

All children

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

PROLOGUE*

SCENE. *In front of the main curtain—or a scrim—four children enter. From oldest to youngest they are: PETER, SUSAN, EDMUND, and LUCY. ALL, except EDMUND look about in wide-eyed fascination.*

SUSAN. What an exciting old mansion!

EDMUND. I think it's boring.

SUSAN. Oh, Edmund.

PETER. Come on, Ed. It'll be a fun place to explore.

LUCY. I'm glad Mother and Father let us come out to the country for a few days.

SUSAN. I'm going to love staying here with the old professor. Isn't he a dear?

PETER. Yes. But I'm not sure I like his housekeeper. *(Mimicking the housekeeper.)* "Please remember to always stay out of my way!" *(They laugh. PETER points off, R.)* Hey, let's go look at that room that has all the swords and suits of armor inside.

SUSAN. You go ahead, Peter. I think I'll go back down to the library and look through some books. How about you, Lucy?

LUCY *(pointing off, L.)*. That room over there seems very interesting.

EDMUND *(crossing a few steps L and looking off)*. There's nothing in it but an old clock and a big wardrobe.