

FARQUAAD

Oh, it's you! What a terrific surprise! And lucky you, you're here at torture time! Bring in the cookie!

(Farquaad's GUARDS bring GINGY onstage.)

GINGY

No! No! I won't speak! I won't! Oh, it's you...

FARQUAAD

"Run, run, run as fast as you can, you can't catch me – I'm the Gingerbread Man!"

GINGY

You're a monster!

FARQUAAD

I'm not the monster here, you are. You and the rest of that fairy tale trash poisoning my perfect kingdom.

GINGY

It's not a kingdom! Because you're not a king!

FARQUAAD

Oh, but I will be. Just as soon as I find a princess to marry. And I hear you know of one. Tell me where she is!

GINGY

Bite me!

FARQUAAD

That's it! My patience has reached its end. Present the devices of torture!

(Farquaad's GUARDS pull out torture devices – a rolling pin, a giant spatula, an egg-beater, a carton of milk, etc...)

GINGY

Uh-uh, uhh, now wait a minute. Let's not get crazy. Maybe I have heard tell of a princess.

FARQUAAD

From who?

GINGY

Do you know the Muffin Man?

FARQUAAD

The Muffin Man?

GINGY

The Muffin Man.

FARQUAAD

Yes. I know the Muffin Man. Who lives on Drury Lane?

GINGY

Well, I heard it from the Muffin Man.

FARQUAAD

The Muffin Man?!

GINGY

The Muffin Man!

FARQUAAD

(thoughtful, to himself)

He heard it from the Muffin Man...

GINGY

Can I go now?

FARQUAAD

You haven't told me where she is!

GINGY

I can't!

FARQUAAD

You must!

GINGY

I won't!

FARQUAAD

Tell me or I'll— !

(FARQUAAD reaches for GINGY's buttons.)

GINGY

No! Not the buttons! Not my gumdrop buttons!

FARQUAAD

Then where is the princess?!

GINGY

(broken)

Okay... I'll tell you. She's a day's walk from here. In a dragon-guarded castle, surrounded by hot, boiling lava.