



## Three Times Two

**Characters:** Anita, Li Bin, Mimi Tony, Billy, Hammer

**Synopsis:** Mimi and Hammer play truant together. So do Tony and Anita. Billy and Li Bin chat in the playground together. The scenes go side by side showing how the three pairs are getting on, the same day, different places. Mimi gives Hammer a love test, he has to cross a busy road blindfolded with Mimi as his guide. Tony and Anita go to TST by the Cultural Centre waterfront, Tony dreams of flying. Li Bin and Billy cheer each other up and strike a deep chord of friendship.

## Scene 1

Tony: Hey Anita.... shall we skip school to-day?  
Anita: Play truant?  
Tony: Yes.  
Anita: But Tony... we've got a History test.  
Tony: I know... but... well.. it's such a lovely day... we could go somewhere.  
Anita: But what if Miss Ho finds out... I'll get into trouble.  
Tony: You can say you had the flu... or a bad cold or something.  
Anita: But she'll know... Miss Ho always knows.  
Tony: Have you prepared for your test Anita?  
Anita: No... Iris said I could look at her answers.  
Anita: Okay then. Where shall we go Tony?  
Tony: Anywhere you want.... When a girl goes out with Tony she's the princess and Tony's the servant.  
Anita: Wa... that's nice... But Tony... I don't want you to be my servant.  
Tony: Anything you say Princess.  
Anita: Princess... wa... no one's ever called me a Princess before.  
Tony: Why not? You look like a Princess.  
Anita: Do I?  
Tony: Yes you do... you're a very pretty girl Anita.  
Anita: Thanks Tony.... Wa, this is nice... for a long time Daisy and Iris had

boyfriends and I used to just sit at home watching TV... now everything's changed.

Tony: Is Daisy still going out with Big Dollar?  
Anita: I don't think so.... they've split up.  
Tony: Right..... So... where do you want to go?  
Anita: I want to do something really simple.  
Tony: Like?  
Anita: Like going for a walk along the waterfront.  
Tony: That IS simple... and cheap.  
Anita: Cheap?!  
Tony: Yes, well, I don't have to spend any money.  
Anita: Oh yes you do.  
Tony: How come?  
Anita: Well... you can buy me an ice cream.  
Tony: Oh is that all.... okay... come on... let's get the mini bus to Tsim ShaTsui... we can go for a walk by the Cultural Centre.  
Anita: Okay... come on Tony, let's go.

## Scene 2

Mimi: Hi Hammer.  
Hammer: Oh... hello Mimi.  
Mimi: Where you going?  
Hammer: School. ,  
Mimi: Boring... don't go to school... come out and play.  
Hammer: No I've got to go to school, I've got a test.  
Mimi: A test. Huh! All the more reason not to go.  
Hammer: No Mimi, I got to go.  
Mimi: But I want you to come out and play with me.  
Hammer: But Mimi... you've got to go to school too.  
Mimi: School! ...who cares about school... I want to play.  
Hammer: I've got a test Mimi.  
Mimi: Forget about it... here... take my hand... what's wrong Hammer?... don't you want to hold my hand.  
Hammer: I've got to go to school.

## Scene 3

Anita: Look at all the people.  
Tony: So many tourists.  
Anita: A lot of tourists from mainland China.  
Tourist: (With accent) Scuze me... you can take picture... yah?  
Tony: You want me to take a picture of you?  
Tourist: Ya... ya.  
Tony: Okay.... Ready... one two three... Okay.  
Tourist: Thank you.... thank you very much.  
Tony: You're welcome.  
Anita: (Pause) Where do you think they come from?  
Tony: I dunno... Europe somewhere?  
Anita: Maybe... I'd love to go to Europe.  
Tony: I'll take you.  
Anita: Really?  
Tony: Sure.  
Anita: But you need a lot of money to go to Europe... you're not rich are you Tony?  
Tony: Don't need to be... I've got a magic carpet.  
Anita: A magic carpet?!  
Tony: Yes... you don't believe me do you.  
Anita: What does this magic carpet do?  
Tony: Well Anita... you sit on it.... cross legged... and you say... 'kalookalay... fly me away.'  
Anita: And what happens when you say...'kalookalay fly me away?'  
Tony: It flies you away of course, anywhere you want to go.  
Anita: If only.  
Tony: It's true.... the other day I felt bored so I sat on my carpet and I said... 'kalookalay... fly me away to Switzerland'...  
Anita: Switzerland?!... I'd love to go to Switzerland! People say it's so clean and quiet and beautiful... full of snowy mountains and lakes and pretty villages. Tony: Right... that's just what it's like.  
Anita: You mean... you really flew to Switzerland on your magic carpet?  
Tony: Yeah... the carpet rose up in the air... flew out of the window and in about fifteen minutes I was in Switzerland.  
Anita: It must be a very fast carpet.  
Tony: It is.  
Anita: So what did you do in Switzerland Tony?  
Tony: Well, the magic carpet landed on top of a mountain... and I got off and

wentskiing.

Anita: (laughing) Wa... skiiing... I'd love to go skiing.

Tony: Yeah, it was good. And when I finished I got back on my magic carpet and flew back to Hong Kong.

Anita: Hey Tony... next time you go on your magic carpet take me with you.

Tony: (pointing to a statue) Hey Anita... what do you think of that?

Anita: Think of what?

Tony: That statue... over there... in front of the Cultural Centre.

Anita: Oh that... what is it supposed to be?

Tony: Have a guess.

Anita: Some kind of man?

Tony: Yes.

Anita: With like, I don't know what... a really big arm... one really big arm? I don't get it.

Tony: D'you know what that statue outside the Cultural Centre is called Anita?

Anita: The strange man with one arm?

Tony: No, it's called, The Flying Man.

Anita: That statue is called, The Flying Man?! How can he be a Flying Man with only, like, one arm.

Tony: But look, that arm is really big... it's like a wing.

Anita: So, a man with one wing... how are you supposed to fly with one wing?

Tony: I dunno, but that's what the statue is called... The Flying Man.

Anita: Weird.

Tony: D'you like it?

Anita: No, think it's dumb.

Tony: I like it.

Anita: What, that stupid statue with one wing? Why Tony? It's dumb.

Tony: No, I like it... I like the idea of doing something impossible.

Anita: Like flying on your magic carpet.

Tony: Yes, and like flying with only one wing.

Anita: Tony, you know you're a bit crazy.

Tony: I like to dream that's all... if dreaming is crazy, then, okay, I'm crazy.

Anita: Wa... you're really different from your brother.

Tony: From Hammer?

Anita: Yes... he just hangs out with Big Dollar and kind of does everything Big Dollar tells him to... but you... you think for yourself.

Tony: I worry about Hammer.  
Anita: Worry about him... why? He's big enough to take care of himself.  
Tony: Yeah, he's big alright... six foot and only sixteen.... But even though he's big outside, he's still a kid inside.  
Anita: He split up with Iris.  
Tony: I know.  
Anita: Mimi sort of took him over... she dumped Big Dollar and pounced on Hammer... that girl is scary... she just sees something and if she wants it she takes it.  
Tony: Yeah, Mimi takes what she wants, when she wants..... Hey Anita.  
Anita: What Tony?  
Tony: What do you think of the Cultural Centre building?  
Anita: Nothing... why?  
Tony: No... look at it... it's a strange shape.  
Anita: Yeah... stupid... I don't know why the roof is like that... and it's got no windows.  
Tony: It's a blind building.  
Anita: Blind?! How can a building be blind?  
Tony: Well... as you say... it's got no windows, so nothing to look out of.  
Anita: Tony... you're crazy you know that.  
Tony: Am I princess?  
Anita: But I like it.

#### Scene 4

Mimi: Boring... don't go to school Hammer... come out and play.... it's such a lovely day.  
Hammer: But Mimi, I've got a history test.  
Mimi: A history test. Ugh! All the more reason not to go.  
Hammer: No Mimi, I got to go to school.  
Mimi: School! ... who cares about school when you can go out and play.  
Hammer: I've got a test Mimi.  
Mimi: Forget about it... here... take my hand... what's wrong Hammer?... don't you want to hold my hand.  
Hammer: I've got to go to school.  
Mimi: Hold my hand... (he holds her hand)... there... that's nice isn't it.... now come with me.  
Hammer: Mimi... my test!

Mimi: If you want a test Hammer... I'll give you one.  
Hammer: You'll give me a test?  
Mimi: Yes, a love test.  
Hammer: (gulps) A love test?!  
Mimi: Follow me.  
Hammer: (nervous) Where are we going?  
Mimi: Somewhere nice.  
Hammer: Where?  
Mimi: Just follow me.

### Scene 5

Billy: Hi.  
Li Bin: Oh hello Billy.  
Billy: Your name's Li Bin isn't it.  
Li Bin: Yes, that's right, Li Bin.  
Billy: Why are you looking so sad Li Bin?  
Li Bin: Sad? Am I looking sad?  
Billy: Yes.  
Li Bin: (sighs) Sorry... I should try and cheer up a bit.  
Billy: So you are sad.  
Li Bin: A little bit.  
Billy: Can you tell me why?  
Li Bin: Oh Billy.... it's a long story.  
Billy: But... but if you're sad... you should tell someone... (in a rhyme) 'If you are sad then tell me so... and when you do... your sadness will go.'  
Li Bin: Maybe.  
Billy: It will.  
Li Bin: For a moment or two.  
Billy: Maybe longer. So Li Bin... what's making you so sad.  
Li Bin: I miss someone.  
Billy: Oh I see... someone in China?  
Li Bin: No, someone in Hong Kong.  
Billy: Who?  
Li Bin: A friend.  
Billy: A special friend?  
Li Bin: Very special.  
Billy: Where has she gone?

Li Bin: HE.  
Billy: Oh, HE... right... where has he gone?  
Li Bin: I don't know.  
Billy: Was he... a very special friend?  
Li Bin: Very, very special.  
Billy: Have you... broken up?  
Li Bin: No, no we haven't... oh Billy it's so complicated.  
Billy: Tell me.  
Li Bin: But why should I bother you with my problems.  
Billy: You're not bothering me... I want to help.  
Li Bin: Thank you Billy... you know... you're different from your brothers aren't you.  
Billy: Everyone's different... everyone's unique.  
Li Bin: Your brothers like having fun all the time... you're more serious.  
Billy: I'm not really serious... but sure, Bart and Bax can do crazy things... like dating Daisy.  
Li Bin: You didn't go on that date did you.  
Billy: No way... I could see what kind of person Daisy was a mile off... she's only interested in herself.  
Li Bin: I know.  
Billy: Can I ask you the name of your special friend?  
Li Bin: Ricky.  
Billy: So why has Ricky disappeared Li Bin?  
Li Bin: Because of his family... his father beat him and he ran away.  
Billy: He's run away from home?  
Li Bin: Yes, no one knows where he is... he doesn't come to school anymore and I miss him so much... he was so kind... such a gentleman.... so many of the boys in the school are rough... but Ricky was kind... so kind.  
Billy: I hope he comes back soon.  
Li Bin: So do I... so do I Billy.

### **Interval**

#### **Scene 6**

Anita: Eleven o'clock... the other students will be doing the test now.  
Tony: Do you wish you were there Anita?

Anita: No, of course not Tony.  
Tony: Sometimes you can learn more by staying away from school then by going to school.  
Anita: You say the funniest things Tony.  
Tony: I say what I feel... most people say what they think they ought to say.  
Anita: I'm stupid... I don't say anything.  
Tony: Of course you're not stupid Anita.  
Anita: I am and I don't care... what's the point of being clever... if you're clever you just have to keep doing exams exams and more exams... if you're stupid like me you leave school at sixteen and you never have to take an exam ever again... ever!  
Tony: What do you want to do when you leave school Anita?  
Anita: I don't care really... anything... I won't pass any exams so I suppose I'll have to do something like work in a supermarket?  
Tony: Would you like that Anita?  
Anita: What... working in a supermarket? Yes... yes I would... I love supermarkets... they play music all the time so I can spend my day listening to songs... and looking at all the stuff on the shelves.  
Tony: You're easy to please.  
Anita: What's wrong with that?  
Tony: Nothing... It's good... you're life can be happy.  
Anita: I wouldn't mind learning how to do nails.  
Tony: Nails?  
Anita: You know... fingernails... toe nails... cutting them, polishing them... making them nice.  
Tony: Manicure and pedicure.  
Anita: How d'you know those words?... manicure and pedicure... how do you know them?  
Tony: Dunno... just do... there are Jots of things I know but I don't know how I know them.  
Anita: It's funny for a boy to know those words... they're girl words... I mean I don't even know them myself.  
Tony: Are there boy words and girl words?  
Anita: Of course there are... girls talk about beauty and pop stars and clothes... and boys talk about girls and football and fights.  
Tony: Really? That's news to me.  
Anita: Your brother's like that isn't he? Hammer.... he talks about boy things.  
Tony: Hammer doesn't know who he is yet... he's still finding out.



Anita: Is he going out with Mimi now?

Tony: I'm not sure... maybe.

## Scene 7

(SFX: On a busy street)

Mimi: Hammer... close your eyes.

Hammer: Why?

Mimi: This is your first love test.

Hammer: Love test?

Mimi: Yes, I told you... to-day you're missing Miss Ho's history test so you can do my love test.

Hammer: What do I have to do Mimi?

Mimi: Well you see this busy Road?

Hammer: Yes

Mimi: Well... you have to close your eyes and let me lead you across it.

Hammer: Cross this busy road with my eyes closed?

Mimi: I'll be holding your hand... you've got to trust me. Do you trust me Hammer?

Hammer: Um... yes.... I... I think so.

Mimi: Huh!... you don't sound very certain about it.

Hammer: Un, can't we just walk across the road on the zebra crossing.

Mimi: No! No zebra crossing... we have to cross right here... on a busy part of the road with no zebra crossing and no lights.

Hammer: With my eyes closed?!

Mimi: Yes Hammer, with your eyes closed. I you love me... you trust me... and if you trust me you'll let me lead you across this busy road with your eyes shut.... Okay?

Hammer: Suppose so.

Mimi: Only suppose so? Can't you muster up a little bit more enthusiasm?

Hammer: Okay, okay, okay I'll do it Mimi.. look, see... my eyes are closed, now lead me across the busy road.

Mimi: You might cheat.

Hammer: I won't.

Mimi: Hmmm.... let' see... here... let me tie my scarf around your eyes.

Hammer: What?!!

Mimi: What's the difference? If you have a scarf around your eyes it will be

the same as if you had your eyes closed.

Hammer: Please Mimi... can't we just cross the road with our eyes open.

Mimi: No Hammer... my eyes will be open but yours will be closed... now bend over so I can reach your head.

Hammer: Mimi.

Mimi: I said bend down! That's it.... now let me tie my nice long scarf around your head and eyes.... like...so....

Hammer: Ouch!

Mimi: Sorry Hammer... was that too tight?

Hammer: Yes.

Mimi: Can you see anything?

Hammer: No... nothing.

Mimi: How many fingers am I holding up?

Hammer: I don't know I can't see!

Mimi: Guess.

Hammer: Hmm... three?

Mimi: (Angry) You CAN see!!!

Hammer: That was only a guess! I can't see a thing.

Mimi: Bend down and let me pull the scarf tighter!

Hammer: No Mimi, please... don't.

Mimi: Bend down! Good.

Hammer: Ouch!

Mimi: Don't be such a big baby. Now then... how many fingers am I holding up now?

Hammer: I don't know... all I can see is blackness and some coloured spots floating around.

Mimi: Guess how many fingers I am holding up? Go on... GUESS.

Hammer: Okay, okay..... Eleven.

Mimi: Don't be ridiculous Hammer... I haven't GOT eleven fingers!

Hammer: How many fingers have you got then Mimi.

Mimi: Eight Hammer... the same as everyone else... eight!

Hammer: Only eight?!... (proudly) I've got ten.

Mimi: No you haven't! ... you've got eight fingers and two thumbs.

Hamm: Same thing.

Mimi: Enough! Time for your first test of love... time to cross the road... blindfolded... led by the hand by your beloved Mimi.

Hammer: Mimi.... be careful won't you.

Mimi: Of course I will Hammer... I love you... I don't want you dead... you're

no use to me dead.... I shall lead you across this road safely... you have to believe that.

Hammer: Please be careful Mimi, please.

Mimi: If you trust your Mimi you will be safe... if you don't trust her...

Hammer: If I don't trust her... what?

Mimi: You will get squashed by a bus now come on... let's get going.... we've got a road to cross... Ouch!

Hammer: What is it?...

Mimi: Hammer... you're digging your nails in my arm.

Hammer: I'm scared.

Mimi: Don't be scared... we haven't even left the pavement yet.

Hammer: Haven't we? Oh no... I thought we were halfway across the road!

Mimi: Nonsense... no ready?... one... two... three... GO!

(SFX: A car squealing on its tyres as it swerves to avoid them.)

## Scene 8

Billy: It's good to be outside... it's such a lovely day.

Li Bin: Yes, it's like the first day of spring to-day.

Billy: Um... what did you think of the history test Li Bin?

Li Bin: Difficult.

Billy: Did you know the name of Napoleon's wife?"

Li Bin: Josephine.

Billy: Oh yes... of course... Damn! I wrote Geraldine.

Li Bin: No, it's Josephine... Napoleon's wife was called Josephine.

Billy: Do you think I'll get half a mark for Geraldine?

Li Bin: Um... honestly speaking... no.... but it was a good try.

Billy: Thanks Li Bin. And, um... what was the name of the General who defeated Napoleon and at what battle.

Li Bin: Wellington and Waterloo... the two w's... Wellington... Waterloo... I revised that.

Billy: Phew... I got it right.

Li Bin: Did you write Wellington and Waterloo?

Billy: Yes. Oh NO!

Li Bin: What is it Billy?

Billy: I've suddenly had a horrible thought!

Li Bin: What?!

Billy: I think I wrote... Waterloo defeated Napoleon at the battle of Wellington!

Li Bin: Oh no! You got the names the wrong way around! Oh Billy! What a shame!

Billy: How could I be so dumb?!

Li Bin: It wasn't being dumb... you knew the names... you just...

Billy: .... got them in the wrong order which was dumb dumb dumb.

Li Bin: Oh no... you look so upset.

Billy: Well who wouldn't be... in the history test I wrote Geraldine was Napleon's wife when I should have written Josephine... and I wrote that Waterloo defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Wellington instead of the other way around!

Li Bin: Never mind Billy... that's only three questions you got wrong... I bet you got all the other questions right.

Billy: Three out of twenty so the maximum points I can get even if I did get all the other questions right, which I doubt, is seventeen!

Li Bin: Seventeen out of twenty is good Billy... very good.

Billy: Isn't it funny... before you were sad and I was cheering you up...

Li Bin: ... and now I'm sad and you're cheering ME up.

(SFX: Both laugh together)

Billy: I feel better now.

Li Bin: Good.

Billy: Hey Li Bin... we've still got another twenty minutes left of our lunch break... why don't we stroll down to the eight eleven on the corner and buy ourselves a cold drink.

Li Bin: Um....

Billy: We don't have to if you don't want to.

Li Bin: No Billy, I DO want to... that would be nice.... very nice.

## Scene 9

(SFX: Busy road. Cars swerving and screeching as Mimi leads Hammer blindfold across the busy road)

Hammer: (terrified) Are we nearly there Mimi?

Mimi: Shhh! Don't talk to me... I'm concentrating.

(SFX: Car squeals)

Hammer: (terrified) What was that?!!

Mimi: A double decker bus....

Hammer: (terrified) A double decker bus?! I felt it Mimi... I felt the wind from it pushing me.. .pushing me!!

Mimi: Stop panicking Hammer!.... we've nearly crossed the road now just relax.

(SFX: Car squeals)

Mini: I said.... relax!

(SFX: Car squeals and crashes)

## Scene 10

Tony: Anita... Look at that great big bird up there.... you always seem them flying over Victoria harbour.

Anita: That's not big.

Tony: It is... it's wings are almost as wide as your arms can reach but it's up so high it looks small.

Anita: Why is it up so high? There's no food up there.

Tony: Maybe it's just enjoying flying.

Anita: Stupid.

Tony: If I was a bird, that's what I'd do... just fly up as high as I could go and turn round and round in circles looking down on the world... at all the busy people and I'd think... 'what are they all rushing about for.... why can't they take it easy.'

Anita: I'm hungry Tony.

Tony: Ice cream?

Anita: Yes... that'll be nice.

Tony: Flavour?

Anita: I like the ones with nuts on them.

Tony: Let's go get one then.

Anita: Stop looking at that bird.

Tony: I wish I were up there.

Anita: And you could look down on me and I'd be no bigger than a worm... a tiny little worm.

### Scene 11

Li Bin: Mmm... this drink is really good Billy.

Billy: Cranberry flavour.

Li Bin: So refreshing.

Billy: Just think... we're both drinking the same drink... experiencing the same taste at exactly the same time.

Li Bin: Let's see yur tongue, (laughs) It's bright red!

Billy: Let's see yours, (laughs) It's bright red too!

(SFX: They both laugh together)

### Scene 12

Mimi: You can take the scarf off now Hammer.

Hammer: (great relief) Have we crossed the road?!

Mimi: Yes... oh Hammer... you've passed your first love test... which means you DO love me.

Hammer: Oh thank heavens for that!

Mimi: You're so nice Hammer... you can buy me a bar of chocolate and we can eat it together.

Hammer: Anything you say Mimi..anything you say.

Brief Music

(All names said with a lot of affection)

Anita: Tony.

Tony: Anita.

Brief Music

Mimi: Hammer.

Hammer: Mimi.

Brief Music

Li Bin: Billy  
Billy: Li Bin:

Music

**The End**