

NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT...

# CINDERELLA

BY

MARK LEWELLIN,  
ROY BARRACLOUGH AND  
JOHN JARDINE



This script is published by

NODA LTD  
15 The Metro Centre  
Peterborough PE2 7UH  
Telephone: 01733 374790  
Fax: 01733 237286  
Email: info@noda.org.uk  
www.noda.org.uk

To whom all enquiries regarding purchase of further scripts and current royalty rates should be addressed.

### CONDITIONS

1. A Licence, obtainable only from NODA Ltd, must be acquired for every public or private performance of a NODA script and the appropriate royalty paid : if extra performances are arranged after a Licence has already been issued, it is essential that NODA Ltd be informed immediately and the appropriate royalty paid, whereupon an amended Licence will be issued.
2. The availability of this script does not imply that it is automatically available for private or public performance, and NODA Ltd reserve the right to refuse to issue a Licence to Perform, for whatever reason. Therefore a Licence should always be obtained before any rehearsals start.
3. All NODA scripts are fully protected by copyright acts. Under no circumstances may they be reproduced by photocopying or any other means, either in whole or in part, without the written permission of the publishers
4. The Licence referred to above only relates to live performances of this script. A separate Licence is required for videotaping or sound recording of a NODA script, which will be issued on receipt of the appropriate fee.
5. NODA works must be played in accordance with the script and no alterations, additions or cuts should be made without the prior consent from NODA Ltd. This restriction does not apply to minor changes in dialogue, strictly local or topical gags and, where permitted in the script, musical and dancing numbers.
6. The name of the author shall be stated on all publicity, programmes etc. The programme credits shall state -Script provided by NODA Ltd, Peterborough PE2 7UHø

NODA LIMITED is the trading arm of the NATIONAL OPERATIC & DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION, a registered charity devoted to the encouragement of amateur theatre.



# CINDERELLA

By Mark Llewelin, Roy Barraclough & John Jardine

## CHARACTERS:

*In order of appearance:*

Dandini  
Prince Charming  
Buttons  
Cinderella  
Fairy Godmother  
Britney            )  
Kylie             ) Ugly Sisters  
Desert Orchid (can be played by chorus)  
Baroness Stoneybroke  
Squire Snatchall

Townspeople, guests, ghost, Cindersødouble, royal staff, flunky, radio announcer and animals.

## SCENES:

### Act one:

1. The Royal Forest
2. Picture Gallery at Stoneybroke Hall
3. The Kitchens at Stoneybroke Hall

### Act two:

1. The Palace Ballroom
2. Outside the Palace
3. The Kitchens at Stoneybroke Hall
4. Outside the Palace
5. The Church Belfry (optional scene)
6. The Palace Ballroom

# CINDERELLA

By Mark Llewelin, Roy Barraclough & John Jardine

## ACT ONE:

### 1. THE ROYAL FOREST:

HUNTING TYPE [NUMBER] WITH CHORUS IN HUNTING GEAR.

CHORUS: Look everyone, here comes Dandini.

ENTER DANDINI.

DANDINI: Hello my friends, how's the hunt going?

CHORUS 1: Not so bad.

DANDINI: My master the Prince will be joining us at any moment - don't forget, when he arrives let's give him a rousing cheer.

CHORUS 2: Is it true that he plans to announce his engagement soon?

DANDINI: I don't know where you heard that from. The Prince has said that he will only marry for love and so far he hasn't met the girl of his dreams.

CHORUS 3: And does she have to be a princess?

DANDINI: Not that I know of - no, just someone whom he loves and who loves him back.

CHILD: Perhaps he'll choose one of us.

DANDINI: I think perhaps you're a little too young.

CHORUS 1: And what about you Dandini - when are you to be married?

DANDINI: I'm waiting for Miss Right too.

CHORUS 3: Yes, I met Miss Right ó I just didn't know her first name was Always

FANFARE.

CHORUS 4: It's the Prince, the Prince!

DANDINI: Three cheers for his Royal Highness, Prince Charming!

PRINCE ENTERS.

PRINCE: Thank you loyal subjects. Well Dandini, how's the hunt going?

DANDINI: No sign of the fox sir.

PRINCE: Well, don't be down hearted, on a lovely day like today everyone should be happy - including the fox.

NUMBER - REPRISE

CHORUS EXIT.

PRINCE: Dandini.

DANDINI: Sire?

PRINCE: Don't go for a moment, I'd like a word with you.

DANDINI: What is it sire?

PRINCE: I'm worried Dandini, as you know my advisors are constantly telling me that I ought to get married soon - for the good of the kingdom.

DANDINI: That presents no problem, why, any girl in the realm would be delighted to be your bride.

PRINCE: Yes, and that's just the trouble. I want a girl who loves me for myself not because I'm a royal prince. It's alright for you Dandini, if a girl says she'll marry you at least you know it's you she loves not the wealth and position that comes with you.

DANDINI: I don't know how to take that. But I tell you what, if I have it so easy, why don't you change places with me?

PRINCE: What?

DANDINI: Change places. Just for one day, see if it helps.

PRINCE: Done! It's a great idea - I'll pretend to be you, no power, no money, no position - just me!

DANDINI: I was only joking sir, you're not serious surely?

PRINCE: I am, and there's no time like the present. So here you are, take my cloak PASSES CLOAK OVER Now come on, give me yours.

THEY EXCHANGE CLOAKS.

DANDINI: But this is silly, I couldn't be a Prince.

PRINCE: No, no, this is the best idea you've had in a long time. Now, you are Prince for a day and I am your servant. Now, come on - follow me!

DANDINI: Just one moment.

PRINCE: Yes?

DANDINI: Aren't you forgetting something?

PRINCE: I don't think so - what?

DANDINI: You're the servant now right? Well, you walk behind me.

PRINCE: I, I...

DANDINI: At all times! Now my good man, follow me!

THEY EXIT.

ENTER BUTTONS STRUGGLING WITH BASKETS.

BUTTONS: What kind of a diversion is this? Through the woods? All deserted with no one about and....SEES AUDIENCE Oh hello, my name's Buttons. Hey, since you all look a friendly lot would you do me a favour? Would you shout out -Hiya Buttonsøevery time I come on? Oh thanks, let's have a go. REHEARSES IT That's great. I work up at the Hall for Baroness Stoneybroke - what a horror she is. If there was a medal in the Olympics for nastiness she'd have the gold. She looks like Anne Robinson (*or similar feared TV star*), mind you, she's nothing compared to those dreadful daughters of hers - Kylie and Britney - what a pair of gasbags, they're so full of hot air I ought to match them up with a balloon! Mind you, I'd work up there for nothing. Oh yes I would, OH NO YOU WOULDN'T ETC I would - just to be near Cinderella, she's their step sister and she's lovely! I'm in love with her and I don't care who knows it. I love her more than my last Rollo! Well, I can't stand around gossiping, I've got to get back to the Hall - I'm taking the laundry back. Here, do you want to have a butchers? PULLS OUT BLOOMERS WITH BLACK HANDS ON I see the coalman's been! PULLS OUT TWO BRIGHTLY COLOURED ODD SOCKS I can't believe it, I've a pair exactly the same as these! PULLS OUT HUGE CORSET This is Britney's - reminds me of that film Mission Impossible! Well, I'd better be off - see you later kids!

EXITS. FOX ENTERS AND SITS BY TREE.

ENTER CINDERELLA PUTTING FIREWOOD INTO BASKET.

CINDERS: Oh it's no use, I'm so tired, I shall have to rest for a moment. There's so much work to be done and everyone's so unkind to me - except Buttons of course. Dear Buttons, I don't know what I'd do without him to cheer me up. Oh dear, if only things were different.

SEES FOX. HUNTING HORN OFF.

CINDERS: Oh Freddie - quick, hide under here -

LETS HIM HIDE UNDER GREENERY.

NUMBER Cinderella or Cinderella and children. KIDS CHORUS COULD COME ON AS FOREST ANIMALS FOR IT. <u>DURING IT, THE FAIRY DISGUISED AS AN OLD WOMAN ENTERS.</u>
---

CINDERS: I must finish collecting these sticks quickly and get home to make the supper before my stepmother and sisters get back from the hunt.  
NOTICES OLD WOMAN Poor old lady, collecting sticks at her age. She hasn't many either. Here - let me help you.

FAIRY: Thank you my dear, it's not easy when you're all alone.

CINDERS: No, of course it isn't. Here, take my sticks. OFFERS HERS I'm younger, I can soon gather some more.

FAIRY: Oh no, I couldn't do that - it must have taken you a long time to collect so many.

CINDERS: Come on, I insist.

FAIRY: I'll not forget your kindness my dear, one day I will try and repay you.

TAKES STICKS.

CINDERS: Oh, don't worry about that - I'm glad to have been able to help. Come along, let me carry your sticks to the edge of the forest and then I can come back for some more!

FAIRY: Thank you my dear, what is your name by the way?

CINDERS: Cinderella.

FAIRY: What an unusual name. Well Cinderella, I shan't forget your kindness to me. You've been a friend so sweet and kind!

THEY EXIT.

BRITNEY IS PUSHED ON BY DESERT ORCHID ON WHOM KYLIE CLINGS FOR DEAR LIFE. THEY END UP IN A HEAP.

BRITNEY: We'll never catch the fox at this rate Kylie. I thought you said this old nag was fast.

KYLIE: Well, he always finishes his milk round by twelve.

BRITNEY: Oh the disgrace, the humiliation, one horse between the two of us.

KYLIE: And to think, I've always had a good seat for a horse.

BRITNEY: You've always had a good seat for an elephant.

KYLIE: Now don't start, don't start.

DESERT ORCHID IS LEANING ON THE SCENERY, LEGS CROSSED.

BRITNEY: By the look of him, he's no intention of starting up again.

KYLIE: We'll have to put him through his paces. Stand up - stand up!

BOTH PEOPLE IN HORSE STAND TO ATTENTION.

KYLIE: Not like that. Get down, get down.

BOTH PEOPLE LIE DOWN. THE REAR ONE ROLLS OVER.

BRITNEY: Now look what you've done - he's gone and died on us.

HORSE TRIES TO STAND. UGLIES HELP IT UNTWIST.  
HORSE UP.

KYLIE: Come on Dessie, shape yourself. You're not fit, you're not fit.

BRITNEY: That makes two of you. A bit of training's what's needed. Come on, running on the spot.

UGLIES DO THIS DOWNSTAGE. HORSE UPSTAGE - OUT OF WHICH COME  
TWO HANDS MAKING HORSE NOISES WITH COCONUTS.

BRITNEY: Very good, very good.

KYLIE: He's almost as fit as us. Well, I think that's enough for now. Didn't he run well! OH YES HE DID BUSINESS.

BRITNEY: We know you ran well Dessie.

HORSE SHAKES HEAD.

BRITNEY: But we heard you.

HORSE SHAKES HEAD. BRITNEY GOES TO HIM, HE WHISPERS TO HER.

KYLIE: What did he say?

BRITNEY: Coconuts!

KYLIE: And the same to him.

BRITNEY: That's the trouble with you - you're always too quick to take offence.

KYLIE: To take a what?

BRITNEY: Take a fence, take a fence!

HORSE NEIGHS. TO HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW MUSIC HE RUNS RIOT. STOPS.

KYLIE: Now look what you've done - you've cast his mind back to his show jumping years.

BRITNEY: Oh yes, he had that nasty fall - and that was just getting him out of the horse box. Oh look, someone's dropped a sixpence!

BENDS TO PICK IT UP - HORSE KICKS HER.

BRITNEY: Kylie, you are a nasty piece of work.

KYLIE: What's up now?

BRITNEY: You just kicked me up the -

HUNTING HORN OFF.

KYLIE: Ooh look, someone's dropped a shilling -

BENDS TO PICK IT UP - HORSE KICKS HER.

KYLIE: Well, I don't believe it! Fancy booting me up the bum!

BRITNEY: I never touched you, I wouldn't waste me shoe leather. You can be very bad minded our Kylie. It's ever since you went out with that fella from the Knackers Yard.

HORSE RUNS RIOT AGAIN.

KYLIE: Now look what you've started.

HORSE EXITS.

KYLIE: That's the last we'll see of him. We'll have to finish the hunt on foot. Now, where did they go?

FOX OUT TO POINT THEM OFF.

BRITNEY: Thank you!

THEY EXIT. CINDERELLA APPEARS.

CINDERS: Just a few more sticks then I must hurry home. My stepmother and sisters will be so angry if I'm late.

PRINCE ENTERS WATCHING HER.

PRINCE: What a lovely girl. Can this be the one I've been waiting for? I must meet her. GOES TO HER May I be of assistance?

CINDERS: Oh sir, you startled me.

PRINCE: Forgive me, I was just walking past and .... It isn't every day one meets such a lovely looking girl, I felt I had to speak to you.

CINDERS: I'm only a poor servant girl.

PRINCE: WITH WINK TO AUDIENCE Well, I'm only a servant too - Dandini, servant to His Royal Highness Prince Charming.

CINDERS: I'm confused - I feel as though we have met before.

NUMBER 6 reprise with forest animals

PRINCE: When can I see you again?

CINDERS: It's impossible, they would never allow it.

PRINCE: They? Who are they?

WE HEAR THE UGLIES OFF.

CINDERS: Oh my goodness, I must go quickly. Goodbye.

SHE EXITS.

PRINCE: Wait, I ....

ENTER DANDINI BEING CHASED BY BRITNEY AND KYLIE.

BRITNEY: Oh your Royal Highness, your beautitude, what I wouldn't give for half an hour behind the bike sheds with you.

KYLIE: Ignore her Princey. What you need is someone younger and prettier, like me. I have the skin of a baby!

BRITNEY: A baby elephant maybe. You fast cat!

THEY FIGHT.

DANDINI: Ladies, ladies - how can I choose between two such ravens as yourselves, I must have time to make up my mind.

KYLIE: Do you want to phone a friend?

BRITNEY: Fifty, fifty?

KYLIE: I'll give you such a sloshing in a moment!

PRINCE: Could I have a word with you sire?

KYLIE: Buzz off you.

BRITNEY: Yeah, get lost fish face!

DANDINI: Excuse me just a moment - matters of state.

MOVES AWAY.

PRINCE: It's happened Dandini - I've just met the girl of my dreams.

DANDINI: What? - one of these two?

PRINCE: No. She was here just now, before I could even get her name she vanished. What am I to do? How am I ever going to find her again?

DANDINI: I know - give a grand ball at the palace and invite everyone in the realm, rich and poor alike. In that way the girl you speak of is bound to be amongst the guests.

PRINCE: Great idea. See to it that the invitations are sent out forthwith - if not sooner.

DANDINI: I think that's your job - as servant!

PRINCE: Oh, this infernal deal!

THEY EXIT FOLLOWED BY THE UGLIES.

BRITNEY: Princey, come back!

## 2. THE GALLERY AT STONEYBROKE HALL:

FOUR PORTRAITS HANG IN FRAMES.

ENTER BUTTONS.

BUTTONS: Hiya kids! REACTION That's great. Well, welcome to Stoneybroke Hall and here we have the Stoneybroke ancestors. I'll tell you one thing - they're no oil paintings! Now, first of all we have Sir Lancelot Stoneybroke, he was only five foot four - yes, he was the shortest knight of the year. They get no better so make the most of them. Then, Lady Godiva Soneybroke, she managed to scrape a bare living. This was painted by Buffacheli - he always painted in the nude. No, actually - sometimes he kept his socks on. Next we have Rear Admiral Horatio Stoneybroke, he's sunk a few in his time. THE FIGURE IN THE PICTURE HOLDS A PINT OF BEER. THANK YOU TAKES PINT OUT OF PICTURE AND DRINKS IT. PUTS EMPTY GLASS BACK. And finally in this rogue's gallery - Mona Stoneybroke ó and a right moaner she was anøall. Now then, they've all left a bob or two you know but this lot, they've spent the lot. Theyøve squandered their squillions, messed up their millions and trifled with their trillions. Theyøve not a penny to their name, CONSPIRATORIALLY they've not paid the rent for months. In fact, Squire Snatchall has threatened to have them evicted unless they cough up - or until Baroness Stoneybroke consents to be his wife.

BARONESS: (OFF) Buttons!

BUTTONS: Talk of the devil!

BARONESS ON TO FUNERAL MARCH.

BARONESS: That's the first tune I've enjoyed all night. Now then Buttons, you lazy, loafing, loathsome, layabout!

BUTTONS: That's an L of a list!

BARONESS: You've no time to stand about here giving away the family secrets, there's work to be done. And Buttons - make certain that perniciously pretty step-daughter of mine does more than her share. Oh I do love to be nasty!

SQUIRE (OFF):Coe! Baroness!

BARONESS: Oh no, it's that old goat Squire Snatchall. Still, I'd better butter him up or we're going to be thrown onto the streets.

ENTER SQUIRE.

SQUIRE: Ah there you are, my little bird of paradise.

BARONESS: Buttons, get about your duties!

BUTTONS EXITS.

SQUIRE: Ah Baroness, at last we are alone - by ourselves - just the two of us - you and me - never to be parted - one on one ó

NUMBER Squire and Baroness
----------------------------

SQUIRE: Now then my little lioness - HE GOES TO PUT HIS ARM AROUND HER & SHE MOVES AWAY.

BARONESS: Yes indeed. Tell me Snatchall, what if anything, is on your mind?

SQUIRE: Nothing that you can't put right with a few sweet words.

BARONESS: Sweet words? Oh alright then - sugar, syrup, sweeteners. How's that do you?

SQUIRE: No, no, no, that's not what I mean. I'm talking about your arrears.

BARONESS: There's no need to be personal.

SQUIRE: No, I'm in love with you Baroness, that's the top and the bottom of it.

BARONESS: Will you leave my bottom out of it.

SQUIRE: What I mean is - marry me and let us walk down life's joyful path together.

BARONESS: I'd sooner walk down the M1.

SQUIRE: Marriage is full of surprises!

BARONESS: So is the M1.

SQUIRE: Now listen here Baroness. Don't try my patience too far - I'm not one to be made a fool of. Either you marry me or you're out of here - lock, stock and barrel.

BARONESS: You can take my lock, you can take my stock - but you ain't getting your hands on my barrel.

SHE EXITS.

SQUIRE: Me thinks the lady doth protest too much. I'll try again tomorrow!

### 3. THE KITCHENS:

#### CINDERELLA'S IN SITU, LEANING ON HER BROOM.

NUMBER Cinderella
-------------------

#### UGLIES ENTER. CINDERELLA IS SWEEPING.

BOTH: Cinderella, Cinderella!

BRITNEY: Here she is, doing nothing as usual.

KYLIE: She needs a lesson that one - a real good hiding.

#### THEY PULL HER HAIR.

BRITNEY: That'll teach you, singing when you should be cleaning!

KYLIE: Yes, you're really in the cart you are - and not the D'Oyle Carte neither.

CINDERS: Please sisters, I only stopped for a moment.

BOTH: Oh, she only stopped for a moment!! You are the weakest link ó shove off.

CINDERS: Why are you so cruel to me? I am your sister after all.

KYLIE: Half sister. Mummy is not your mummy.

BRITNEY: Yes ó and we are the ones who got all the good looks genes.

CINDERS: Really! You want to stand where I am standing.

BRITNEY: Yes well, get upstairs and make the beds, polish the floors, clean the windows and do the ironing.

KYLIE: Sweep the carpets, dust the lampshades, Hoover the attic and feed the rabbit.

BRITNEY: And can you put my electric blanket on please!

CINDERS: And when I've finished?

BOTH: Do ó them ó all ó again!

#### CINDERS EXITS.

BRITNEY: Well that put her in her place.

KYLIE: Yes. TO AUDIENCE: Mind you, I'm not like that really - I'm only doing it to keep *her* quiet.

BRITNEY: Oh, pleading for sympathy are we? This'll go on all night now, needs to be loved, her social worker said.

KYLIE: Let's not fight - we need to be like a pair of bras. Put on a united front.

BARONESS ENTERS.

BARONESS: Ah, there you are my pretties.

THEY LOOK AROUND.

BARONESS: I mean you, you fools. My beautiful little butterflies! TO AUDIENCE: Not only a good mother, a great liar too. Now, listen to me my darlings, do as I say and I'll buy you some more of those ugly pills you like so much. TO AUDIENCE: Working, aren't they. Squire Snatchall has just left but he's coming to call again - will you prepare something rather special for lunch. I don't want to trust it to Cinderella, she might mess it up on purpose and I've had to let Chef Ramsay (*or surname of TV chef*) go. I mean, I like a good curse as much as the next woman but really ó he doesn't know any words with 5 letters in them.

KYLIE: Well I can't do it - I've got my dancing class, so far I can only do one dance. It's the hokey cokey but at the moment it's more cokey than hokey.

BRITNEY: She likes putting it in when she should be taking it out. I'll do it mummy, I make a wonderful casserole.

BARONESS: You can do it together. So it's over to you - Butch Casserole and the One Dance Kid!

BARONESS EXITS.

KYLIE: Your casserole *is* dreadful. Let's look in the cookery book.

BRITNEY FETCHES THE BOOK WITH 'OK OK' ON IT.

BRITNEY: Ok, ok.

OPENS BOOK SO THAT IT READS 'COOK BOOK'.

BRITNEY: Now let's see. Coq au Vin.

KYLIE: I know what that is - a chicken on a lorry!

BRITNEY: Ploughman's lunch. First find a ploughman! Shepherd's pie?

KYLIE: You can't get their crooks in the oven.

BRITNEY: I know - switch the radio on - we'll get the recipe of the day. I'll go and get the things.

KYLIE SWITCHES RADIO ON. BRITNEY BRINGS ON TROLLEY.

RADIO: (local team) 20, (rival team) 0. And now for the recipe of the day. Today our recipe is for tasty chicken pie. First of all we need to make the pastry. Take one large bowl.

KYLIE: PULLS OUT SMALL ONE One large bowl.

RADIO: No, no, larger than that.

KYLIE: PULLS OUT LARGER ONE Larger than that.

RADIO: Good. Now take one cup of flour.

BRITNEY: One cup of flour. HANDS IT TO KYLIE.

RADIO: Place in the bowl.

KYLIE: Place in the bowl. PUTS CUP IN BOWL.

RADIO: Not the cup as well you twit.

BRITNEY: Not the cup as well you twit.

THEY THROW FLOUR AT EACH OTHER.

RADIO: Next, add one pinch of salt.

BRITNEY: HOLDING UP LARGE SALT SHAKER How much is one pinch?

RADIO: Show her Kylie!

KYLIE: Hold it over the bowl. PINCHES HER BUM, BRITNEY JUMPS AND THE WHOLE TIN OF SALT GOES IN.

BRITNEY: Now look -

KYLIE: I'm only doing what he's telling me to do!

BRITNEY: Well, you can stop it! TO AUDIENCE: She goes too far!

RADIO: Now take a large jug of water and sprinkle it on.

BRITNEY HANDS OVER LARGE JUG OF WATER.

KYLIE: What do I do with it?

RADIO: Sprinkle it on Kylie.

BRITNEY THROWS IT OVER KYLIE. KYLIE POURS SOME WATER IN.

RADIO: Now knead it. Knead it, knead it. Are you kneading it too?

BRITNEY: Don't answer him Kylie, dirty monkey!

RADIO: Now you go out to the larder and fetch in your little chickens. Two small ones are best.

BRITNEY: Quick - we've got to go to the larder.

THEY EXIT.

RADIO: Put the chicken in the pie and heat for one hour. And there's another recipe at the same time tomorrow. And now Doctor Henry McHenry gives advice to new mothers on bathing babies. Hello, this is something we can do together -

ENTER UGLIES WITH CHICKENS.

RADIO: Have you got your little chickens there? Ladies, are we ready?

BOTH: Yes, yes.

RADIO: Right, hold your chickens in your arms and rock them gently to and fro. Now before placing them in the bowl make sure they are free from wind. Place them over your shoulders ladies and pat his little back! THEY DO SO Put a little water in the bowl. THEY PRODUCE A SECOND BOWL AND POUR WATER IN SO THEY HAVE ONE EACH. Now place the little ones in the water - aagh, gently does it - did you remember to test the water with your elbows first? THEY LOOK AT THE RADIO THEN AT EACH OTHER. PLUNGE ELBOWS IN. Now your chickens are in the water make sure you splash water over their little parts.

KYLIE: Are you sure this is right Britney?

BRITNEY: Well it seems a bit funny to me. I'm just thinking of Jamie Oliver (*or young TV chef*) doing it.

KYLIE: Doing what? You dirty minx.

RADIO: Now that your little chickens are wet all over get the liquid soap ready.

KYLIE: Liquid soap?

RADIO: The success of the operation depends entirely on working up a good thick lather.

BRITNEY: It won't taste so hot but at least it'll be clean.

RADIO: Now rinse its little head. Take a nice clean towel and wrap your little chicken up. THEY DO Pat him all over, hold him in the air and give him a shake THEY DO Why not share a little joke with him.

KYLIE: Who's a pretty boy then.

BRITNEY: There was an Englishman, an Irishman and a ...

KYLIE: You know what Britney, it seems a shame to eat him now.

RADIO: Now lie him on his back, lift up his little legs and dust him down. THEY DO - FLOUR GOING EVERYWHERE. And remember, keep him warm. THEY THROW THEM INTO THE BOWLS AND SLAM THEM IN THE OVENS QUICK. And that dear listeners, is how to bath a baby.

BOTH: Bath a baby?

KYLIE: You stupid thing. I'm going to -

DOORBELL.

BRITNEY: Who can that be, calling at this time of day.

KYLIE: Well, it can't be the milkman, he's already been. PATS HER HAIR.

BRITNEY: You sly cat.

ENTER BUTTONS.

BUTTONS: His Royal Highness's ....

BOTH: Ooh!

BUTTONS: ...servant, Dandini.

ENTER PRINCE.

KYLIE: It's that fella from the woods - Dan, Dan, the servant man.

PRINCE: Good evening girls, is the Baroness at home?

BUTTONS: I think she's playing away all week. At least, her boots aren't in the hall.

ENTER BARONESS.

BARONESS: Any more of that Buttons and I'll kick you right into touch. Now sire, you wanted me.

PRINCE: I'm here on behalf of Prince Charming to issue invitations to the royal ball. Now, how many tickets will you require?

BARONESS: A ball? Three.

BUTTONS: Five.

KYLIE: Three.

BUTTONS: Five. Any advance on five? No - five it is. Sold!

PRINCE: Very well, five. COUNTS THEM OUT TO BARONESS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Thank you and goodnight.

BARONESS: Hang on, you're forgetting your place. You exit by the servant's door.

KYLIE: Haven't you ever watched Upstairs Downstairs numbskull?

PRINCE EXITS.

BUTTONS: Cinderella, Cinderella.

CINDERELLA ENTERS.

CINDERS: Yes Buttons, what is it?

BUTTONS: The prince's servant has been with tickets for the ball - one for each of us.

BARONESS: Oh no he didn't. OH YES HE DID ETC. Silence! There's one for you Kylie, and one for you Britney, and one for me ... GIVES THEM OUT.

SISTERS: We're going to the ball, ey ay adio, we're going to the ball.

THEY EXIT.

BUTTONS: But he gave you two more tickets - one for me and one for Cinderella.

BARONESS: -Oh, there's two more tickets - one for me and one for Cinderella!ø Are there really? Cinderella, would you like a ticket to go to the ball?

CINDERS: Oh yes please, I'd like that more than anything in the world.

BARONESS: And what about you Buttons?

BUTTONS: Thank you Baroness, I'd like to keep Cinders company.

BARONESS: Here you are then -

SHE GIVES THEM THE TICKETS.

BUTTONS: Oh, thank you Baroness.

BARONESS: Now tear them up. If you don't I will.

BUTTONS: But -

BARONESS: Go on, tear them up.

THERE IS A STAND OFF. BARONESS NEVER CRACKS AND EVENTUALLY THEY DO TEAR THEM UP.

BRITNEY RUSHES ON.

BRITNEY: Mummy, the ball, the ball - it's tonight!

BARONESS: Tonight? Then we'd better get ready. Fast!

EXIT BRITNEY AND BARONESS.

BUTTONS: Come on Cinderella, it's not as bad as all that. Is it?

CINDERS CRIES.

BUTTONS: Come on Cinders, don't cry. Just remember you've always got me to look after you. I í .. (he mimes ÆLove youØ)

CINDERS: What would I do without you Buttons?

SHE KISSES HIM.

BUTTONS: She kissed me! Cinders, do you like me at all, when I say ÆlikeØI...., do you?, do you?, just a little bit?

CINDERS: Of course I do Buttons, I like you a lot.

BUTTONS: Wha-hey! Cinders, will you do something for me?

CINDERS: If I can.

BUTTONS: Would you come and sit next to me on the table?

CINDERS: Of course I will Buttons.

THEY SIT SIDE BY SIDE.

BUTTONS: MOUthing TO AUDIENCE: She loves me too! HE SWINGS HIS LEGS Hello!

CINDERS: Hello!

NUMBER Cinderella and Buttons

CINDERS: You haven't told me why you wanted me to sit next to you.

BUTTONS: I like you Cinderella - I like you a lot.

CINDERS: I like you too.

BUTTONS: What I wanted to say to you was - wi...., wil...., will you marry me Cinderella?

CINDERS: That's the nicest thing anyone's ever said to me.

BUTTONS: Will you then?

CINDERS: I'm very fond of you Buttons - but I can't marry you.

BUTTONS: Why not?

CINDERS: Because I'm in love with someone else.

BUTTONS: Oh. PAUSE. HE GULPS. I see.

CINDERS: Oh Buttons!

BUTTONS: So um, who is this chap then?

CINDERS: I've only met him once. He's called Dandini - he's the servant to the Prince.

BUTTONS: He was here - tonight. It was him who came with the invites. So, you don't love *me* - because of *him*.

CINDERS: I do *love* you Buttons - I love you like a brother.

BUTTONS: Really? Like your Big Brother?

THEME MUSIC STING.

BUTTONS: (INTO GEORDIE ACCENT) Cinderella and Buttons have been talking in the kitchen whilst the others are getting ready for a night out. HE LAUGHS. STOPS. (*If Big Brother is no longer topical – cut the*

*previous line*) I see. Well, I'm very happy for you. So we're stuck here for the night - all on our own.

CINDERS: Yes.

BUTTONS: Do you want to have our own ball - you know, pretend.

CINDERS: Well I...

BUTTONS: You can be the beautiful Princess PUTS TABLE CLOTH ROUND HER and here's your carriage. PUTS CHAIR ON TOP OF TABLE and where's your....

OLD LADY APPEARS. LIGHTING GOES DOWN.

BUTTONS: .....tiara. What's going on?

OLD LADY: Magic my children ó that's what this is. Cinderella, do as Buttons bids you ó make a tiara from some tin foil. Go to the pantry and fetch it.

CINDERS: Wait a minute!

CINDERELLA EXITS. WHEN SHE RETURNS IT IS A DOUBLE WEARING A TIN FOIL TIARA.

BUTTONS: Your Highness, your carriage awaits!

CINDERS CLIMBS ONTO THE TABLE TOP AND TAKES HER SEAT.

BUTTONS: But old lady ó I don't understand ó

OLD LADY: You wanted to pretend, didn't you? Pretend you were at the royal ball?

BUTTONS: Yes.

OLD LADY: Let me help you - (WAVES WAND)

LIGHTING CHANGES AGAIN - A MIRRORBALL STARTS.

BUTTONS: - I'm the handsome Prince dancing on my own waiting for that special Princess to walk into his life.

OLD LADY WAVES THE WAND. FREEZE.

FAIRY: Dear Cinderella, earlier you were so kind,  
A way to repay you now comes to mind,  
You thought me an old lady, just another,  
But now you must know, I'm your Fairy Godmother!

SHE PULLS OFF HOODED CLOAK TO REVEAL HER TRUE SELF.

FAIRY: Buttons, go into the yard and collect a pumpkin and some mice.

BUTTONS EXITS.

FAIRY: We'll have you to the palace in just a trice.

BUTTONS BACK - PLACES ITEMS ON TABLE UNDER CHAIR.

FAIRY: Now help Cinders down - there's not much time, it's a bit of a race,  
And so clear the things to the side - for magic, I need some space!

THEY MOVE THE TABLE WITH THE STUFF ON TOP. BUTTONS EXITS.  
CINDERELLA STANDS CENTRE.

FAIRY: And now my dear, there is one thing you must remember, my magic  
spell will only last until midnight so you must be away from the ball  
and back home by then otherwise everything will return to the way it  
was. Come, my dear, we must waste no time - of all the powers  
invested in me, on the power of good I call, transform these things as I  
requested, and Cinderella shall go to the ball!

FLASH LIGHTS AT AUDIENCE - DURING WHICH THE DOUBLE EXITS.  
TRANSFORMATION - CINDERELLA IS NOW CENTRE IN HER COACH.

CINDERS: I can't believe it, is it really me?

FAIRY: It certainly is - your kindness is repaid! But don't forget what I said -  
be back by midnight.

CINDERS: But where's Buttons?

BUTTONS ON IN FOOTMAN'S GARB. MUSIC BEGINS.

BUTTONS: This isn't quite what I had in mind!

FAIRY: Have a wonderful evening! You see Cinderella - you shall go to the  
ball!

**CURTAIN.**

**ACT TWO:**

**1. THE PALACE BALLROOM:**

CHORUS DO NUMBER.

PRINCE AND DANDINI ENTER.

PRINCE: Well Dandini, what's it like to be a servant again?

DANDINI: Oh much more fun sire. And are you happy to be Prince once more?

PRINCE: I can only tell you that Dandini when all the guests arrive.

DANDINI: Oh she'll be here sire, everyone is here tonight.

FLUNKY: Squire Snatchall and Baroness Stoneybroke.

THEY ENTER.

BARONESS: TO DANDINI Your Highness!

SQUIRE: No, no, this is his Highness!

BARONESS: But you're the one who came with the invites.

PRINCE: Me madam?

BARONESS: Oh I shall have to get my eyes seen to - I'll pop down to (*local optician*) in the morning.

SQUIRE: Do forgive the old vampire, she's just a little batty.

PRINCE: You are most welcome. There will be dancing in here and in the State Room there's a running buffet.

SQUIRE: In that case we'll see if we can catch it.

THEY EXIT.

FLUNKY: Her Imperial Ugliness the Right Honourable Kylie Stoneybroke.

ENTER KYLIE. SHE TRIPS ON THE LAST STEP.

KYLIE: TO PRINCE I thought you'd be here - anywhere where there's free food.

DANDINI: Madam, this is Prince Charming.

KYLIE: But I thought ....

FLUNKY: Sire, tipped for success by the Pig Breeders Gazette and numerous sailors in Portsmouth, Her Ugliness Britney Stoneybroke.

ENTER BRITNEY. IF THERE'S A HANDRAIL SHE SLIDES DOWN THAT.

BRITNEY: Hello fellas, is that a proclamation in your pocket or are you pleased to see me?

PRINCE: Neither.

BRITNEY: I wasn't talking to you.

DANDINI: But this is the Prince.

KYLIE: I think I've been duped.

DANDINI: Try syrup of figs.

ENTER BARONESS AND SQUIRE.

BARONESS: Ah, there you are my prize poodles. I'm having a very trying day.

SQUIRE: Really?

BARONESS: Oh yes, the butcher tried, the baker tried and I can't tell you about the candle stick maker. This takes me back - I used to be the belle of the ball.

SQUIRE: Yes, then you lost your clanger.

FLUNKY: His Royal Highness Prince Buttoni.

ENTER BUTTONS.

BUTTONS: Hiya kids.

FLUNKY: Ladies and gentlemen, there will now be a display of fireworks in the garden.

BUTTONS: There'll be a few in here very soon. ASIDE She's on her way kids!

BARONESS: What do you think you're doing here and where did you get these clothes?

KYLIE: I knew him when he had nowt.

NUMBER - REPRISE DURING WHICH THE PRINCE EXITS.

FLUNKY PUSHES DRINKS TROLLEY PAST.

SQUIRE: My dear Baroness, would you like a tiny tincture?

BARONESS: Terribly tempting!

FLUNKY: Soft drinks are free - alcoholic, £1 a shot.

SQUIRE: Just the one then.

FLUNKY POURS DRINK.

SQUIRE: What is it?

FLUNKY: It's a special brew - we call it the drink of truth.

BARONESS: The drink of truth?

FLUNKY: Yes, take just one sip and you will be compelled to tell the truth.

SQUIRE: The truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

FLUNKY: That's what it says on the tin.

BARONESS TRIES IT.

BARONESS: It tastes of petrol.

FLUNKY: Now ain't that the truth.

FLUNKY OFF.

PRINCE ENTERS.

DANDINI: Any sign of her sire?

PRINCE: No Dandini, it's as I feared - she isn't coming.

DANDINI: Come and dance sire, take your mind of it.

PRINCE: No thank you Dandini, I know we dance together when we're alone but not in front of the guests -

DANDINI: No sire, you misconstrue. In fact, you've been misconstruing all night.

PRINCE: I'll try those syrup of figs! Oh I see - you want me to dance with one of these!

IMMEDIATELY ALL THE GUESTS STOP AND SMILE AT HIM.

DANDINI: It's rather like Crufts sir.

BARONESS: Let me partner you scrumptious lumptious.

KYLIE: No mummy, I can give him a go on the Gay Gordons.

BRITNEY: Yes well Kylie - as if you should be so lucky, lucky, lucky.

PRINCE: Now let me see -

THEY SCRAMBLE ABOUT.

FLUNKY: Her Royal Highness Princess Crystal.

CINDERELLA ENTERS.

KYLIE: Look at her - she's going to drive me out of my mind.

SQUIRE: Well you won't have far to go.

PRINCE: Princess Crystal - welcome, I am Prince Charming. This is like a dream - you remind me so much of someone else and yet you can not possibly be she.

CINDERS: The feeling is mutual and yet the man you remind me of was a servant not a Prince.

PRINCE: Come, let us talk on the terrace.

THEY EXIT.

BARONESS: Who is she?

KYLIE: Never mind that - who does she hope to be?

BRITNEY: Crystal indeed - more Everest Windows (*or local double glazing company*) if you ask me. And I wore my new royal knickers an' all.

BUTTONS: Your royal knickers?

BRITNEY: Yes, they're made from a union jack.

BUTTONS: Don't they chafe?

BRITNEY: Yes. I'm going to have to take the flag pole out.

SHE REMOVES EXTENDING POLE FROM HER SKIRT.

SQUIRE: Good Lord!

FLUNKY: Dinner is served.

THEY ALL RUSH OFF. CINDERELLA AND PRINCE ENTER.  
MUSIC BEGINS.

PRINCE: This is the happiest night of my life.

CINDERS: I wish it could go on forever.

THEY BEGIN TO DANCE. CLOCK BEGINS TO STRIKE TWELVE.

CINDERS: What time is it?

PRINCE: It's only just midnight - the night is young.

CINDERS: Midnight! I must go.

PRINCE: But we've only just met. You can't....

CINDERS: You don't understand - I must. I have no choice.

DANDINI APPEARS.

DANDINI: Please, Princess -

PRINCE: Stop her Dandini.

SHE RUNS OFF FOLLOWED BY DANDINI.

PRINCE: This can't be happening to me - I wait all this time to meet the right girl  
and then I hold her in my arms for just a few moments before -

DANDINI ENTERS WITH GLASS SLIPPER.

DANDINI: I'm sorry sire, she ran away into the woods before I could catch her.  
But she did leave this -

HANDS HIM SLIPPER.

PRINCE: One of her slippers. A search must be made Dandini. You will take  
some guards with you and search every house in the Kingdom. Yes,  
and I hereby proclaim that whomsoever this glass slipper fits shall be  
my bride.

NUMBER Prince and Dandini
---------------------------

## 2. OUTSIDE THE PALACE:

### GENERAL COMMOTION AS SQUIRE, BARONESS, KYLIE AND BRITNEY COME ON.

BARONESS: Fancy cutting everything short like that, just when we were all getting so friendly. I hadn't even ordered any Tupperware.

KYLIE: I know what you mean, I was just getting into the swing of things - don't know why he was so upset by that little madam doing a bunk like that.

SQUIRE: Now my little cherubs, we're in a bit of a pickle. The taxi was booked for two and it's only twelve thirty.

BARONESS: What are you trying to say?

SQUIRE: We're stuck here on the edge of the woods.

BRITNEY: We need a lift.

SQUIRE: The only lift you need is a face-lift my dear.

SISTERS: Mummy! Tell him!

BARONESS: Well he's right, isn't he. Look at you both - if you were attractive you'd have persuaded the Prince to marry you and my troubles would be over. And you've nothing to talk about ó no conversation you see.

KYLIE: I told him about my collection of valuable pottery.

SQUIRE: Yes, tell your mother what you actually said.

KYLIE: That I had the best pair of Toby jugs in the county. PUSHING CHEST OUT

BARONESS: He'll think we're so common.

SQUIRE: Your other daughter engaged him in medical backchat.

BARONESS: Medicalí .?

BRITNEY: I told him about nursing daddy ó that time I went into the ironmongers for a bedpan and the man didn't have any and he told me to try Boots. And I said: -I have but it leaks out of the lace holes.ø

SQUIRE: A wonder he didn't fall for your charms.

BARONESS: Quite. We could be sitting here stood here now rich.

SQUIRE: You have only to say one word my beauty - just one word and your troubles are over as far as I'm concerned.

BARONESS: I've told you - I don't want to marry you. I'm unlucky as a bride. I've had four husbands and they've all died.

SQUIRE: Four?

BARONESS: Yes, widowed four times. The first one died when he ate some poisoned cabbage soup.

BRITNEY: So did the second one.

KYLIE: And the third.

SQUIRE: How unusual. What happened to the fourth?

BARONESS: He got hit over the head by a hammer.

SQUIRE: A hammer?

LADIES: Yes, he wouldn't eat the soup.

SQUIRE: Well then, you'll need to find the rent.

BARONESS: You don't happen to know what won the 3.40 at Kempton do you?

SQUIRE: No. Why should that interest me?

BARONESS: Your rent was riding on Red Rum.

KYLIE: Well, if we're stuck here until the taxi comes, the least we can do is to make ourselves comfortable.

BRITNEY: You're right.

THEY ALL SIT ON BENCH. A GHOST IN TUDOR COSTUME CARRYING ITS HEAD UNDER ITS ARM COMES ON.

SQUIRE: You know my late wife died in unusual circumstances.

BARONESS: Really?

SQUIRE: Yes, she died from drinking milk. The cow fell on her.

GHOST TAPS SQUIRE'S SHOULDER AND CHASES HIM OFF.

KYLIE: Did you like the pie we made for you mummy? I think my cooking is cordon bleu.

BARONESS: I think your cooking should be cordoned off.

GHOST TAPS BARONESS' SHOULDER AND CHASES HER OFF.

BRITNEY: You know, I'm thinking of having my face lifted.

KYLIE: I wouldn't bother - once they see what's under it they'll soon drop it again.

GHOST TAPS KYLIE ON HER SHOULDER AND CHASES HER OFF.

BRITNEY: I'm glad I put a few toffees in my bag.

GHOST SITS NEXT TO HER. SHE UNWRAPS A TOFFEE AND FLICKS THE WRAPPER INTO THE GHOSTS'S NECK.

BRITNEY: Have you got a bag of chips there?

GHOST PASSES HER HIS HEAD. SHE LOOKS AT IT, SCREAMS AND RUNS OFF.

### 3. KITCHENS:

#### CINDERELLA RUNS ON (IN HER POOR COSTUME).

CINDERS: Oh dear, what a mess I've made of everything. Why didn't I do as I was told and leave the ball before midnight? I was warned of what would happen and now I'll never be able to see the Prince again.

#### ENTER FAIRY.

FAIRY: Yes Cinders, I did warn you but cheer up, things are not as bad as they seem.

CINDERS: I'm sorry, I let you down. It was just that everything was so wonderful. Time seemed to stand still when I was dancing with the Prince.

FAIRY: I understand Cinders. Don't worry, everything will work out alright. Trust me and tomorrow will be another day. In fact, tomorrow will be the beginning of something special. Cinderella will see her Prince Charming again - I promise.

#### FAIRY EXITS.

CINDERS: Maybe she's right.

#### DIMS THE LIGHTS AND SETTLES DOWN TO SLEEP BY THE FIRE.

#### WE HEAR THE RECORDED VOICES OF THE BALL SCENE:

PRINCE: This is the happiest night of my life!

CINDERS: Time seemed to stand still -

PRINCE: It's only just midnight, the night is still young!

FAIRY: Don't worry, Cinderella will see her Prince Charming again.

#### CLOCKS STRIKES 6. LIGHTING TO DAWN STATE.

#### ENTER BUTTONS.

BUTTONS: Cinderella, it's nine o'clock.

#### CINDERELLA STIRS.

#### CLOCK STRIKES 3 MORE.

CINDERS: Oh Buttons, I overslept.

BUTTON: I must get that clock mended.

CINDERS: You must.

BUTTONS: Don't worry, I took the old bags their breakfasts. Cinders, would you like a little bet with me?

CINDERS: What sort of bet?

BUTTONS: Well, I'll bet you 50p that I can kiss you on the lips without touching you.

CINDERS: Oh Buttons that's silly, of course you can't kiss me on the lips without touching me.

BUTTONS: If that's what you think - take the bet.

CINDERS: Alright.

BUTTONS: Right, close your eyes.

HE KISSES HER ON THE LIPS.

CINDERS: But you did touch me.

BUTTONS: I know, but it was worth it. Here's 50p. GIVES HER MONEY Want another go?

CINDERS: Oh Buttons. Last night Buttons, do you remember what happened?

BUTTONS: Of course I do. How many did you have?

CINDERS: We were here pretending that we were going to the ball and ó

BUTTONS: That's right Cinders, it was just after you said you loved me like a brother and - and an old lady came in and transformed herself into a fairy and you were all come over like a Princess and I got to wear a funny wig and some tights ó and we were went off to the ball.

CINDERS: So I didn't dream it?

BUTTONS: No ó but if you wanted to reconsider my proposal of marriage at all ó

CINDERS: Oh Buttons ó we can never be married. But I wouldn't know what to do without you, you know. You're always there for me ó when I'm sad you make me happy and when I'm happy ó well, you make me sad.

BUTTONS: Thank you!

NUMBER Buttons and Cinderella

ENTER SQUIRE AND BARONESS.

BUTTONS: Guess who stayed the night.

BARONESS: .....you see my dear Snatchall, you do not realise that if this slipper fits either our Kylie or our Britney. TO AUDIENCE: Why be bashful - or me! Then you'll be put out of the picture. Oh yes, we'll be moving into another league.

SQUIRE: The thought of you getting promotion from division four is an incredible one. In any case, the girl who wore the glass slipper was a young girl, I saw her myself, not one of - PUTS AN ARM ROUND HER - riper years such as yourself.

BARONESS: Yes well, there's many a good tune played on an old fiddle.

SQUIRE: That depends on the musician.

BARONESS: Very well Snatchall, I'll make you a promise. If that slipper doesn't fit either Kylie, Britney or myself, I will consent to be your wife. Cinderella, get a bowl of cabbage soup on the go.

SQUIRE: Dear lady, you take my breath away.

BARONESS: Oh, don't worry Cinders - we might be alright.

KNOCK AT DOOR.

THEY STAND LOOKING AT EACH OTHER.

BUTTONS: Don't worry - I'll go.

BARONESS: You know, you remind me of my first true love.

SQUIRE: How so?

BARONESS: He was so bow-legged we used to hang him over the door for luck.

BUTTONS ENTERS WITH PRINCE AND DANDINI.

PRINCE: Good day to you Baroness. As you know, I have made a royal proclamation that whosoever fits this glass slipper shall be my bride. Is there anyone in the household who would like to try it on?

BUTTONS: She'll try it on with anybody.

BARONESS: Quiet Buttons, I will be the first to try it.

DANDINI TRIES IT ON HER.

BARONESS: Ah ha - it fits like a glove.

PRINCE: Yes, well it's supposed to fit like a shoe.

SQUIRE: One down, two to go.

BARONESS: Kylie, Britney!

BUTTONS: Bring out your dead.

ENTER UGLIES.

BUTTONS: This young man would like to try it on with you.

BOTH: Yes please!

KYLIE: I'll go first.

DANDINI: It was a young lady -

KYLIE: I've got the skin of a sixteen-year-old.

BRITNEY: Well, give it back then, you're stretching it.

TRIES SLIPPER.

KYLIE: It fits, it fits, I've got my foot in the crystal slipper.

SQUIRE: You couldn't get your foot in the Crystal Palace. Two down and one to go.

BRITNEY: I look young - I am very careful about my beauty routine, I'm very fastidious.

BUTTONS: More like fast and hideous.

DANDINI TRIES THE SLIPPER ON HER (THERE'S A FALSE LEG HIDDEN IN HER OUTFIT. IT FITS)

DANDINI: Sire, it fits.

EVERYONE: It fits?

BRITNEY: Oh hoorah, hoorah, it fits, it fits!

SHE JUMPS UP, LEG FLIES OFF.

SQUIRE: A good try but not good enough. You know what this means  
Baroness.

BARONESS: I'm lumbered.

SQUIRE: We shall be married tomorrow.

PRINCE: Is that everyone?

SISTERS: Yes.

BUTTONS: Oh no it isn't. OH YES IT IS ETC. No, there's Cinderella.

BARONESS: She didn't go to the ball.

BUTTONS: Oh yes she did.

CINDERELLA STANDS. WITH MUSIC UNDER, SHE WALKS FORWARD  
AND SITS. DANDINI TRIES THE SLIPPER ON HER.

DANDINI: It fits!

ALL: It fits?

PRINCE: TAKING HER IN HIS ARMS At last I've found you Princess Crystal  
ó

BUTTONS: Cinderella is her real name.

PRINCE: Cinderella, will you marry me?

CINDERS: Oh yes, I love you with all my heart.

BUTTONS: Good luck Cinders. Don't forget me - will you?

CINDERS: Oh Buttons, I could never forget you. Thank you for all you've done  
for me. SHE KISSES HIM.

BUTTONS: Not in front of .... Thank you. I wish you both all the happiness in the  
world.

PRINCE: I knew we were meant for each other the very moment we met.

PRINCE AND CINDERELLA EXIT.

DANDINI: Well, it looks like it's a double wedding. I hereby proclaim that the  
Kingdom prepare for a Royal wedding.

**4. OUTSIDE THE PALACE:**

PRINCE AND CINDERELLA ENTER.

PRINCE: Oh Cinderella, you are going to make such a perfect Queen.

NUMBER Prince and Cinderella
------------------------------

**5. (OPTIONAL SCENE) THE BELFRY:**

FOUR BELL ROPES HANGING ACROSS THE STAGE. EACH HAS A NAME TAG ATTACHED - BIG JOHN, OUR MABEL, LITTLE HAROLD AND OLD ORVIL.

ENTER BARONESS, SQUIRE, KYLIE AND BRITNEY.

BARONESS: Oh the disgrace, the humiliation. Having to play the bells at my own step-daughters wedding.

SQUIRE: It's your own fault you daft bat.

KYLIE: Yes, if you hadn't been so nasty to her this would never have happened.

BARONESS: Silence you over dressed litter-bins. Music maestro please.

THEY DO THE NUMBER TO 'WIDDICOMBE FAIR':

ALL: The bells in the steeple will ring out their chimes,  
Ding-along merrily, ring-a-ding ding,  
And all us bell-ringers will pay for our crimes,  
With Big John, Our Mabel, Little Harold, Old Orvil.

EACH ONE TAKES A ROPE AND RINGS THE CORRECT ROPE ON EACH NAME (KYLIE HAS OLD ORVIL)

It's all for the good of our souls,  
Please don't ask for whom the bell tolls,  
If you pull em quite gently they make a nice sound,  
Ding-along merrily, ring-a-ding-ding,  
But when you pull harder your feet leave the ground,  
With Big John, Our Mabel, Little Harold, Old Orvil,

KYLIE PULLS OLD ORVIL AND IS TAKEN INTO THE AIR.

It's all for the good of our souls,  
Please don't ask for whom the bell tolls.

THEY NOTICE KYLIE AND GET HER DOWN.

Two pulls will summon good folk to a prayer,  
Ding-along merrily ring-ading-ding  
But one pull too many, you're up in the air,  
With Big John -

KYLIE SWAPS WITH SQUIRE. SHE GETS LITTLE HAROLD.

- Our Mabel, Little Harold, Old Orvil,

KYLIE PULLS LITTLE HAROLD AS IS TAKEN INTO THE AIR.

It's all for the good of our souls,  
Please don't ask for whom the bell tolls.

THEY NOTICE KYLIE AND GET HER DOWN.

The law of gravity's sold us a pup,  
Ding-along merrily, ring ading-ring,

KYLIE DECIDES TO SWAP WITH BRITNEY AND GETS OUR MABEL.

Cos before you come down you must surely go up,  
With Big John, Our Mabel, Little Harold, Old Orvil,

BOTH KYLIE AND BRITNEY GO UP.

It's all for the good of our souls,  
Please don't ask for whom the bell tolls.

THE SQUIRE AND THE SISTERS COLUDE AND SEND THE BARONESS TO OLD ORVIL.

We know someone now who's in for a fright,  
Ding along merrily, ring-ading-ring,  
You'll be leaving us soon so please hold tight,

THEY ALL LAUGH AT THE BARONESS.

With Big John, Our Mabel, Little Harold, Old Orvil!

NOTHING HAPPENS.

It's all for the good of our souls!

SQUIRE, KYLIE AND BRITNEY GO UP.

BARONESS: Please don't ask for whom the bell tolls.

Note: To perform this scene you obviously require a theatre with a fly tower and flying system. If this is not available to you it is worth considering playing it using a long table with hand bells. Where people would be taken into the air, their clanger falls out instead. This requires dummy bells and a real bell player off stage who rings the bells in time to the action. This can be very effective.

## 6. THE PALACE BALLROOM:

### BUTTONS RUSHES ON.

BUTTONS: Are you in your wedding outfits? REACTION It's today you know of the big day! Let's have a good look at you! DOWN TO FRONT OF STAGE. Ah, I was going to ask all the ugly ones to move to the back of but I see you've already done it. Well done! So, are you ready for a wedding? REACTION Good of 'cos here it comes!!

### RUSHES OFF AS THE CHORUS BEGIN THEIR NUMBER.

NUMBER Chorus
---------------

### CHORUS BOW AND SPLIT TO LINE THE SIDES OF THE STAGE. THE MUSIC BEGINS AGAIN AS THE PRINCIPALS COME ON, BOW AND MOVE TO THE SIDES IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Dandini, Fairy Godmother, Squire Snatchall, Baroness Stoneybroke, Britney, Kylie, Buttons.

BUTTONS: And now ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls of and them you dragged in with you! Please give out three cheers for the new Prince and Princess of hip hip HOORAY hip hip HOORAY hip hip HOORAY!

### ENTER CINDERELLA AND THE PRINCE. AS THEY BOW EVERYONE MOVES IN AROUND THEM. MUSIC STOPS.

PRINCE: My dreams have come true, Cinderella's my wife.

CINDERS: And we'll live happily for the rest of our lives,

BUTTONS: Thanks kids for the laundry, your shouts and your roars.

KYLIE: That reminds me, what have you done with my best drawers?

SQUIRE: And they'll be kinder now, with the Baroness by my side.

BARONESS: Yes, who'd have thought it - me, the blushing bride.

BRITNEY: So enjoy the wedding, may you be of good cheer.

FAIRY: And we hope to see you next time - 'til then Happy New Year!  
Or-  
And we hope to see you next time, we'll be here, don't fear!

### **CURTAIN.**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Cinderella is consistently the most popular panto in the UK ó it always does good business but it's usually the most expensive to stage as well. This script is very traditional apart from the Baron Hardup character being a woman and the introduction of a Squire as her love interest. The Ugly Sisters have a nice cooking routine with a difference ó and my advice is always to play them as dames not as a drag acts and also, Cinderella must be played completely straight.

## **TECHNICAL:**

### **Act One:**

#### **Scene 1:**

Fanfare: Live or recorded. Keep it short.

Baskets: For Buttons to carry on ó small wicker ones maybe.

Bloomers with black hands on back: A large pair with cut out black hands sewn on.

Two odd coloured socks: Nice big bright ones.

Corset: The bigger the better.

Firewood and basket x2: Cinders and the Fairy both need a basket each.

Hunting horn: Traditional - sound effect or live.

Coconut shells: For Desert Orchid to use.

#### **Scene 2:**

Portraits: These could be done by using a back cloth with cut out frames, have people in costume stand behind the holes with a curtain behind them. An easier option would be to have them as statues with people in costume standing on low plinths.

Pint in a glass: For Buttons to take ó you can get, from magic shops, trick glasses which hold less liquid than they seem. Buttons might get a round of applause for seeming to down a pint ó or use a coloured cup with no liquid in it at all.

#### **Scene 3:**

Broom: A traditional witches broom if you can.

Radio voice: Better spoken live so that the gaps are correct.

OK OK Book: A large folded sheet of card with OK OK on one side and CO BO on the other. When opened up it says Cook Book.

Trolley: a hostess trolley on wheels with a shelf to accommodate all the props needed and maybe a cloth over it.

Radio: An old one will do.

Small bowl, large bowl, cup of flour, 2 jugs of water: Standard fare.

Chickens x2: Either rubber comedy chickens or you might make a couple of papier mache ones that look real.

Doorbell: Real or recorded.

Invitations x5: Cut some out of card.

Table cloth: Over the table for Buttons to use.

Tin foil tiara: For the double to wear on her head.

Mirror ball: If you have one it will add to the magic of the scene, otherwise whatever effect you can create.

Pumpkin: An inflated balloon covered in papier mache and painted up.

Mice: Some rubber mice will do.

Coach: You really do need something ó but it could be as simple as a cut out that she sits behind.

### **Act Two:**

#### **Scene 1:**

Drinks trolley with jug and cups: Use the hostess trolley from act one.

Extending pole: This could be a curtain rail held in a pocket in the skirt.

Clock striking twelve: Use a recording or live effect.

Glass slipper: A slipper covered in sequins or glitter works well.

### **Scene 2:**

Toffee in wrapper: Use the real thing but the actor doesn't really want to actually eat it.

### **Scene 3:**

Clock strikes six: Live or recorded.

50p: A cardboard one will do.

False leg: Stuff an old stocking with paper and attach a shoe to it.

### **Scene 5 (optional):**

Four bell ropes with name tags: As described in the script ó you will need fly facilities for this.

Long table and pretend bells: The bells would need to be made from papier mache and have clangers which can fall out. You will need a real bell ringer in the wings or pit.

## **SCENERY:**

### **Act one:**

1. The Royal Forest: You don't need all the stage but you will need some space ó you could do this in front of a curtain but you will need some undergrowth for the fox to hide behind.

2. Picture Gallery at Stoneybroke Hall: Either a cloth with cut-out picture frames or people on plinths are required. This was written as a front cloth scene.

3. The Kitchens at Stoneybroke Hall: You will need the full stage for this. There has to be a kitchen table and chair, a fireplace, and a table with the radio on it. It may be useful to place a plastic ground sheet where the baking routine will take place. You will also require an oven door.

### **Act two:**

1. The Palace Ballroom: Full stage. It would be nice to have a staircase or a couple of steps for the main entrances.

2. Outside the Palace: A front cloth or tabs scene requiring a bench.

3. The Kitchens at Stoneybroke Hall: Same as before.

4. Outside the Palace: Tabs scene.

5. The Church Belfry (optional scene): If you do this it will depend on where your flying bars are as to how much stage you use but it was written for using half the stage depth.

6. The Palace Ballroom: Full stage for the finale.

## **COSTUMES:**

Some ideas for those on limited budgets:

Dandini: Black shoes with buckles, white tights or long socks, trousers cut off and elasticated at the knee, blouse with puff sleeves, ruff and a cloak.

Prince Charming: As Dandini except that the clothes are made of richer fabrics.

Buttons: Blue trousers and a blue jacket with gold buttons sewn down the front. A pill box hat in blue and gold. He changes into a footman's uniform for the

transformation. He could add to his existing costume, a frock coat and powdered wig with tricorn.

Cinderella: She needs a ragged dress for the opening scenes. She then requires a full ballgown and tiara for the transformation onwards. She reverts to the poor costume for act two, scene three and becomes rich again for the finale.

Fairy Godmother: We first see her in full length hooded cloak. Underneath she has a full glittery dress, wand and tiara.

Britney and Kylie: Outrageously garish dresses with over-the-top make-up and hair. They could do with some aprons for the cooking scene. If you can run to it then they should change into new outfits for the ball.

Desert Orchid: A panto horse costume ó two pairs of trousers held up with braces, then a cloth body and head mask.

Baroness Stoneybroke: An older version of the Ugly Sisters, she has a dress demonstrating little fashion sense. Remember, she is faded aristocracy.

Squire Snatchall: Very tweedy ó brogues, tights, britches, shirt and frock coat. Tricorn hat.

The Ghost: You can actually buy these costumes now but otherwise ó white trousers and shoes, a full white shirt and white gloves. The collar of the shirt is turned up with a piece of cardboard stuck in it to give a raised hard collar. You can add some lace to the top of it. Make a fake head using a mask on a football with a wig.

Townsppeople, guests, ghost, Cindersødouble, royal staff and animals: The Townsppeople are basically the hunting party ó so black trousers and red tops. When they become party guests you could change their tops and give a few of them cloaks and the ladies wear their party dresses. Youød need a double for Cinderella who wears an identical rag dress as her. The Royal staff are in stockings, britches and shirts with ruffs ó powdered wigs if you have them. The animals can be children in plastic masks with clothing in suitable colours plus tails etc where necessary.

## **CHARACTERS:**

Some basic ideas on playing:

Dandini: He is the Princeø PA so he is a servant who is very close to the Royals. He has breeding and talks well, is confident and when switched with the Prince is able to carry the role off ó in fact he rather likes it. Can be played by a male or female.

Prince Charming: Can be played by a male or female. He is the typical hero with a heart. He should be played ñstraightøó no milking laughs or funny business. Every little girl in the audience dreams of marrying him.

Buttons: A difficult role to get right ó after all he wants Cinders to love him and she doesnø. He doesnø get what he wants in the end ó so use that for sympathy but donø over play it so that the audience feel too sorry for him and dislike Cinders for choosing the Prince instead. Heø funny but lovable.

Cinderella: Down-trodden and used by those around her, we must instantly like her for being so kind. When she arrives at the ball she radiates loveliness.

Fairy Godmother: I prefer her played by an older actress but that may not be possible. She makes Cinderellaø dreams come true so she canø be half bad, can she?

Britney and Kylie: They are outrageous but should not be played as grotesques. They can be played by males or females but somehow men playing them seems to work much better ó a woman being spiteful to another woman is a turn off. Thereø plenty of comedy business and that means being true to the script ó make it truthful and remember, less is more.

Baroness Stoneybroke: Could be played by a man or woman but was written with a woman in mind. She is larger than life, not as stupid as we might think, and trying to keep her family and household together.

Squire Snatchall: Well-heeled squire of the village with designs on the Baroness. He is a bit of a fool.

### **MUSIC:**

Some suggestions of songs:

#### **Act One:**

##### **Scene 1:**

Chorus: *A Hunting We Will Go* or *The Sun Has Got His Hat On*.

Cinderella or Cinderella and Animals: *I'm The Lonesomest Girl In Town* or *When You Wish Upon A Star*.

Incidental Music: Mozart's *Ein Musikalischer Spass* is the "Horse of the Year" theme.

##### **Scene 2:**

Squire and Baroness: *Chu-Chi-Face* (from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*) or *Let's Do It*.

##### **Scene 3:**

Cinderella: *So Deep Is The Night* or *Stardust*.

Cinderella and Buttons: *The Very Thought Of You* or *The More I See*.

Transformation: *Shall We Dance?*

#### **Act Two:**

##### **Scene 1:**

Chorus: *Come Inside Love* or *Dance In The Old Fashioned Way*.

Dance: *Shall We Dance?*

Prince and Dandini: *I Shall Find Her* (from the musical *Sherlock Holmes*) or *Still*.

##### **Scene 3:**

Buttons and Cinderella: *Let Me Cry On Your Shoulder* or *Tears Won't Wash Away My Heartache*.

Underscore: *Someday My Prince Will Come*.

##### **Scene 4:**

Cinderella and Prince: *She* or *What A Wonderful World*.

##### **Scene 6:**

Chorus (and finale walk down): *For Me and My Gal* or *Celebrate Good Times*.

### **TOPICALITY:**

Throughout the script you'll find chances to add in local references ó audiences always enjoy a mention of the local pub, football team and so on and it's usually a guaranteed laugh. You'll also find the occasional topical reference to TV personalities and so on ó obviously, as time passes since this script was written the topicality of these references will wane. However, the same jokes have been used for decades with the current Prime Minister's name or the current famous TV chef's name added in ó jokes about Fanny Craddock gave way to Delia Smith then to Jamie Oliver ó but the gag stayed the same so please, simply update the reference.

I've called the Ugly Sisters "Kylie" and "Britney" because at the time of the last Revisions, both were current pop stars. Please feel free to change them to more up-to-date names if you'd like. Alternatively, you could use Germoline and Windolene.

