

HANZ/NEEZ 1 – PIPER 1 – SPRIGGAN 1

(RE-ENTER Hans and Neez)

Hanz: Do you think it's gone now?

Neez: I hope so – it was horrible. We're never going to get rid of them are we? What shall we do? We'll be thrown out of the force.

SONG – A policeman's Lot

Hanz: It's no good, we're going to have to think of a way to get rid of all the rats – I'll have a look on the WInternet and see if there's anything on there.
(gets out his rather large mobile phone)

Neez: OK, here, why do you call it the WInternet?

Hanz: Because the town council's cheap server is so slow it's always freezing up on me; I wish they'd invest in a new one.

Neez: Don't be silly, if it isn't anything to do with eating, drinking and entertaining then the Mayor doesn't think it's worth it. Have you found anything?

Hanz: No, not yet – Oh wait a minute what's this? The Pied Piper Pest Prevention Agency; all pests done away with; large rodents a speciality.

Neez: That sounds like the solution. How much does it cost?

Hanz: I'll just give them a quick ring and find out. *(rings phone)* Hello, is that the Pied Piper Pest Prevention Agency? *(pause)* Good, I wondered if you can give me a price for getting rid of some rats? *(pause)* I see. Well, we've quite a large problem and we need something doing fast. *(pause)* Express service? Yes, that would be perfect. Goodbye.

Neez: Well, what did they say?

Hanz: They'll send their main operative straight away – Express service.

Neez: Sounds expensive.

(Enter Pied Piper – a man dressed half in yellow and half in red with Spriggan a Sprite)

Piper: Are you the ones who want the Express Pest Prevention Service?

Neez: My goodness, that was quick!

Hanz: Yes, we are. How did you get here so quickly?

Piper: We just happened to be in the area didn't we Spriggan?

Sprig: Always we be.

Piper: So where are the rats you want me to get rid of?

Hanz: Ah, they're not here, they're probably planning what mischief they can do to the town tonight.

Piper: Ah, the town of Hamlin is it? I've heard there is a problem there; why hasn't the Mayor done anything before now?

Neez: Oh he's too busy having dinners and civic receptions to worry about what's going on in the town.

Hanz: Yes, but now the townsfolk are getting angry and protesting so he HAS to do something pretty quick. Can you help us do you think?

Sprig: Help, can the Piper, anyone, if he chooses so he do; but a price it be at.

H/N: Pardon?

Piper: Don't worry, you'll get used to him. Come on, let's go and meet this mayor of yours.