



Cinderella

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CHARACTER & PLOT SYNOPSIS

The most famous pantomime of them all! The classic rags to riches story!

Cinderella lives a life of drudgery, bullied by her horrible Ugly sisters, Salmonella and Listeria. Her muddled and confused father, Baron Hardup is powerless to intervene (he's more scared of them than she is!) and her only comfort is her pal Buttons!

Prince Charming is holding a ball to meet his bride to be. Can this be the chance that Cinders has been waiting for?

Despite the best efforts of her two malicious Ugly Sisters, Cinderella shall go to the ball with the help of her Magical Fairy Godmother!

A brand new script full of fun, slapstick and magic!

CHARACTER NOTES

Cinderella

Female

Our heroine. Kind hearted and long suffering.

Prince Charming

Female

A dashing fellow. Heir to the throne and seeking a bride who will love him for who he is, not what he is.

Buttons

Male

The fun-loving link man character. Clever, quick-witted and fast talking, he loves Cinderella from afar and wants only the best for her.

Listeria

Male

Step-Sister to Cinders and a thoroughly nasty piece of work. Dim, daft and dangerous!

Salmonella

Male

The second Step-Sister to Cinders and equally nasty!

Fairy Godmother

Female

A kind hearted and all powerful sprite who will make sure that everyone gets the ending that they deserve!

Baron Hardup

Male

A rather confused, muddled character, who loves his daughter Cinderella, but is bullied and battered by his new wife and Step-daughters.

Dandini

Female

Aide and confidante to Prince Charming.

Major Domo

Male

Palace official. A pompous and rather foolish fellow.

Chorus (Adults and Children)

Townfolk, animals, guests at the ball, servants, etc. The script includes a number of small speaking parts and chorus lines that can be shared out.

THE PLOT

ACT ONE

Prologue

Front of cloth

Featuring: *Fairy*

The Fairy gives a brief introduction to the story in rhyming couplets. She gives the background to Cinders situation and explains how cruel and mean the Ugly Sisters are to her and that she deserves a better life!

Scene One – Outside Hardup Hall

Main stage

Featuring: *Chorus, Buttons, Baron, Cinders, Listeria, Salmonella*

Following a rousing opening **song** from the chorus we meet Buttons outside Hardup hall. An auction is being held to sell off items to pay the mounting debts. We are introduced to Buttons and his ongoing routine. We also meet Baron Hardup, (a muddled and confused gentleman) and Cinderella. The Ugly Sisters rudely interrupt the event as they return from a shopping trip and are mean and unpleasant to everyone. Cinders is sent off to the woods to collect firewood for the monthly bath, and the Ugly Sisters go off to prepare for the Royal hunt.

Scene Two – The Palace

Front of cloth

Featuring: *Prince, Dandini, Major Domo*

We meet Prince Charming and his aide and confidante Dandini. The Prince is bemoaning the constant attention and hassle he receives as Prince and Dandini can't understand why he dislikes it so much. The post arrives and the Prince points out that all the admiring letters from local belles are just spoilt girls after his money and title and no one loves him for who he is, just what he is. He decides to swap clothes with Dandini so Dandini can see what it is like, while he has the chance to go out in public and meet ordinary people in 'disguise'.

Scene Three – The Woods

Main Stage

Featuring: *Fairy, Cinders, Listeria, Salmonella, Prince, Dandini, Baron, Major Domo, Chorus*

Cinderella is in the woods gathering fire wood and meets a mysterious old lady (the Fairy in disguise) who tells her several cryptic predictions! She runs to hide as the Ugly Sisters appear. They are part of the Royal hunt but have been recruited as the prey in this drag hunt, and are not best pleased! The hunt catches up and they flirt dreadfully with an

appalled Dandini, who they think is the Prince. All join in with a **song**. Then the chase resumes and Cinders emerges from hiding to meet the Prince. They talk and fall in love (as you do in pantomime!) and sing a **love song**. The Prince gives Cinders three tickets to the Royal Ball. The lovers separate and flee as the hunt returns for a final bit of flirting between Dandini and the Uglies before Dandini runs for his life!

Scene Four – Ugly Sister's Boudoir

Front of cloth

Featuring: *Cinders, Buttons, Baron, Listeria, Salmonella*

The Uglies have returned from the woods and are recovering from their hunt ordeal. Cinders enters and gives the ball tickets to the Ugly Sisters. They immediately start to get ready for their wooing of the royals. The Uglies say that Cinders can only attend if she has finished her chores so off Cinders goes to start the sweeping. Buttons and the Baron are dragged in to help the sisters with their deportment lessons and wooing techniques and the scene ends in chaos with the sisters even more bedraggled and hassled than when they started.

Scene Five – Hard Up Hall Kitchen

Main Stage

Featuring: *Cinders, Buttons, Listeria, Salmonella, Baron, Fairy, Chorus as assorted animals and then horses and coachmen etc*

Cinders has dressed in the nicest clothes she has available and is thoroughly looking forwards to the ball. She and Buttons chat and joke and sing a **song** together but then the Ugly Sisters arrive (still not dressed) to get Buttons to help them further and to pick on Cinders. They ruin her dress and rip up her ticket and exit cackling. The Baron comes to collect her but can do nothing to help and he and Buttons have to leave to take the coach to the Palace. Cinders is left alone to complete more chores and then the Fairy arrives in disguise (as the old woman again) and then reveals her true self! Cue Coach / pumpkin routine leading to transformation of Cinders and entourage including an opportunity for a **dance** by the junior chorus dressed as mice, rats and lizards. The act ends as Cinderella sets off for the ball.

ACT TWO

Scene One – The Ball

Main stage

Featuring: *Fairy, Cinders, Buttons, Listeria, Salmonella, Baron, Chorus as guests and flunkies, Prince, Dandini, Majpr Domo*

After a Brief intro from Fairy, we are led into the ball scene with a suitable **song and dance** number. The Ugly Sisters appear and flirt with everyone without success. There then follows a Celebrity Come Dancing contest, in which the Ugly Sisters, bereft of partners dance with mannequin dummies. Cinderella arrives and dances with the Prince and they begin to recognise each other from the woods but then midnight chimes and

Cinders scarpers leaving only a slipper. Much to the consternation of the Ugly sisters, the Prince declares he will only marry the girl whose foot fits the slipper.

Scene Two – The Palace

Front of cloth

Featuring: *Listeria, Salmonella, Major Domo and several Chorus as (speaking) servants*

The Ugly sisters are presented with their drinks bill for the evening as they are about to leave and are forced to do the washing up as they can't pay. A Slosh sequence with washing up and a **song** for the Ugly Sisters.

Scene Three – The Woods

Main stage

Featuring: *Fairy, Cinders, Buttons, Baron, Listeria, Salmonella, Prince, Dandini,, the 'behind you' creature*

A hectic scene as everyone is heading through the woods. The Ugly Sisters are returning from the Ball after their washing up, Cinders is running through the woods to get home, the Baron and Buttons are heading back to the Palace to find the errant sisters, and the Prince and Dandini are searching for the mystery girl. It all ends with the Ugly Sisters, Baron, Prince, Dandini and Buttons left on the stage to sing a **reassuring song** as the 'behind you' creature moves in for the traditional behind you scene.

Scene Four – Ugly Sisters Boudoir

Front of cloth

Featuring: *Listeria, Salmonella, Major Domo, Buttons, Cinders*

In their boudoir, the Ugly Sisters reminisce over how well the evening went (in their own minds), with Buttons trying to bring a little reality into the conversation. Slides into a Jerry Springer type affair with the Ugly Sisters battering each other. The Major Domo arrives to announce the Prince is on his way with the slipper and the Uglies, just for spite decide to lock Cinders away in the garden shed.

Scene Five – Hard Up Hall Kitchen

Main stage

Featuring: *Fairy, Cinders, Buttons, Baron, Chorus, Prince, Dandini, Major Domo, Listeria, Salmonella*

The Royal entourage arrives, and we have the 'slipper fitting or not fitting' scene. The Uglies try unsuccessfully to wear the slipper. Buttons with the Audience's help get the Prince to listen that there is another girl in the house, Cinderella. She is released from the garden shed, tries on the slipper and it fits. Cue true love and much celebration!

Scene Six - Song Sheet

Front of cloth

Featuring: *Buttons and Baron*

Song sheet and final business

Scene Seven – The Palace Ballroom

Main stage

Featuring: *Everyone*

Finale / walk down and final couplets