

Cinderella

Act 1 *A Day in the Life*

Scene 1: A Day in the Life

NARRATOR: This is the tale of Cinderella, a young woman who lived with her cruel stepmother and two stepsisters. Life was not easy for Cinderella. You don't believe me? Let's take a peek.

STEPMOTHER: Where is that girl? I want my tea!

STEPSISTER #1: I want my bath!

STEPSISTER #2: I want my manicure!

CINDERELLA: Here's your tea, Stepmother. Your bath is ready, Stepsister. And we can start the manicure.

STEPMOTHER: The tea better be strong enough. What **TOOK** you so long?

STEPSISTER #1: My bath better be warm enough!

STEPSISTER #2: My nails aren't going to paint themselves!

NARRATOR: And that's what every moment in the day was like for Cinderella.

CINDERELLA: Whew! At least late at night I get to read by candlelight. Thank goodness my mother taught me how to read and left me her books before she died.

NARRATOR: Cinderella doesn't know it, but the very next day there is going to be a royal announcement. One that will change her life.

Scene 2: - A Royal Announcement

NARRATOR: The two Stepsisters burst into the door, shrieking with glee.

STEPMOTHER: For goodness sake! What's with all the noise?

STEPSISTER #1: Mother, you won't believe this!

STEPSISTER #2: It's SO exciting!

STEPSISTER #1 and STEPSISTER #2: AYHHHH!!!!

STEPMOTHER: What's so exciting?

CINDERELLA: Yes, what's so exciting?

STEPMOTHER: Cinderella, why are YOU here? No doubt you have chores to do!

CINDERELLA: Yes, Stepmother.

NARRATOR: Cinderella walked away, but still listened.

STEPSISTER #1: Get this, Mother! The Prince is having a ball!

STEPSISTER #2: Every young woman in the kingdom is invited. And he will choose one of them to be his bride!

STEPMOTHER: His bride?! Girls, this is our chance to move into the palace! Cinderella! Where did she go?

CINDERELLA: I'm right here.

STEPMOTHER: You must sew three new gowns for the ball. Each one in the latest style, mind you!

CINDERELLA: Three? Does that mean I'm going to the ball, too?

STEPMOTHER: What? Don't be ridiculous!

STEPSISTER #1: You? Looking like THAT?

STEPSISTER #2: In those dirty rags? With that messy hair?

STEPMOTHER: Get real, Cinderella! You will sew two gowns for your stepsisters and one for ME. I wouldn't miss this ball for ANYTHING.

NARRATOR: Poor Cinderella tried to hide her disappointment. She began to work on the three gowns for her stepmother and stepsisters.

Act 2

The Palace

NARRATOR: The palace was wild with excitement. The servants were busy running around, getting the castle ready. The ball was going to be the very next day! However not everyone was looking forward to the big event.

QUEEN: My dear husband, look at the Prince pacing back and forth, mumbling to himself. What is the problem with your son?

KING: He's YOUR son too, my dear.

PRINCE: Mother, Father! Please, try to understand. You tell me I'm supposed to choose a bride from the young women who will come to the ball tomorrow night.

QUEEN: At least there's nothing wrong with his hearing.

PRINCE: But how can I know who's right for me? Just by LOOKING at them?

KING: Your mother and I knew right away. Didn't we, dear?

QUEEN: Yes we did, love.

PRINCE: Fine, that worked for you two. I may not be so lucky.

QUEEN: Son, think about it. What's the worst that could happen?

PRINCE: I could end up marrying somebody I don't like, that's what!

KING: Then you get used to it. This palace is a big place. You won't have to see each other much.

PRINCE: What kind of life is THAT?

KING: Oh, stop complaining!

QUEEN: Many young men would jump at the chance you have!

PRINCE: I need to get to know someone first. To be sure we're right for each other.

KING: What you NEED, young man, is to do what you're TOLD.

QUEEN: The kingdom doesn't run by itself, you know. You have a duty to marry and to provide an heir to the throne. For goodness sake, get with the program!

PRINCE: I knew you two wouldn't understand.

Act 3

Outdoors at the Stepmother's Cottage

NARRATOR: It was the day of the ball. Cinderella's stepmother and two stepsisters rode off in their grand coach to the palace. Poor Cinderella was left behind, all by herself.

CINDERELLA: It's not fair! I wish I could go to the ball, too!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Lots of things in life aren't fair, dear. The question is: what can be done about it?

CINDERELLA: Wait, who are you? How did you get in here?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I'm your fairy godmother. I help wishes come true.

CINDERELLA: But what I wish for is impossible.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Impossible? Did I not just appear out of thin air?

CINDERELLA: I suppose you did.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Then let me be the one to decide what is possible and what is not!

CINDERELLA: Fair point. But how could I go to the ball? Look at these rags I wear. My hair is a mess. I'm a mess!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I wouldn't say that, child. Turn around.

CINDERELLA: All right, but nothing's going to – Oh!

NARRATOR: Cinderella was not prepared for what she saw. Instead of her dirty rags and messy hair, she was wearing a beautiful blue ball gown.

CINDERELLA: This is incredible! Thank you so much!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Who said I was done? Turn around. Look in the garden.

NARRATOR: In the garden appeared a beautiful carriage, four white horses and a driver.

CINDERELLA: A carriage, four horses and a driver! I can't believe this is happening!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Believe it. However, there is one thing you must know.

CINDERELLA: What's that?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: The magic only lasts to midnight. When the clock strikes twelve, all the magic will be gone. Everything will return to how it was before.

CINDERELLA: So I should leave the ball before midnight?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Smart cookie. Now, it's time for me to go.

CINDERELLA: But you just got here!

NARRATOR: In a flash of light, the Fairy Godmother was gone.

CINDERELLA: Where did she go? Did any of this really happen?

COACH DRIVER: Coming, Miss?

CINDERELLA: I suppose it did!

Act 4 *The Ball*

Scene 1 – The Prince Meets the Guests

NARRATOR: And a splendid ball it was! With the finest music and a royal feast. Nearly everyone was having a wonderful time.

PRINCE: When will this finally be over?

NARRATOR: Except the Prince. Ah, here comes one of Cinderella's stepsisters. Maybe that will pick up his spirits.

STEPSISTER #1: Oh, Prince! Dance with me!

PRINCE: My lady.

STEPSISTER #1: Prince, listen. I'm the one you need to marry, no question about it.

PRINCE: And why is that?

STEPSISTER #1: For one thing, I'm the most beautiful. No one else is even close. Am I right, or am I right?

PRINCE: Um, it seems the music has ended. Thank you for the dance, my lady.

STEPSISTER #1: Wait, is that all?

PRINCE: It was a pleasure.

STEPSISTER #1: I didn't even tell you what else is great about me!

NARRATOR: Wait, here comes the other stepsister. We can imagine what she wants—

STEPSISTER #2: Prince, Prince! It's my turn to dance with you!

PRINCE: My lady.

STEPSISTER #2: You need to marry ME. The rest of these women are LOSERS. I'm the one with all the charm and glamor!

PRINCE: Oh, really? Well, the music has stopped again. Thank you for the dance.

STEPSISTER #2: Oh! Would you like another dance?

PRINCE: No, thank you. I must entertain the other guests.

NARRATOR: As the Prince turned away, he saw Cinderella enter the room.

Scene 2 – The Prince has a Pleasant Surprise

PRINCE: Young lady?

CINDERELLA: Yes, Prince.

PRINCE: Have we met before?

CINDERELLA: I'm pleased to meet you now.

PRINCE: I feel as if I already know you. But of course, that's impossible.

CINDERELLA: Many things are possible, if you wish them to be true.

PRINCE: Do you really believe that?

CINDERELLA: I know it.

NARRATOR: The music started, and the Prince and Cinderella started to dance.

CINDERELLA: Tell me about yourself.

PRINCE: What is there to know? I'm a Prince.

CINDERELLA: No, I mean about YOU. What do you like to do? What's your favorite food? There must be more to you than being a Prince!

PRINCE: Well, people don't usually ask me questions like that! I'd like to know more about you, too.

NARRATOR: The Prince danced with Cinderella for many more songs, and they talked the whole time – until it was almost midnight.

PRINCE: ...and that's why I can't stand onions!

CLOCK: Dong!

CINDERELLA: Did you hear something?

CLOCK: Dong!

PRINCE: What? All I hear is you!

CLOCK: Dong!

CINDERELLA: It's the clock! It's almost midnight!

CLOCK: Dong!

CINDERELLA: I must go!

PRINCE: What? Why? You just got here!

CLOCK: Dong!

CINDERELLA: I must go now. There isn't much time!

CLOCK: Dong, dong!

PRINCE: Time for what? Wait! I don't even know your name!

CLOCK: Dong, dong!

CINDERELLA: Goodbye!

CLOCK: Dong, dong, dong!

NARRATOR: Cinderella ran up the stairs and out the door.

PRINCE: Wait, come back!

NARRATOR: Cinderella jumped into her carriage and raced off into the night. The Prince ran out of the palace to look for her. But she was gone!

PRINCE: Where did you go? Come back!

NARRATOR: The carriage had barely turned a corner when the magic wore off. The carriage, driver and four horses disappeared.

CINDERELLA: My gown, everything is gone! I'm back to my regular dirty rags. Now I have to walk all the way home. There's nothing left over to remember this magical night.

NARRATOR: But Cinderella did leave something behind.

PRINCE: What's this? A glass slipper? It must have fallen off when she ran away. I will find the woman whose foot fits this slipper – no matter how long it takes!

Act 5 *Cinderella's Cottage*

NARRATOR: The entire kingdom was abuzz. Everyone knew the Prince was looking for the mysterious young woman from the ball. Cottage by cottage, he visited each home in the kingdom, searching for the owner of the glass slipper.

STEPSISTER #1: Mother, you've been staring out of that window for hours.

STEPSISTER #2 I, for one, don't even care if the Prince comes.

STEPSISTER #1: Nor do I. He's so rude!

STEPSISTER #2: Nor do I. He's so rude!

STEPMOTHER: Hold your tongues, girls! Whatever you do, you must fit your foot into that glass slipper when he comes! And the Prince WILL come.

NARRATOR: On that, the Stepmother was correct. For not long after, the royal coach clip-clopped up their path. The Stepmother sent Cinderella to her room. She said not to come out, no matter what. Then she threw open the door.

STEPMOTHER: Your Majesty! You have come to the right place.

PRINCE: Good day, Madam. And how many young ladies live here?

STEPMOTHER: Two perfect young ladies! Either one would make a great bride.

PRINCE: Well, allow me to ask the first young lady to try on this glass slipper.

NARRATOR: Try as she might, the first stepsister could not fit her foot into the slipper.

PRINCE: Perhaps the other young lady would like to try?

NARRATOR: The same thing happened. The slipper didn't fit her, either.

PRINCE: So there are no other young women in this house?

STEPMOTHER: None – unless you'd like ME to try on the slipper!

NARRATOR: The Stepmother winked at the Prince. He gave her a funny look. Just then, a new voice entered the room.

CINDERELLA: Maybe there's ONE more person who can try.

PRINCE: I thought you said there were no other young women here.

STEPMOTHER: None who matter!

PRINCE: Come here please, young lady.

NARRATOR: As soon as the Prince saw Cinderella, he recognized by her eyes that she was the same woman he had met at the ball! He was not at all surprised when the glass slipper fit her perfectly.

PRINCE: I have found you!

CINDERELLA: And I have found you!

STEPMOTHER: No! This cannot be!

STEPSISTER #1: This is a nightmare!

STEPSISTER #2: This is impossible!

PRINCE: Ah, many things are possible if you wish them to be true.

CINDERELLA: Isn't that the truth?

PRINCE: And now my dear, will you marry me?

CINDERELLA: Oh, my, that is a big question! I'm not sure I can answer it right now. We had a wonderful time at the ball, the best night of my life. But it was only one night.

STEPSISTER #1: I can't believe she isn't jumping on this!

STEPSISTER #2: I can't believe ANY of this!

PRINCE: You know what? You're right. Let's take it slower. How about if you took a job at the palace? Then we could get to know each other better.

CINDERELLA: A job at the palace! Well, I love to read—do you need a teacher?

PRINCE: Come to think of it, I heard the ladies at court say their children need a good reading teacher.

CINDERELLA: That would be me!

PRINCE: Then it's a plan!

NARRATOR: So Cinderella moved into the palace and started teaching reading to the children at court. Do you think Cinderella and the Prince got married? Or did they become lifelong friends? Turns out there are many ways to live "happily ever after!"