

RABBIT

More evidence, your majesty. I just picked up this piece of paper.

QUEEN

What's in it?

RABBIT

I haven't unfolded it yet.

QUEEN

It must be a letter written by the prisoner to somebody!

KING

Unless it was written to nobody, which isn't usual, you know.

QUEEN

Who is it addressed to?

RABBIT

There isn't any name.

(Unfolds paper)

In fact, there's nothing on it at all.

ALICE

I didn't write anything to anybody!

QUEEN

A likely story!

ALICE

It's true!

KING

If you didn't sign it, that only makes the matter

worse. You must have meant some mischief, or you'd have signed your name.

(The jurors clap, and the KING bows to the applause)

QUEEN

That *proves* her guilt. So, off with----

ALICE

It proves nothing of the sort!

(Upset)

Oh, Chessy, why aren't you here? Just when I need you most.

KING

That's the most important piece of evidence we've heard yet.

QUEEN

I *knew* that Cat helped her steal the tarts!

ALICE

Will you please listen to me? If there's nothing written on the paper, then there's no meaning to it.

KING

If there's no meaning, that saves a world of trouble. It fits.

QUEEN

What fits?

KING

Have you ever had fits, my dear?

QUEEN

(Angrily)

Never!

(Throws one of her shoes at the jury)

KING

Then it doesn't fit *you*.

(Everybody claps. The QUEEN throws  
her other shoe at the spectators)

Let the jury consider their verdict.

QUEEN

No! Sentence first--verdict afterwards!

ALICE

That's wrong!

QUEEN

Hold your tongue!

ALICE

I won't!

KING

(To QUEEN)

She says she won't.

ALICE

This is the most ridiculous trial I ever heard of!

KING

Are you calling me names?

QUEEN

Somebody stole my tarts!

KNAVE

(Jumping up).

Not me!