

A script from



“King Midas” Ensemble Version

by
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- What** In this retelling of the ancient story, a greedy man learns what really matters—and what really doesn't. A touching, gently whimsical illustration of the redeeming power of love. **Themes:** Greed, Love, Reading, Comedy, Redemption, Forgiveness, Blessings, Relationships, Autumn, Nature, Beauty, Kids Church
- Who** Storytellers 1, 2, &3
King
Merchant
Golden
Faerie
Mice, Cats
*See character descriptions at the end of this script.
- When** Once upon a time...
- Wear (Props)** *See production notes at the end of this script.
- Why** Matthew 6:19-21, 24; Leviticus 19:9-10
- How** A variable number of actors—as few as 4, as many as 12—may be used. Several roles may be played by children.
*See more director's notes at the end of this script.
*For the story/monologue version of this script, visit www.skitguys.com to preview "King Midas."
- Time** Approximately 8-10 minutes

- Storyteller 1:** King Midas was a widower, and wealthy beyond imagining. He had everything he needed.
- Storyteller 2:** Which is seldom a good thing.
- Storyteller 1:** But he never seemed to have everything he wanted.
- Storyteller 2:** Which has nothing to do with wealth, and everything to do with the person doing the wanting.
- Storyteller 1:** But even more than gold, King Midas loved his daughter, whose name was:
- Midas:** Golden!
- Storyteller 3:** Now one perfect autumn day while magic was happening to the leaves outside, King Midas was seated inside counting his gold. His daughter, little Golden, was dancing with the castle mice and cats, whom she'd taught to be civil to one another.
- Storyteller 2:** And to do a passable minuet.
- Storyteller 3:** But the king was too busy totting up numbers to notice. Bored, he finally cried out...
- Midas:** Oh, it's the most beautiful thing there is, but it's all the same! I have miles and miles of it, but it's all the same. I wish I could turn anything I wanted into gold. Then I would be blessed, for then I would be able to bless *myself* whenever I wanted!
- Storyteller 1:** Well, at that moment, a mischievous little faerie happened to be passing by.
- Storyteller 2:** Isn't that the way it always is?
- Storyteller 1:** Now, though meeting a faerie may seem to be the very peak of fortune, it never really is. For faeries specialize in giving humans what they want.
- Storyteller 2:** Which is generally the thing they need the least.
- Storyteller 1:** Faeries know this, of course, and find it endlessly amusing.
- Storyteller 3:** So the faerie shouted...
- Faerie Boy:** Granted!
- Storyteller 3:** And Midas ran to the window just in time to see him/her flying away, giggling.

- Storyteller 1:** The king had no idea what had happened, so he went back to counting his boring money, while in the background his little daughter told a story to a visiting merchant. The story was so wonderful that it made the merchant smile for the first time in over twenty years, and joyfully promise to give back...
- Merchant:** Every penny I've ever cheated anyone out of!
- Storyteller 2:** Which was a lot of pennies.
- Storyteller 3:** King Midas was tired from hours of counting, so he blew little Golden a kiss and went off to take a nap.
- Storyteller 1:** When he sat up several hours later, he grabbed the bedstead for support. And the moment he did...the entire bed turned to gold.
- Storyteller 2:** No, really, pure gold!
- Storyteller 1:** Midas' eyes got as big as, well...
- Storyteller 2:** Gold coins.
- Storyteller 3:** He jumped to his feet and ran across the room. He touched a chair—
- Storyteller 2:** It turned to gold!

*To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at
[SkitGuys.com!](http://SkitGuys.com)*

ENDING:

- Storyteller 1:** The grateful father wrapped her in his arms. And when he could finally speak...
- Storyteller 2:** Which wasn't for some time...
- Storyteller 1:** He said...
- Midas:** I'm crying because water tastes so good...because apples are so crisp...because each leaf is touched by God...and because you love me.
- Golden:** We *are* blessed, aren't we, Father?
- Storyteller 2:** The wise little girl observed.
- Midas:** Yes, my darling, we *are*.

Storyteller 1: As are we all, whether we know it or not.

Storyteller 2: So treasure the beauty beyond your making.

Storyteller 3: And the blessings you cannot give yourself.

1, 2, &3: "For where your treasure is...

All: ...there your heart will also be."

Lights out.

Setting, Props, and Performance Notes:

- *Simple costuming and a few props are more than sufficient (props may also be pantomimed).*
- *May be staged with dance-pantomime actions following the narrative (dancer-actors may also play inanimate objects such as bedstead, chair, table, etc.), or...*
- *May be done as a reading with no staging or props at all (eliminating Mice, Cats, and Merchant)*
- *Storyteller lines may be delivered by one person, two persons (in which case first actor should read Storyteller 1 and 3, and second actor should read Storyteller 2), or three persons (as indicated).*

Cast:

Storytellers 1, 2, and 3 – May also be performed by just one or two actors.

King Midas – a greedy man with one positive trait: his love for his daughter.

Merchant – may be doubled up with Storyteller or Mouse/Cat role.

Golden – his daughter; a true innocent (child role).

Faerie – male or female; a mischievous youth (child to young adult).

Mice, Cats – any number of actor-dancers (children or adults).

****Note:*** *To minimize cast size, Merchant, Faerie, Mice and Cats may be doubled up with Storyteller roles, though some coordination is required to make this work.*