning.***

*Will sets a rough model of his new pitch-lined box on a boulder as Robin spins an arrow in his hand. Djaq is standing behind Robin with the other completed new box and a bow. Much is standing beside her holding a torch and bow. Little John is standing behind the boys, one of whom is holding Will's bow. Allan is standing in the back with his bow. Will walks back to the gang and takes his bow back as Robin holds the arrow's tip in the flame from Much's torch, then nocks the arrow in his bow as Little John picks up Mark and holds him up to watch. Robin aims and shoots the box squarely in its side. The flames spread for a moment, then flare and the box explodes.*

ROBIN

Right.

*Will pats Robin's shoulder.*

Let's go.

† †

## Scene Thirteen

**Locksley.**

SERGEANT

Guards, take your positions!

SOLDIER

You, over there! Move it! Move it!

*The Sheriff's archers spread out into strategic points around the village. A gallows has been set up in front of the pond and the Sheriff and four nobles are sitting on a dais, their backs to the pond. Each end is flanked by soldiers. Marian stands in front to the side closest to the gallows, the Smith at the other. Daniel, his hands shackled and a rope tied round his torso, is standing in front of the Sheriff, who is holding the other end of the rope.*

SHERIFF

Here, boy.

*The Sheriff pulls on the rope and Daniel steps backwards.*

See that? *Looks at the gallows.* If Robin Hood doesn't show up, these people here are going to watch you swing. Sit.

*The Sheriff tugs on the rope and Daniel falls backward and sits on his heels with a glum but defiant look about him.*

*Looking up:* Well, I can see the sun... no sign of your saviour.

DANIEL

*Assuredly:* He'll come.

*Marian smiles sadly but proudly at Daniel.*

SHERIFF

Hm? Oh, well, let's hope so, hm? For your sake. *Chuckles, then stands.* Hood! *Steps off the dais.* *Singsong:* Oh, Robin Hood!

*The Sheriff pulls Daniel with him as he walks towards the middle of the village where the peasants have loosely gathered. Robin appears, hood up, walking through the villagers, the box under his arm. The soldiers draw their bows at him.*

Stay where you are, Hood!

*Robin stops behind a line of villagers and puts both hands round the box. He and the Sheriff are several yards apart in the centre of the village.*

My smith

*The Smith glares at the Sheriff, obviously not expecting this.*

will meet you in the middle, check the merchandise. If it's all right... *holds up a key...* you get the key [*points the key at Daniel*] to the boy.

*The Smith walks to the Sheriff.*

ROBIN

No, Sheriff. You can make the exchange. *Looking aside at the archers:* Otherwise your archers there will kill me. And if they do fire upon me, my men will kill you.

*Robin slowly turns aside as his gang rush forward, shouting at the peasants.*

LITTLE JOHN

*to the villagers:* Out of the way! Clear!

ALLAN/MUCH

Move! Move! Move!

DJAQ

Go! Go to your houses!

*The villagers scatter as Little John, Will, Much, Allan and Djaq line up, each with a bow drawn. Little John also holds his staff alongside his bow. Marian watches tensely.*

SHERIFF

Oh, la-di-da-di-da. *A pause.* Right! Let's get on with it.

*The Sheriff smiles and steps forward with Daniel in tow. Robin steps forward with the box.*

LITTLE JOHN

Allan, Djaq, take the archers on the left. You two, with me.

*The bows shift accordingly. Djaq takes several steps back to get a better shot. The Sheriff chuckles as he approaches Robin. The Sheriff's archers keep their arrows pointed at Robin as he walks past the well. Suddenly Marian intervenes.*

MARIAN

Stop!

*The Sheriff puffs out his cheeks in exasperation. Marian rushes over to him.*

You cannot release the child to an outlaw.

*Marian puts her hands on Daniel's shoulders.*

SHERIFF

*Sighs.* Somebody find me a box and put this woman inside it!

MARIAN

Release him to me. I'll see that he gets home safely. *Impartially:* Locksley, this makes no difference to you. You have my word.

ROBIN

*Nods, shrugs, pretending to think a moment. Quietly:* I accept these terms.

SHERIFF

Good for you.

*The Sheriff sucks in his breath slowly, then tosses the "leash" to Marian.*

Go on, then. *Sighs.*

*Marian starts to unwind the rope from Daniel.*

*Sighs.* Now... *holds up the key to Daniel's shackles...* the black diamonds.

*The Sheriff starts to walk forward. Marian reaches for the key, but the Sheriff pulls it back.*

Not yet. *Turning slightly to the Smith:* Allow me to check the merchandise first.

*Robin looks up at him from under his brows. Much waits nervously, having to watch his man instead of his master. Robin hands the Smith the box and folds his arms. The Smith opens it, he and the Sheriff look inside, then the Smith nods at the Sheriff. The Sheriff chuckles and leans the key towards Marian, who immediately snatches it and kneels down to unlock Daniel's shackles.*

*Pulling a small sack from inside his coat and opening it:* Oh, so sorry. You are, after all, as Lady Marian pointed out...

*The Smith pours the rocks into the sack as Robin winces.*

... a murderous outlaw, hm?

*The Sheriff tosses the sack to the Smith.*

MUCH

*to Allan:* The Sheriff's guessed our plan!

ALLAN

Unbelievable.

SHERIFF

*Shifts to look Robin squarely in the eyes.* Something wrong, Hood?

*Robin says nothing, merely glaring at the Sheriff with narrowed eyes. The Sheriff winks and steps back to the dais, chuckling. Robin slides off his hood and turns his back on the Sheriff as Marian finishes untying Daniel and follows the Sheriff.*

*Singsong:* Gisborne, all yours.

*The doors to the church open and Gisborne steps out in a full suit of gleaming silver armour. The gang are shocked and drop their guard.*

DJAO

*Gasps.* That's the armour!

*Gisborne strides to the dais and stops as the Sheriff steps back to his chair, grinning.*

SHERIFF

*Holds out his arms.* Enjoy!

*Marian is also in shock at the turn of events. Gisborne runs towards Robin's back.*

WILL

Robin!

*Much turns around and grabs Robin's scimitar from where it's leaning against the fence behind him. Robin looks over his shoulder, sees Gisborne hurrying towards him, and hastens his walk towards the gang, who draw their bows taut at the archers again.*

ROBIN

Stay back! My sword!

MUCH

Master!

*Much steps forward and tosses the scimitar to Robin, who catches the hilt and turns to face Gisborne.*

GISBORNE

Yaah!

*Gisborne charges, swings at Robin and misses. He comes back round again and Robin ducks, then stands up swinging and hits the back of Gisborne's protected arm. The armour sparks from the blow. Robin swings backhanded, but Gisborne catches his arm and knocks the scimitar from his hand. Robin twists his arm away, slams himself into Gis-*

borne's waist and tries to wrestle him to the ground, but Gisborne knees him in the stomach. The Sheriff cheers. Gisborne punches Robin's back and Robin falls to his hands and knees, then Gisborne kicks him in the ribs, throwing him onto his back. Gisborne raises his sword over his head to stab at Robin, but Robin rolls over, and Gisborne stabs the ground instead. Marian and the gang are watching anxiously. Gisborne abandons his sword, picks up Robin and throws him into a fence. The Sheriff cranes his neck, trying to see. Robin rolls away as Gisborne lumbers through. Robin crawls a bit, then runs to a cottage as Marian watches, holding Daniel's shoulders. Robin picks up a bench and swings it with all his might over Gisborne's back. Gisborne turns right back, having felt nothing. Robin drops the bench at Gisborne's feet and runs into the cottage, kicking open the door. Gisborne clumsily follows him in.

The gang sneak glances at the battle, keeping their bows drawn on the archers, who also have their arrows ready to fire. Daniel watches fearfully, not knowing what's happening inside. Suddenly Robin bursts headfirst through the window, rolling as he hits the ground. The Sheriff bounces in his chair, giddy with excitement.

SHERIFF

Oh, fantastic! Look at that!

Gisborne kicks down the wall after Robin. He steps slowly through mess and bends over his foe.

GISBORNE

What now, Locksley?

MUCH

Run!

Gisborne picks up Robin and slams him into the wall next to the hole he just made. Gisborne swings a punch, but Robin ducks, picks up a board and swings it into Gisborne's side. Gisborne reaches back and punches Robin with a gauntleted fist. Allan scowls with worry and guilt, knowing he helped set up this lopsided fight. Gisborne pushes Robin through another section of fence. Robin rolls away as Gisborne steps aside to pull his sword from the ground before following his prey.

Master! Robin!

Gisborne swipes at Little John, who steps back.

ROBIN

Don't touch him!

Gisborne swings back.

Stay on the archers!

Much draws his bow with renewed vigour as Robin crawls past the gang and the Sheriff's archers take new aim. Little John drops his bow and starts to charge.

MUCH

No, John! Wait!

Little John stops and glares at Much. Robin stands up at a rail fence and ducks aside as Gisborne brings down his sword on the rail. Gisborne pushes Robin over the collapsed fence. Robin scrambles to his feet and runs along the wall of the Scarletts' former cottage as Gisborne swings and hits the door. Robin ducks and falls, then, seeing a new stratagem before him, picks himself up and hops over the fence behind Allan and Djaq. Gisborne goes out the way he came in and pushes up his visor as Robin stops by a haystack, a bucket and an open fire with a kettle over it. Gisborne shadows him from the middle of the village and confronts him.

GISBORNE

Locksley will always be mine!

Robin dives down to pick up a bucket and tosses its black liquid on Gisborne.

SHERIFF

What's he doing?

GISBORNE

Is that the best you can do?

Robin tosses aside the bucket and pulls a small bow out of the haystack.

What now?

Robin slides the pieces together, pulls an arrow out of the hay and nocks it.

Playing outlaws with the children?!

Robin bends down and puts the tip of the arrow into the fire as Gisborne slams down his visor with his sword.

Goodbye, Hood.

Robin aims and draws.

SHERIFF

Peeking though his fingers: Oh, no.

ROBIN

Smiling: Oh, yes!

*Robin fires the arrow at Gisborne. The pitch ignites and Gisborne's armour is aflame. The gang cheer and laugh. Daniel silently cheers. Robin watches Gisborne turn and flail. The Sheriff rolls his eyes. Gisborne drops his sword, makes a beeline for a large washtub and ungracefully falls backwards into it. The gang laugh. Robin picks up Gisborne's sword, jumps in after him, pulls off the helmet and breastplate, and holds the sword to Gisborne's throat.*

ROBIN

Tell your men to withdraw, Sheriff!

*The Sheriff stands and steps down off the dais.*

Another exchange: the black diamonds for Gisborne and you have him back!

*The Sheriff clicks his fingers to the Smith to follow him.*

*to Gisborne:* Well, how long can you hold your breath?

GISBORNE

My lord! Please!

*Robin pushes Gisborne's head under the water.*

SHERIFF

You, er, you seem to have overestimated Gisborne's importance to me.

*Marian motions to a guard and pushes Daniel to him.*

MARIAN

Make sure he's safe.

*Robin lets Gisborne up for air.*

ROBIN

*to the Sheriff:* Not even you would let him die.

SHERIFF

Erm, I have everything I could want.

*Marian runs up behind the Smith, pulls his long dagger from his belt and holds it to his ribs.*

MARIAN

Sheriff?

*Not realising Marian is threatening the Smith, but thinking she's just interfering again:* Oh, no, not again.

*Robin pushes Gisborne's head under again.*

MARIAN

Let him live.

SHERIFF

Who?

MARIAN

Guy.

SHERIFF

*Looks at Marian and notices the dagger, then frowns.* Marian, what are you doing?

MARIAN

I am asking you to reconsider.

SHERIFF

You are helping Hood.

*Marian jabs the point into the Smith's ribs and the Smith reacts.*

MARIAN

Quite the opposite. I'm reminding you that Sir Guy is your most loyal servant.

*Robin lets Gisborne up for air.*

GISBORNE

Oh! My lord! Please!

*Robin looks at the Sheriff.*

SHERIFF

Let him die!

*Robin pushes Gisborne's head under again.*

MARIAN

He's a noble and a good man. He must be worth more to you than a sack of rocks!

*The Sheriff roughly grabs the bag from the Smith.*

SHERIFF

I will have those rocks.

*The Sheriff and Robin stare down each other.*

MARIAN

Then I will kill this man. *Twists the point.* Without him... are the rocks really any use?

SMITH

Er, no. No they are not. *Straining with pain:* I am the only

man west of Jerusalem who can make them work their magic.

*The Sheriff thinks as Marian stares him down. Robin lets Gisborne up for air again.*

GISBORNE

Ah! My lord!

SHERIFF

*to Gisborne: Shut up!*

*Robin pushes Gisborne's head under once more. Marian presses the dagger harder and the Smith whimpers and indicates with his eyes to give back the rocks.*

SMITH

My lord, I will get you more rocks!

*The Sheriff thinks a moment longer, then tosses the sack at the tub. Robin pulls Gisborne's head up.*

SHERIFF

*Quietly to Marian: You will be punished for this, Marian. Be no doubt; you'll be punished.*

*Meanwhile Gisborne is sputtering and moaning. Marian lets the Smith go.*

ROBIN

Get out!

*Robin pulls Gisborne's shoulder up and Gisborne climbs out and falls to the ground, coughing. Robin gets out as Gisborne stands up and runs as best he can to the manor. Robin picks up the sack and tosses it towards the gang.*

Burn these.

*Much scampers forward to retrieve the sack as Robin turns to Marian. Much dumps the rocks onto the fire. Robin walks towards Marian and they silently acknowledge one another as the rocks explode.*

### **Locksley Manor. Courtyard.**

*Marian follows Gisborne, who is being helped out of the armour by two servants. Gisborne pulls off an armpiece, throws it into the arms of one of the servants and indicates to them to take it into the house. He sees Marian and sighs.*

GISBORNE

You saved my life. I'm grateful.

MARIAN

Well, I could not watch you die and do nothing.

GISBORNE

*Insinuating: You saved Robin, too.*

MARIAN

*Nods slightly. That was incidental.*

GISBORNE

*Sternly, malevolently: Was it?*

*Marian frowns, a bit fearful of his attitude.*

*Folds his arms. Marian, I've been assuming that since Hood became an outlaw, that you have had nothing further to do with him. Was I wrong to assume that?*

MARIAN

No.

GISBORNE

Because if you were associating with an outlaw, the punishment would be more severe than house arrest.

*Marian scoffs.*

The punishment... would be death.

MARIAN

*Spitefully: Well, would you prefer me to have let you die?*

*Gisborne says nothing, but stares as he turns to go into the manor. Marian scoffs and turns to leave. The Sheriff arrives from the opposite direction.*

SHERIFF

Gisborne— *Sees Marian. Pointing at her: Stay there!*

*Marian turns back around as the Smith walks behind the Sheriff and past her to leave with a sack attached to his baldric.*

*Chasing the Smith: Wait, wait, wait.*

*The Smith turns around to face the Sheriff.*

Where are you going?

SMITH

I cannot work in this environment.

SHERIFF

My dear friend, we could, er, make an arrangement, increase your fee? *Holds up two fingers, then three.*

SMITH

In France, they know how to treat an artist. *Leaves.*

*The Sheriff turns back and roughly grabs Marian's arm.*

SHERIFF

What were you thinking?

MARIAN

Guy is your faithful servant. I was preventing you from making a mistake!

SHERIFF

You do not prevent me from making a mistake! You must be punished. *Starts to leave.*

MARIAN

*Defiantly:* Well, I am ready for your punishment.

SHERIFF

*Turns back.* Yes, but is your father?

MARIAN

*Through her teeth:* You leave him out of this!

SHERIFF

*In her face:* Oh, I will leave him, all right, alone, to rot, in a dungeon until you learn to behave yourself. *Leaves.*

MARIAN

*Shuddering:* No. *Looks back at Gisborne for some assistance, but he turns his back and enters the house. Marian is fearful of her father's fate.*

† †

## Scene Fourteen

### *Sherwood Forest. Outlaws' camp.*

*Much, with a pitcher and a cup, steps out of his kitchen to the gang, who are assembled with the boys in the middle of the camp.*

MUCH

A toast! *Pours himself a cup.*

ROBIN

*Holds up his hand.* Just hang on.

*Robin hands his cup to Djaq.*

Djaq? *Turning to Will:* Will?

*Will tosses Robin a small sack. Robin opens it, grinning at the boys.*

Good work, lads.

*Robin holds up four tags and chuckles at their awed faces.*

You are now honorary members of our gang.

*Robin hands Daniel and one boy a tag.*

You are our eyes and ears in the villages. And any time you need us...

*Will passes back tags to Mark and the fourth boy.*

... you can call on us.

*Mark slips his tag over his head.*

DANIEL

Any time you need us, call on us.

*Daniel puts on his tag.*

ROBIN

*Winks and clicks his tongue.* That's a deal.

*Little John raises his cup and starts...*

LITTLE JOHN

We...

*The gang join in, raising their cups.*

LITTLE JOHN/ROBIN/  
MUCH/ALLAN/DJAQ/WILL

... are Robin Hood!

FOUR BOYS

*Raising their fists in the air: We are Robin Hood!*

*Everybody laughs.*

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

**.END OF EPISODE THREE.**