

Alice, Queen of Hearts, Knave of Hearts

The Queen stops in front of Alice

QUEEN: Who is this?

Pause as all look at Alice

QUEEN: *(to Knave)* I said, who is this?

KNAVE: I ... er, I don't know, your Majesty.

QUEEN: Idiot! *(to Alice)* Are you a child?

ALICE: Yes, I suppose I am.

QUEEN: *(to Knave)* There you are, she's a child. And what is your name, child?

ALICE: *(softly)* My name is Alice.

QUEEN: *(roars)* Speak up, child!

ALICE: *(to audience)* I needn't be afraid of them. They're only a pack of cards. *(to Queen confidently)* My name is Alice, your Majesty.

KNAVE: Her name is Alice, your Majesty.

QUEEN: I know that, now. *(indicates cards)* And who are these trembling weaklings?

ALICE: How should I know! They work for you, not me!

All gasp at her boldness

QUEEN: *(furiously)* How dare you! Off with her head! Off with her head!

ALICE: *(firmly)* Oh, nonsense!

QUEEN: *(outraged)* What!