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The Magic Mirror (Skit 1947)

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THE MAGIC MIRROR

Cast
(in order of appearance)

Music – Mary Bottje

Hunga Bunga, the Intermediary...........Al Becker
Rajah...............................Zack York
Three Apostled..........................John C. Hoekje
                                             Lofton Burge
                                             Deyo Fox
Dr. Osborn................................Himself
Louise Steinway..........................Evelyn Steketee
Voice....................................Clara Bush
Alice Smith..............................Herself
Helen Barton..............................Mary Doty
Harry Greenwall..........................Frank Hurds
Dr. Floyd Morre..........................Himself
Lucia Harrison...........................Lillian Meyer
Deizema Loutzenheisen
Mary Moore...............................Himself
Dr. James Knauss..........................Himself
Lucia Harrison
Dr. Wilds................................Himself
Mrs. Davis...............................Himself
Dr. Wm. Brown............................Himself
Helen Barton..............................Mary Doty
Miss Cleveland...........................Herself
Florence McLouth........................Herself
Eva Falk................................Herself
Mrs. Davis...............................Himself
Towner Smith.............................Himself
Florence McLouth
Jane Blackburn...........................Herself
Louise Steinway..........................Herself
Dr. Wickers..............................Himself
Mary Moore...............................Himself
Dr. Sangren..............................Himself
Introduction:

Mr. Becker (cruising among audience preparing the audience for the appearance of the Rajah—getting them in the mood):

Ladies and Gentlemen, you are entering the sanctum of spirits of the past, the future, the might-have-been. Enter in silence, take your seats quietly. Prepare your minds for the Rajah will soon be here. Rajah Kilroy, man of the Mystic Mirror, will tell you of the Past, the Future, the Might-Have-Been, etc., etc.
Ah, the Rajah is about to enter. We need your cooperation, etc., etc. The Rajah comes----the Rajah comes----

The Rajah enters (full dress, turban, jewels, etc.) He goes to stage right by cauldron, meditates, gesticulates mystically to prepare himself for the occasion.

Rajah - We are now in the hallowed atmosphere of spirits. We must prepare ourselves for the Spirits of the Past, the Future, the Might-Have-Been. We must ready ourselves within or the Mirror will not speak. So put away frivolities----slip away your cares. It is Friday night----ease your mind. Forget about Saturday classes. Relax. Relax. Forget your students----though they rub noses in the library, sprawl on the lawns, and sport with Amaryllis in the shade. They are young but they are wise. They see the handwriting on the wall. Ease your mind. Enrollment has been pegged. Teacher loads will slip. Ease your mind. Veterans are becoming adjusted. Leave your financial worries to the legislature. They don't adjourn until June 6th.

Mr. B. - Mr. Hoekje has asked that all teachers announce to their classes that the Permission to be Enrolled blanks, accompanied by the $10.00 deposit-fee be completed as scheduled in last week's Herald.

Rajah - (momentarily disturbed):

Interruptions
Boter me.
We must concentrate
If we're to see.
These problems of school
Will soon be over
Vacation's nearly here
No more committees
No more classes
No more functions
Everything passes.

You are prepared
Now in quiet wait
Or the Magic stuff
I'm going to make
Will fail to cast
On us the spell
That makes the Mirror
Answer well.
To start I'll fill
The pot to here
With memories
Of every year
Since Western first
Began to grow
Here are some things
We'll need I know.

A cup of gall
A pound of brass
The powdered jawbone
Of an ass.

Rating lists and
Three degrees
A. B., M. A.
Ph. D's.

Some salary scales
The latest dope
Committees heads
Thick soft soap.
A pinch of guff,
Some good hot air,
Processional lists,
"You must be there!"

A long red tape
And common sense
A pat on the back
For recompense.

A wage the size
Of a garden pea,
A liberal dash
Of Democracy

A chip or two
From the Unit Block,
Some parking space,
A library clock

A building plan
And classroom space,
A substitute motion,
A smiling face.

A step increase
A helping hand
Teacher Welfare Committee planned.

One tart tongue
A heart of gold
Some added brains
And courage bold.

Four colleges
In collaboration
Complete this brew
Of Education.
Rajah - My three apostles
Now I call
Take your places
In the hall.

John C. Hoeke
For Administration.

Mr. H.- Here!

Rajah - Lofton Burce
For Education.

Dr. B.- Here!

Rajah - Deyo Fox
For Vocation.

Dr. F.- Here!

Music - Pomp and Circumstance
(The Three advance and stand before the steaming cauldron.)

Rajah - Take this gun
And use it well
Cast on the group
The Magic Spell.

You have your brew
Be on your way
Depart ye three
Begin to spray.

(The Three proceed to rear of hall, spraying as they go, accompanied by the music of - We Three Kings of Orient are.)

Rajah - The brew is sprayed
They've done it well
They've cast on us
The Magic Spell.

Are you ready for the question?

Voice from Audience - Question!

Rajah - What are your questions
Prepare them well
Or the Mirror
Will not tell.
H. B. - Rajah, I have a man right here who has a question. What is your
name, please?

Dr. O. - Dr. Osborn.

Rajah - Just a moment, please, Hunga Bunga. Is the secretary of the Faculty
Council here? Miss Lumaree in the audience? Stand up, please.
Have you paper and pencil? Hunga Bunga, you may proceed---

H. B. - Dr. Osborn, are you a faculty member? Just what do you do?

Dr. O. - I'm in the Science Department. I'm a Division Chairman

Rajah - Just one moment, please. Are you a Division Chairman or a Department
head. There's a difference, you know.

H. B. - Just what's the difference, Dr. Osborn, between a Division Chairman
and a Department Head?

Dr. O. - Well, a Division Chairman is appointed for three years.

Rajah - He qualifies. He may proceed. What is his question?

H. B. - What would you like the Magic Mirror to tell you, Dr. Osborn?

Dr. O. - Well, you see, I'm comparatively new here on the campus and I've
heard a great deal about these six fine people who are retiring.
I understood they were all selected by Mr. Waldo, former President
of this institution. He must have had an amazing faculty for
sensing potentialities in his teachers. I'd like to know where he
found them. For example, I'd like to know: Where did Mr. Waldo
find Louise Steinweay and what was she doing?

H. B. - Thank you, Dr. Osborn. (Repeats question to Rajah.)

Rajah - Mirror, Mirror, you're the log
Where and what was this pedagogue?

Music - Sidewalks of New York
Picture - Paper Collector
Voice - Paper! Paper!
H. B. - Rajah, I have a charming little lady here. What is your name, please?

A. S. - Alice Smith.

Rajah - (interrupting) One moment, please. I don't see her listed here with the faculty. Does she pay faculty fees?

H. B. - Do you pay faculty fees, Miss Smith?

A. S. - No, but I have a card that lets me in to all Inter-Collegiate Athletics, except Basketball.

Rajah - Oh, here she is. She's listed under "Offices, etc." She's all right. She may ask a question.

A. S. - I've known four of these ladies for a long time. My associations with them in the training school. There, their reputations speak for themselves. But I've often wondered what they did when they were off duty, out of town or abroad. I've heard some strange tales but I don't want to mention any names. But I would like to know what happened to Miss Barton when she was abroad in 1934, and who was with her.

H. B. - (Repeats question, if necessary)

Rajah - Mirror, Mirror, at this time
The name of Grenwall comes to mind.
Is there aught to what they say
Of Barton, Greenwall and Norway?

Music - Beautiful Dreamer
Drifting and Dreaming
Picture - H.B. & H.G. abroad the S.S. Polaris
Voice - there was no night
H. E. - There's a man here with a question, Rajah. Your name, please?

Dr. M. - Dr. Moore

H. E. - Dr. Moore. What are your qualifications?

Dr. M. - I am an active committee member. I have served on the salary committee this year, the insurance committee, and I'm very interested in teacher welfare. I'm a bit worried about the future of these ladies. What are they going to do after they retire?

H. E. - Do you have any particular teacher in mind?

Dr. M. - Yes. I'd like to know what Lucis Harrison is going to do after she leaves teaching?

Rajah - (Repeats question, if necessary.)

Rajah - Mirror, Mirror, sharp and clear
Let Lucis's Future now appear.

Music - Sailing, Sailing.
Picture - L.H. hitch-hiking to Africa
Voice - Ranna ride, Lady, I'm going far as Benton Harbor, if that'll help yuh any.
H. B. - Rajah. I have a distinguished gentleman here. What is your name, please.

Dr. Knauss- My name is James O Knauss.

H. B. - What is your occupation.

Dr. K. - I'm an educator!

H. B. - Do you have a title?

Dr. K. - Oh, yes, indeed. I'm head of the Department of Cigar-ology, and Pennsylvania Dutchology. (To H. B.) Do I qualify?

H. B. - (To Rajah) Will he do?

Rajah - Let him ask his question.

Dr. K. - I've been around this campus for quite a spell and I'm very much interested in these six people who are retiring. I'm a bit tired of the history and the past. I'm more interested in the future and the might have been. Especially the Might Have Been. I'd like to know what, for example, Lucy Harrison might have been if she had her like to live over.

H. B. - (Repeats question if necessary.)

Rajah - Mirror Mirror show us plain How Lucis's live her life again.

Music - School Days.
Picture - Lucia teaching school
Voice - Daylight, Twilight, Darkness time.
E. B. - I have another man here, Rajah. Your name, Please?

E. W. - Elmer H. Wilds

Rajah - Just a minute, please. What's his rank? He's not listed here. He's not a professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, associate instructor, assistant instructor, or teacher. What is his rank?

E. W. - I'm 4th-right below Mr. Hoekje on page eleven of the summer bulletin.

Rajah - Oh, yes, here he is - He's Director of Summer Session and Graduate Division.

E. W. - I feel that as I represent the administration that we should know more about the past of these departing teachers. I'd like to know if Mrs. Davie has a past?

H. E. - (Repeats question, if necessary.)

Rajah - Mirror, mirror, she is the dean.
Show the past of Bertha Shean.

Music - The Bowery
Only a Bird in a Fieded Cage
Picture - Mrs Davis and casting agency
Voice- Wistle
23 skiddoo
H. B. - Rajah Kilroy, I have a man here who talks like a Bastonian, swears he's from Texas, and says he's a whiz at croquet and Chaucer.

Rajah- What's his name?

H. B. - Your name, sir?

Dr. Brown- William R. Brown, 2318 Oakland Drive.

H. B.- What is your question?

Dr. B. -

Rajah- Mirror, Mirror; here's a Sparton Show the future of Miss Barton.

Music- Listen to the Mocking Bird
Picture- Culture
Sound - Jungle Squak
Frank Loeryke—Paging Hunga Lunga, Paging Hunga Lunga

H. B.—Here, Boy (takes telegram and reads it—to rajah Kilroy)
Rajah, this is addressed to me, but is for you. Shall I read it?

Rajah—Of course.

H. B.—(reads)—Receiving program via television. Stop. am disturbed.
stop. Legislature deadlocked on budget. Requests additional
information on wages of retiring teachers. Signed, I. Squeezem
dry, Chairman Budget Committee.

Rajah, there's only one past left unscrutinized—Florence
McLouth's.

Rajah—Mirror, Mirror, what's the report
what was Florence in the world of sports

Music—Take Me Out to the Ball Game
Picture—Soft Ball Champion
Voice—
H. B.- I have another lady here, Rajah. Your name, please?
Eva- Eva Falk.
H. B.- Are you a member of the Faculty.
Eva- No, I'm office help.
H. B.- Where do you work?
Eva- I work for Mrs. Davis.
H. B.- Do you have a question to ask?
Eva- Yes, I've worried about my boss' future. I haven't been able to find out how she's going to supplement her pension and occupy her time. Can the Mirror tell me what she is going to do?
H. B.- (Repeats question, if necessary.)
Rajah- Mirror, Mirror, can you see
What is Bertha going to be?

Music- Rock-a-Bye Baby
Picture- Baby Sitter
II. B. - There's a distinguished gentleman here, Rajah, who has a question. What is your name, sir?

Dr. H. - I am Towner Smith, Director of Vaodrock hall for men. I'm on the Student Personnel and Guidance Staff. Veterans Dev. of Western Michigan College of Education, Kalamazoo, Michigan. I coach on the side.

Rajah - Allow him to proceed without interruption.

Dr. H. - In my guidance work I am experiencing a great deal of difficulty in steering students into the teaching profession. They all tell me teaching has no future. How I wonder if the Mirror can tell me if there is a teacher who is retiring, having dedicated 30 years or more to education, that is going to have a future interest enough so I can counsel my students to go into teaching so that when they retire from teaching they can still have a future that is a future, even though teaching hasn't any future.

Rajah - A very difficult question. - Mirror, Mirror, I cannot see who this teacher is going to be.

(Rajah puzzles and squirms and is mentally tortured.)

It's coming. It's coming slowly. The name is Florence---Florence ---Nightingale---no,----not Nightingale---wrong period---Florence mc---Mc---- I have it--- McLouth!

Hunga Bunga, tell this Tower Smith

The Mirror can reveal to you what Florence McLouth is going to do.

Music - Smoke Gets in Your Eyes
Picture - Cigarette girl
Voice - Cigars, Cigarettes
H. B.- I have a little Irish lady here, Rajah. What is your name, please?

J. B. Jane Blackburn

H. B.- What do you do, please?

J. B.- I work in a laboratory

H. B.- Science?

J. B.- Not exactly, although we do plenty of experimenting.

Rajah- Has she had a recent publication?

H. B.- (Repeats question.)

J. B.- Not since--

Rajah- She qualifies.

J. B.- So far everyone has a future of work. Isn't anybody going to play. How about Louise Steinway?

H. B.- (Repeats question.)

Rajah- Mirror, Mirror, cay you say Whether Louise is going to Play?

Music- Hawaiian
Picture- grass skirt
H. B.- Rajah, I have a gentleman here by the name of Wichers. He's a Cutchman. Says he's Vice-President of Western Michigan College and demande that he be allowed to ask his question of you himself.

Rajah- Hunga, Bunga, you know full well That the Mirror will not tell Unless he speaks To me through you No telling what the Mirror'd do!

H.B.- Requests denied. Proceed as usual.

Dr. Wichers- I'll lay my question on the table and make a substitute motion. I move that you, Hunga Bunga, petition the Mirror through Rajah Kilroy to show us the future of Mary Moore.

Rajah- Mirror, Mirror, do not tarry show us what's in store for Mary

Music-
Picture- Mary Moore's Candy
Voice-
Dr. Sagron (jumps to feet as soon as he had read the "Mary Moore Candy" sign):

One moment, Rajah Kilroy, we can't let this injustice come to pass. We take care of our veterans and we'll take care of our own. On behalf of the legislature, and the administration and faculty of this school, I wish to guarantee Miss Moore a permanent location for her candy business. From this day forward let it be known that Mary Moore shall have a life-lease on four square feet at the foot of the trolley to operate a candy concession and a free pass to ride the trolley during inclement weather.

Now Rajah, I have a question. You've been answering questions about the retiring teachers. Can your Magic Mirror tell me where I'm going to get people to fill their vacancies? Show me that, please.

Rajah- Mirror, I must stay in his graces Show him who will take their places.

(Nothing happens,) Repeats incantation. (Nothing Happens) Sprays magic brew into the air and gesticulates.

Mirror, Mirror, don't be hesitant It's the question of the President.

Alas! the Mirror cannot tell; You spok to me and broke the spell.

Resume your load. Reburden your mind, Back you go To the same old grind.

I'll keep your problem On my heart, But now the Rajah Must depart.

* The End *