

A Wayne Scott • LifeHouse Production



An Original Adaptation with
Script, Music & Lyrics by
WAYNE ROBERT SCOTT

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance)

The Godmother	A Wise Friend
Cinderella	Beautiful and compassionate young woman
Druzel	Eldest Stepsister
Croakette	Dim, Youngest Stepsister
The Stepmother	A Shrew
Farmer Brown	Minor Merchant
The Mother	Leaves a Rich Legacy
The Father	Relocated Nobleman
Maximillian	A Kind Mouse
Mortimer	Dim Brother to Max
Liz	A Feisty Lizard
The King's Herald	Officious Official
King Coriander	A Lovable Bumbler
Queen Alessandra	Devoted Wife
Prince Alexander	Kind Son

OTHER CHARACTERS OF THE CAST:

Milkman	The Reverend
Doctor Jones	Assistant Heralds
Butcher	The Royal Court
Baker	Servants and Maids
Prison Convict	Footmen
Candle Maker	Ballroom Guests
Persian Fakir	Beggar Boy or Girl
Undertaker	Various Villagers

"Cinderella"

By Wayne Robert Scott

SYNOPSIS OF SONGS

ACT I

Overture

1. "Little Town".....Godmother, Cinderella, Villagers, Stepsisters, Stepmother, Farmer Brown, Mother
2. "Little Ella".....Mother
3. "A Lizard and Two Mice are Nice".....Max, Mort, Liz
4. "The Celebration Proclamation".....Herald, Villagers, Prince Stepsisters, Stepmother
5. "The Royal Serenade".....Prince, Villagers, Cinderella, Max, Mort, Liz
6. "Dare to Dream and Live".....Mother
7. "Song of the Stepmother".....Stepmother, Stepsisters
 "The Proclamation!" (Reprise).....Herald, King Court
 "The Royal Serenade" (Reprise).....Prince, King, Queen
8. "Have a Ball!".....King, Queen, Herald, Prince, Court, Servants, Maids
 "Little Town" (Reprise).....Cinderella
9. "Dreamsong".....Cinderella
 "The Proclamation" (Reprise).....Herald Stepsisters
 "Dreamsong" (Reprise).....Cinderella, Max, Mort, Liz
 "Song of the Stepmother" (Reprise).....Stepsisters, Stepmother
 "Dreamsong" (Reprise).....Cinderella, Godmother

ACT II

Entr'acte

- "Dare to Dream" (Reprise).....Godmother
10. "Magical Things".....Godmother, Cinderella, Max, Mort, Liz
 "The Proclamation" (Reprise).....Ballroom Guests, Herald
11. "The Cinderella Waltz".....Prince, King, Queen, Court, Ballroom Guests
12. "The Stepsister Rhumba".....Stepsisters, Prince
 "Cinderella Waltz" (Reprise).....Ballroom Guests, Court
 "The Royal Serenade" (Reprise).....Prince
 "Is This a Dream" ("Little Ella" Reprise).....Prince, Cinderella
 "Cinderella Waltz" (Reprise).....Ballroom Guests, Court
13. "Midnight!".....Godmother, Max, Mort, Liz
14. "She is the One".....Prince, Cinderella
 "The Proclamation" (Reprise).....Herald, Stepmother, Stepsisters

Finale

- "Cinderella" ("Little Ella" Reprise).....Cast Ensemble
- "You are the One" ("She is the One" Reprise).....Cast Ensemble
- "The Cinderella Waltz" (Reprise).....Heralds, Stepmother, Stepsisters

“CINDERELLA”

By Wayne R. Scott

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ACT I

Overture

Prologue

(Over Music)

Godmother Once upon a time, in a land far away, there lived a nobleman who was married to a kind and beautiful woman. Their only child was a daughter of unsurpassed gentleness and goodness. Her name was Ella, and she grew to become a beautiful young woman— in a quaint, little town.

SCENE 1: TOWN SQUARE

SONG: "LITTLE TOWN"

Cinderella

Little town—

Little town—

Godmother

What a quaint and cute and cozy little town!

In a quaint, little town, far away

In bygone yesterdays

Is a kind and a caring young girl

And she brightens every person in her world

No matter what the mood here

There can never be a feud here

So long as Ella's in the square

There's no despair, her kindly care is in the air

And wherever she goes, it's the same

She will say "hello" and call you by your name.

Cinderella

Well, hello there, Mister Milkman

And good day dear Doctor Jones

Mister Butcher, Baker, and Lawbreaker

Candle Maker, Persian Fakir, Undertaker

Villagers

And good morning to you, Ella dear

We are pleased and so delighted you are here!

Stepsisters

Just look at her! Just look at her!

You can tell she's well-to-do with each "cockle-doodle-do!"

And she makes us want to gag— the little shrew!

What has she got— that we ain't got?

Stepmother

Well, for starters, she has class

And she isn't quite as crass

But money gives her stature and panache—

What I'd give to have her family's gold and cash—

Perhaps one day I'll see it come to pass!

Cinderella Little town! Little town!
 What a quaint and cute and cozy little town!
 I just love our adventures in town—
 Hello there, Farmer Brown!

Farmer Brown Hello Ella, I'm glad you came by
 Your mother wants to bake another pie
 I may be just a bumpkin
 But I grew for her this pumpkin
 Your mother says it goes to show
 The seeds we sow are what we grow

Cinderella And she should know

Farmer Brown You yourself are a seedling that grew
 And you blossomed into such a girl as you!

Mother I would concur— I thank you sir!
 Now your father's all alone, so we best be going home
 He must wonder what's become of me and you
 The time has come to bid the town "adieu."

Cinderella Little town! Little town!

(Waving to Villagers) What a quaint and cute and cozy little town!

Godmother So they come and they go everyday
 And Ella leads the way
 What a kind and caring young girl
 And she brightens every person in her world

Villagers Oh, the town is much less spiteful
 When there's someone so delightful
 So long as Ella's in the square
 There's no despair— her kindly care is in the air
 And wherever she goes it's the same—
 Folks are always better off because she came
 We're not the same— because she came
 To our town— So renown—
 To our quaint and cute and cozy little town!

SCENE 2: CINDERELLA'S COTTAGE

Father *(Appearing near cottage doorway)* Well, well— the ladies of the house! Home at last!

Cinderella Father, look what we brought home!

Father Ahh, yes, little Ella! A mighty fine pumpkin indeed!

Cinderella The biggest Farmer Brown has ever grown!

Father I'll wager they'll be a dandy pumpkin pie tonight!

Cinderella Ooohh, yes— pumpkin pie! You will bake us one of your special pies, won't you mother?

Mother Of course. But first, it's time for your lessons. I believe we have some reading and arithmetic for today.

Cinderella Oh, mother. Could we work on the pie first? Just this once.

Father *(With a wink)* Our little Ella has been a good student, don't you think mother? *(Father squeezes Mother's arm and exits)*

Mother I suppose. But always remember, my little Ella, that there are lessons all around us to be learned— even from pumpkins. And there is so much I want for you to know...
(*Max, Mort, and Liz emerge and unobtrusively observe*)

SONG: "LITTLE ELLA"

Mother Little Ella, I love you so— And I think that you should know
I won't be here forever, dear— come closer so you may hear
Little Ella, I see in you— all my hopes and dreams come true
You're my answer to prayer and I really care what becomes of you
Consider pumpkins and such are really not much without a seed—
But in due time you see them climb and reach maturity
Little Ella, the dreams you sow— are the seeds that you will grow
What you plant is what you redeem— so be praying for what you
dream Little Ella, you must be sure that your heart is always pure—
And when skies turn to gray, come whatever may, God will have His way

Mother (*Spoken over underscore*) Of course, the soil in which seeds are planted must be tilled and fertilized. And so it is with the hopes and dreams planted in our hearts. The seeds of our dreams will blossom only if they are planted in hearts that are rich with... love and kindness... care and compassion... mercy and charity. And you can't judge seeds or dreams by just looking on the outside. (*Mother uses pumpkin as the lesson*) You have to look deep inside. That's where you find the seeds. And find the heart— where dreams begin. Inside. And that's where you can get to person really is.

anything about
object of her
that's where you
know who a

Cinderella I see... Mother... A moment ago... you said you wouldn't always be here.

Mother No, my dear. God takes us all home in His time. So mind what I say, won't you?

(*Song resumes*)

Mother Remember never to spurn the lessons we learn from pumpkins, dear
So walk with pride and do not hide what is inside, my dear
Little Ella, a life supreme— comes to those who dare to dream
Though your seeds may be young and small
Even seedlings grow mighty tall
Little Ella, if you will sow— sturdy dreams, then they will grow
Now you know what to do— and I pray that you
See your dreams come true—
Now you know what to do— and I pray that you
See your dreams come true.

(*Mother kisses Cinderella on the forehead and exits as Cinderella contemplates the pumpkin*)

Max Ahhh! I think I'm in love!

Liz Be quiet! She'll hear us!

Mort Isn't she beautiful? (*Mort backs into a box designed to trap mice*)

Liz Shhhh! You'll get us all in trouble!

Mort *(Snapping the "trap" shut on the three)* Yikes! Help! We're trapped!

Cinderella Who's there?

Max Now you've done it!

Mort Help! Somebody help!

Liz Shut up or Ella will see us and— *(Noticing that Cinderella has bent to see her)*— oh— er—
tee hee hee! Hello there!

Max Er— pardon us. We've encountered a small difficulty.

Cinderella So I see. Serves you right for scaring a girl.

Mort Oh no! She doesn't like us! We're doomed! Finished! We're all gonna be cat food!

Liz We're very sorry.

Cinderella Hmmmm. What shall I do with you?

Max Ella, please release us. We're harmless. Completely harmless! Hee hee. We'll just go our merry way and you'll never see us again.

Cinderella *(Disappointed)* I won't? *(Releasing them)* But you're so cute.

Max Oh yes! *(To music)* Cute! Friendly! Harmless! Mice!

Liz And a lizard!

SONG: "A LIZARD AND TWO MICE ARE NICE"

Max, Mort, Liz

A lizard and two mice are nice
 And rather cheerful pets
 And even with our lengthy tails
 We're cute as we can get!
 We're all adorable and what's more
 We eat what's on the floor
 We're lovable, huggable, potty-trained
 We never burp or snore
 A lizard and two mice are nice
 And economical
 We seldom eat, we're neat and sweet
 Our breath is in control—
 You won't be sorry you let us go
 We'll earn our keep and then
 We'll sweep the floor of your bungalow
 Except she sheds her skin!
 A lizard and two mice are nice
 As nice as we can be
 We need no shots or licenses
 And best of all— we're free!
 Oh! Give us a chance to behave
 And we'll be your personal slaves

Mort

Max, Mort, Liz

We'll dust and polish as you command
 And every inch will be spic-and-span
 We give our personal guarantee
 Your money back if you don't agree—
 And if we are elected, use as directed
 Give the job to polished pros
 We're the trio on the go— oh—!
 A lizard and two mice are nice
 We hope that we please you—
 If not, just feed us to the cat
 Or throw us in a stew
 We're cute— adorable— humble, too
 So what are you to do?
 Just set us free that's all we ask
 And we will bow to you— oooh!
 A lizard and two mice are nice
 We hope that you agree—
 'Cause if you don't, the two of them—
 Will both be eating— me—!
 A lizard and two mice are nice
 And cheap at twice the price!
 Oh yeah

Liz

Max, Mort

Max, Mort, Liz

Cinderella *(Applauding)* Bravo! Well, a lizard and two mice are nice. Of course I couldn't harm you.

Max Oh, thank you, Ella! Didn't I tell you she was kind-hearted?

Mort She sure is. I knew it all the time.

Liz Oh sure! That's why you were blubbering a while ago.

Mort No one asked you, lizard lips!

Max Now, now— let's not make a bad impression on our gracious host. *(He stomps on Mort's foot)* Forgive us, Ella.

Cinderella That's quite all right. But say— you know my name. What are yours?

Max *(Somewhat formal)* Oh, I'm dreadfully sorry. I am Maximillian Mouse.

Cinderella Maximillian...

Max My friends call me Max. At your service.

Cinderella Max. I like the sound of that... *(To Mort)* And you are—?

Mort *(Suddenly shy)* Oh, er— gosh— heh— heh— I— er—

Max This is my brother— Mortimer.

Liz *(Unable to control her giggles)* Pppfftr! Hee! Hee! Ha ha hee! Mortimer! Mort - i - mer!

Cinderella *(Also amused)* Mortimer? Rather unusual, I must say.

Max *(Apologetic)* My folks were all set to name him Mickey. But that was taken.

Cinderella I think Mortimer is a fine name.

Mort You do?! Awww shucks... thanks! You can call me Mort.

Liz *(Rudely)* Mort... for short!

Mort I'm going to bite your tail off!

Liz Go ahead there's more where this came from!

Cinderella *(To Liz)* And my little lizard friend— you are—

Liz I'm Liz.

Mort How original!

Liz *(In retort)* Sssssssss!

Cinderella Well, welcome one and all.

Max You mean, we can stay?

Cinderella Of course. You're my friends now, but we'll have to keep our arrangement a secret— just between us. I don't think mother or father approve— of— er—

Liz We understand, Ella.

Max And we'll do whatever we can to help you.

Mort Right! You can count on us! Er— you wouldn't— er— by any chance— have some— cheese— would you?

Max Mort! How can you think of food at a time like—

Cinderella Oh, where are my manners? Of course. You must all be starving. I'll fetch some.
(Music cue: As Cinderella prepares food for her "guests" there is a sound of "fanfare.")
(Cinderella joins the village assembly at her well)

Cinderella My goodness— What on earth could be going on? Why, the whole town is assembling!

Mort It looks like a parade!

Max No ordinary parade, I assure you.

Liz Look! It's the King's herald.

SCENE 3: TOWN SQUARE

SONG: "THE CELEBRATION PROCLAMATION"

Herald Hear ye one and hear ye all!
The King and Queen have come to call
And it is no coincidence
The Prince is with them too!
Make haste! Make way!
Here comes the royal parade!
The Royal Court is here! The Royal Court is here!
Your Royal Highnesses, King Coriander
Queen Alessandra, Prince Alexander
And their commanders—
Welcome, bystanders!
Your Royal Family is here!

Villagers The Royal Court is here! The Royal Court is here!
Our Royal Highnesses, King Coriander
Queen Alessandra, Prince Alexander
And their commanders join us bystanders!
Our Royal Family is here!

Herald By this proclamation a great coronation
Is here for the King's protégé

Villagers The prince is now twenty
 And there will be plenty to celebrate here today!
 A great celebration now comes to our nation
 The Prince has a birthday today!
 And now he is twenty so we will do plenty
 To honor him and obey!
 Let us now bow down
 And the King will place the crown
 Let us rise up and sing out
 And fling out and ring out the news in our town!

Prince I thank all the people from courtyard to steeple
 For wishing me well and I say
 To all of the land I give my first command—
 I declare this a holiday!

Villagers And a hip hooray! What a joyous communiqué!
 And we have to say
 That our Prince is the finest of princes today!
 A great celebration now comes to our nation
 The Prince has a birthday today!
 And now he is twenty so we will do plenty
 To honor him and obey!

Druzel My he is tall and handsome?
Croakette And he is unattached!

Both What we would give for a glance from the Prince
 He is such a colossal catch!

Stepmother Isn't that little Ella?
 We see her everywhere!

Stepsisters What we would give for her clothes and her hat
 And her beautiful golden hair!

Stepmother Look at him stand and stare!
 The Prince has become aware...

SONG: "THE ROYAL SERENADE"

Prince Pardon me, may I please
 Seek a small cup of water from thee?
 If I may, I will pay. And be happily going my way
 This parade here, has no shade, dear
 So I'm thirsty and parched I'm afraid, dear
 And the day's been long for meeting throngs
 I need to break the pace
 And I spied your well and, truth to tell
 I saw your friendly face
 (Musical interlude)

(A beggar child comes to the Prince. Without hesitation, the Prince gives the child his own water. Cinderella, in admiration, obliges the Prince with more water)

Prince *(Spoken)* I thank you indeed, kind lady.
Cinderella *(Spoken)* You are indeed welcome, kind Prince.

Villagers *(Singing resumes)*
Look at him! Look at her!
What an honor the Prince has conferred!
Who is she? Can it be? Is that dear little Ella we see?
Not before or since has any Prince
Been seen with folks this much
And he brings a smile, we like his style
He has the common touch
A fine celebration! A great coronation
And joyous parade comes our way!
The Prince has turned twenty, and so they'll be plenty
Of honoring him today!

Cinderella Did he come to me? Did I dream it or did you see?
Max, Mort, Liz We saw the Prince
And he had the good sense to get water for free!

Cinderella From me?
Villagers It was not a dream! It was everything that it seemed!
And in every way, what a memorable day
For the monarch— to— be! Indeed!
And a hip— hooray! What a joyously happy day!
And we have to say
That our King chose the finest of Prince protégés!
A fine celebration, a great coronation
And joyous parade came our way!
And we are convinced that he'll be a good Prince
And we honor him today—
And we honor him today— !

(As the parade and town disperses, Cinderella dreamily returns to her cottage to feed her creature friends and resumes singing, as if in a daze)

Cinderella Did he come to me? Did I dream it or was it he?
Max, Mort, Liz Yes, he came to you and it's true

That it was an attraction to see
He had his eyes on you, Ella!

Max It was more like a stare!

Liz Why would he not, there is so much to spot —
Mort She's a beauty beyond compare!

Cinderella He came here for some water— Water and nothing more
Max Say what you will, but my feelings are still
He saw someone to adore

(Knock is heard)

Mort There's somebody at the door!—

(Max, Mort, and Liz scamper to hide, but they are in view of the audience)

SCENE 4: CINDERELLA'S COTTAGE

Cinderella *(Opening door)* Doctor Jones...
Doctor Ella... Your father sent for me.
(Father enters)
Cinderella He did?
Father Ella...
Cinderella Father... *(Long pause)* What's the matter?
Father Ella... While you were out, your mother...
Cinderella Mother... what's happened to Mother?
Doctor She hasn't been well, Ella.
Cinderella Will she be all right? *(Long pause)* She will be all right... won't she?
(Silence)
Cinderella *(After a realization sinks in, she begins sobbing)* Oh, Father!.. *(She buries herself in Father's embrace and continues crying. Father leads her to Mother's bed. As she goes to Mother, Max, Mort, and Liz slowly emerge to watch. Godmother, at Mother's bedside, watches over mother and exits as Cinderella catches a quick glimpse of her. After a pause, Mother looks meaningfully at Cinderella and takes her hand)*
Mort Poor Ella...
Max A terrible blow...
Liz Dear, dear Ella...
Mother Ella... My sweet little Ella... Come here, child...

SONG: "DARE TO DREAM, AND LIVE"

Mother

Ella dear, do not cry
Don't be sad, dry your eyes
There's a time to say good-byes
God is wise. God is wise
Every hope that brings me cheer
Every dream I've had for years
Will not drown in earthly tears
Have no fear, have no fear
When you plant a dream, who knows
Just where the seedling grows?
But if the wind and snow should blow
Where you may be—relentlessly—
Keep sowing seeds—
Dare to dream— Dare to hope—
Dare to love— Dare to play—
Dare to give— Dare to pray—
Dare to live— Dare to live—
Dare to live—

(Mother closes her eyes for the last time)

Father *(Over music)* We're all alone now.
(As music continues. Doctor Jones pulls the sheets over Mother and closes the bed curtains.)

He exits. Father squeezes Cinderella's arm, then exits in a daze. Grieving Cinderella sits at the hearth, next to a pumpkin)

SCENE 5: JUST OUTSIDE CINDERELLA'S COTTAGE/ COURTYARD

(The stepmother, observing on side stage now picks up the narrative)

SONG: "SONG OF THE STEPMOTHER"

Stepmother

Life is full of sad surprises and demises
When they come, we often shed a tear or two—
But sadness has immunity when turned to opportunity
The same in our community is true
Oh, I know a tale of woe when I have seen one
After all, I am a widow very sad
It takes a bit of swallowing, but after you've been wallowing
The good times will be following the bad
(In cottage) Though I've always been a woman of civility
Can I help it if I also have agility?
I have always set my sights on nobility—
And I think that I have found a possibility
(To Father) It's appalling to be calling on you now, dear
It's distressing and depressing, to be sure
At the risk of interfering, I thought you could use some cheering
So I'm happily appearing as the cure
(Aside) I'm achieving some relieving of his grieving—
I can map a little trap to cure the frown
It's always been my certain style, to get 'em with my smirk and smile
(To Father) Because you gotta perk 'em while they're down
Mademoiselle Constantina at your service
And my lovely daughters, Druzel and Croakette
We are ready-made and tailored for one purpose
To bring you all the joy that you can get!
Yes, the smile on your face has been extinguished
You need caring consolation in your life
I happen to be well-bred and distinguished
And I think that I would make a perfect wife
(Aside) Oh my, I caught his eye!
Yo ho, here we go!
Tee hee! He's married me!
A brand new family—
A brand new family!
Little Ella, I can tell a lot about you

**The Three
Stepmother**

(To Cinderella) What you're needing is a leading boarding school
I hate to have to nag at you
But better pack your bag so you
Can learn about the flag and Golden Rule

Stepsisters Oh my, it's time to fly!
Yo ho, off you go!
Tee hee, just you and me!
A brand new family!

Stepmother Now my newly wedded husband's new position
By the order of a royal requisition
Is a military officer commission
And his regiment is stationed far away—
It's amazing what can happen in a day!

The Three It's— a— larming just how charming and disarming
We can be when there's a need for glitz and gloss—

Stepmother 'Cause while I've been consoling them
And carefully cajoling them
I really am controlling who's the boss!—
I'll show— them who's the boss—!

SCENE 6: THE ROYAL CASTLE (THRONE ROOM)

SONG: "THE PROCLAMATION" (Reprise)

Herald Hear ye one and hear ye all
The Royal Family's in the hall
They're here because they'd like to say—

King *(Spoken)* Er— what would you like to say, sire?
(Shrugs shoulders. Spoken) Er— we'd like some lemonade!

Herald They want some lemonade!
The Court Make haste! Make way! They want some lemonade!
They want some lemonade! They want some lemonade!
Our Royal Highnesses King Coriander
Queen Alessandra, Prince Alexander
Want to have fresh lemonade!

Prince Father, was all that really necessary?

King Oh Alex, it's just a small matter of protocol. After all, what's royalty without a little festivity?

Queen Speaking of festivities, Alex, your twenty-first birthday is just around the corner.

King Yes indeed. We haven't had a royal celebration since your twentieth birthday coronation. So that means it's been at least— er— let's see now— it's been— er—

Queen Oh, for heaven's sake, Cory. It's been nearly a year.

King A year! Yes! Quite right! Indeed! Indubitably! Indisputably!

Herald Er— Pardon me—

King What? Who said that?

Queen It's our royal herald.
King Harold? Harold who?
Herald *(Opening scroll)* Begging the King's pardon, but I thought it might be appropriate to point out that, by royal edict, all Princes and Princesses of the royal family must be married by age twenty-one.
Prince Doesn't the King's herald have more pressing business elsewhere?
King Who's Harold?
Queen May I see the edict, please? *(Herald presents scroll, for the Queen's inspection)* Ahh, yes. I remember now. Your Great-grandfather, King Coriander the Seventh did indeed proscribe that the King's offspring be married by twenty-one. The herald is right.
King Who's Harold?
Prince Mother, isn't that just a little old-fashioned?
Queen It was good enough for your father and I.
King *(Now examining the scroll)* Indeed! Quite right! At any rate, it's tradition.
Queen Surely someone has caught your eye.
King Shirley? Who's Shirley?
Queen Isn't there anyone?
Prince I'm afraid not... not really.
Queen Was that a maybe?
Prince Once— at my coronation as Prince— I did meet someone. Someone with kindness in her eyes.
King Was it Shirley?
Queen Oh hush, Cory.
King *(To himself)* Maybe she knows Harold.
Queen Do you know where this young lady is?
Prince No. It was such a long day— so many villages and— little towns. But I saw her at a well...

SONG: "ROYAL SERENADE" (Reprise)

Prince In the blur and the stir
Was a woman serene and demure
I was drawn to her calm
And her voice was the voice of a psalm
No pretensions, apprehensions
Just the purest and best of intentions
When she looked at me she seemed to see
Beyond the royalty
Yes, I am convinced she saw no Prince.
She saw and spoke to me

(Spoken) She gave me water and— I said, "Thank you indeed, kind lady," and she said, "You are indeed welcome, kind Prince."

King Who is she?
Queen Can it be?
Both There's a spark in his eyes you can see
King I'm amazed!
Queen It astounds!
Prince I was lost then I seemed to be found
When she looked at me she seemed to see

Beyond the royalty
Yes, I am convinced she saw no Prince
She saw and spoke to me

King Well, it seems to me, in due course, as a matter of fact, when all is said and done—
Queen Yes?
King Well, if we can't go to the girl— then we need to bring the girl to us!
Queen Ah ha! You mean, have a celebration and invite everyone in the realm to the palace!
King I do? Er— Oh yes, of course I do! Indeed! Indubitably! Indisputably!
Prince Invite everyone? Do you think that will work?
Queen We'll have a ball! A royal ball!
Prince I don't know about this...
King Well, neither do I— but it sounds like fun! Expensive, but fun.
Prince Are you sure?

SONG: "HAVE A BALL"

King/Queen Have a ball! Have a ball!
Live it up and have a ball!
You're twenty-one and not engaged—
Queen And it's really unlawful
King/Queen Have a ball— do it all
Get some gall and wherewithal
We were married at your age
Have a ball! Find the doll!
Follow royal protocol
There's no time for talk, talk, talk—
Queen Boy, you said quite a jawful
King/Queen Have a ball! Do it all!
You're too young for "Geritol!"
We'll become a laughingstock
King When did you get to be such a
Fuddy-duddy lad?
This is no time to be a dud—
Queen He got it from his dad!
Court/Servants Have a ball! Have a ball?
We just got the royal call!
Now our backs are to the wall!
Herald And it really is awful!
Court/Servants Call the chef and maitre d'
Call the cooking cavalry!
Time to set the banquet hall!
We've got to pluck and roast the duck
And stuff the turkeys too
Make vermicelli, set the deli
Jelly and fondue
Ham and steak— chocolate cake—
All the bread that we can bake

King
Court/Servants

Scallops, shrimp, and steamed king crab
Boy, you stuffed quite a clawful!
Fricassee! Fine Chablis!
The best in hospitality!
The royal family foots the tab
Let's make our guests feel welcome here
As if they're billionaires—
Candles and fresh flowers
And red carpets on the stairs—

(Spoken) Yes!

Hear the call! Join the ball!
You can't help but be enthralled!
Join the party one and all!
(Coda) It's just an ordinary, honorary hullabaloo
It's just your customary
Legendary big whoop-de-doo
It's just a luminary, savoir faire-y
Kind of a zoo
So— we'll be expecting you, too!
It's a confectionery, culinary, big barbeque
It's just a visionary
Dignitary kind of who's who
In short, a dietary coronary waiting for you—
So— we'll be directing you
We'll be respecting you
We'll be expecting you, too!
Hear the call! Join the ball!
You can't help but be enthralled!
The word is out: be at the banquet hall!
The time has come to give the royal call—
So party hearty— have a ball!

SCENE 7: CINDERELLA'S COTTAGE (DUSK)

(Stepmother is at piano attempting to accompany her daughters, who sing dreadfully)

Sisters Little town—! Little town!

Stepmother *(Placing earmuffs over ears)* Let's try again, shall we?

Sisters *(Resuming)* Little town—! Little town—!

(Stepmother nearly falls off piano bench seat and, lifting lid to the seat, she places custom "seatbelt" over her lap.)

Stepmother Again!

Sisters *(Screeching, as usual)* Little town—! Little town—! Little town—!

(Cinderella appears in courtyard with bags in hand. She sings in stunning contrast to the incompetent sisters. Max, Mort, and Liz gleefully reunite with her during this homecoming song. The godmother, at extreme side, quietly observes and later exits)

SONG: "LITTLE TOWN" (Reprise)

Cinderella

Little town! Little town!
What a quaint and cute and cozy little town!
There's a sweet little town I once knew
I'm home! Can it be true?
When you're here, people call you by name
And I see that everything is just the same
Hello Liz and Max and Morty!
You're all looking spry and sporty
Have you missed me? I have sure missed you!
You're tried and true—
When I felt blue, I thought of you
School is fine, but I'd rather be home
With my friends here, I don't have to be alone

Stepmother

How touching.

Cinderella

(Startled) Oh! I'm sorry. I didn't see you.

Stepmother

Obviously!— You're late.

Cinderella

Well, you see, the carriage that was supposed to pick me up was—

Stepmother

I trust you've finished disturbing the peace with that meandering medley of yours.

Cinderella

Er— yes— I was just glad to finally—

Stepmother

You apparently like cavorting with rats and slimy creatures. That will cease... well, don't just stand there gaping. Come in.

Max

A rat indeed!

Liz

A slimy creature! She said slimy! *(To Mort)* Do I look slimy?

Mort

Well...

Liz

Never mind!

Stepmother

Girls, you remember your new— stepsister— don't you?

Druzel

Well, it has been nearly a year.

Croakette

Let's see. Prunella was it?

Cinderella

Ella, if you please.

Druzel

Oh yes. Ella. Little Ella.

Croakette

Not so little any more.

Druzel

Big enough to earn her keep around here, I'll wager.

Stepmother

Girls, girls. Let's be a bit more welcoming, shall we? After all, she's been at boarding school for quite some time now, haven't you?

Cinderella

Yes...

Stepmother

Don't they teach you to say "madam" when you speak to your elders?

Cinderella

I...

Stepmother

Who told you to wear that frock?

Cinderella

Nobody, I— it is the frock which my mother gave to me— and I put it on because I like it best of all my frocks.

Stepmother

Oh, indeed! Then, you may go and take it off as quickly as you like and put on the plainest one you have. I don't like girls who give themselves airs and apparently you acquired a lot of them at that school. I've heard of your airs and graces, and the way you have been mollycoddled, and I want you to understand that sort of thing has come to an immediate end.

Cinderella

I'm so sorry, I only wanted to please you and—

Stepmother

Never mind. We shall see whether or not I am to be mistress in my own house! Druzel, take this

impertinent girl to her room. And while she's there she can scrub the floor. That is, of course, after she's changed out of those highbrow clothes— well, get going!

Druzel You heard her— not that way. I have what used to be your room. This way. (*To side stage area*) This is where you'll be staying. (*They are in "room" where we last saw Mother*) But not for long. There's plenty for you to do around here. After you've finished here, it's the hearth for you. Lots of ashes to pick up there! Meanwhile, have fun scrubbing the floor! Ha— ha— ha ha ha!

(Music begins)

Ella sits on her mother's bed and touches the pillow. She begins to cry. As she does. Max, Mort, and Liz join her)

Mort We're awfully glad to have you back, Ella.

Liz And sorry you have to come back to this.

Cinderella What could Father have been thinking of? What kind of family is this?

Max I never have understood the human race at all, Ella. People do the strangest things, especially when they're sad or lonely.

Cinderella Father must have been lonelier than I ever imagined. Why do they have to be so cruel?

Liz We've been tippy-toeing around here for a year wondering the same thing.

Cinderella That's right! You've been here all this time. How could you stand it?

Mort We knew you'd be back some day. We've been waiting for you.

Liz No one has ever been nicer to us.

Cinderella Oh my, but you are good friends.

Mort We love you, Ella.

Max Try not to take the others personally.

Liz They're as mean to each other as they are to you.

Max Some humans are like that. I guess being mean makes them happy somehow.

Mort I think they're just jealous.

Cinderella Well, they certainly have changed things around here...

SONG: "DREAMSONG"

Cinderella

I heard words of love here not so long ago
And such courageous words I'd never heard
They filled my heart and my soul with faith
My home was safe and I was free
But those words of love seem very far away
And I'm a stowaway in my own home
The faith that I've held has all but dispelled
I never have felt so alone
But mother said that dreams are seedlings
And a seedling has a tough row to hoe
And whether they get sun
Or whether rain may come
Both sunshine and the rain helps seedlings grow
So I'll keep my seeds of hopes and dreams alive
And as I sow them, they can survive
No one I know can stop how they grow
And no one can dream them but me
Perhaps one day I'll rope a horse and race him
Perhaps one day I'll swim the River Nile—
Or perhaps I'll find a butterfly and chase him

Or attend a fancy ball dressed up in style
Or perhaps I'll rise to aristocracy
And be of help to those who are in need
I'd show them some hope and benevolence
Just like the Prince who came to me
Yes, I'll keep my seeds of hopes and dreams alive
And as I sow them, they can survive
No one I know can stop how they grow
And no one can dream them but me—
Perhaps they will all come to be—
I'll plant them far and wide—
And reach for the sky—
I will try

SCENE 8: CINDERELLA'S COTTAGE (DAY)/ COURTYARD

Druzel *(Off stage)* Ella! It's past noon and you still haven't brought us anything to eat!
Croakette *(Off stage)* Ella! Hurry up! I'm starving! Ella!
Liz Yikes! The gruesome two-some are coming!
Mort We better get out of sight!
Max Psst! C'mon Ella! *(Max, Mort, and Liz scamper away)*
Druzel *(Entering)* So! Sleeping the day away instead of earning your keep!
Croakette *(Entering)* Well, I never! Asleep in the ashes!
Stepmother *(Entering)* Ella! Get up this instant! What are you doing there?
Cinderella Oh— I— I'm so sorry— I was trying to get a head start on the cleaning and I must have fallen asleep.
(The stepsisters giggle uncontrollably)
Stepmother We can see that.
Cinderella Mother used to read to me here and I—
Stepmother More airs and graces. Well, they'll be no more such foolishness! From now on, it's time to earn your way. What are you two cackling about?
Druzel The ashes! Ha ha ha! She's a mess!
Croakette She's got cinders all over her! Tee-hee-hee! Ha Ha!
Druzel She's just a big smudge! Ella Smudge! Ha ha! "Smudgella!"
Croakette Ella Ashes! Hee hee!
Druzel I've got it! Cinderella!
Croakette Cinderella! That's perfect!
Both Cinderella! That's it! Cinderella! Etc.
Stepmother A fitting name, inasmuch as you're absolutely filthy. The only person I know who leaves everything a bigger mess than it was to begin with. Well, Cinderella, we'll fix that! You can just start cleaning this up. And get rid of that stupid pumpkin. Your father insisted we always keep one there and only he knows why. Then you can do last night's dishes. And then the floor. And then the laundry. And then the curtains. And then the upstairs. And then the—

(Sound of fanfare)

SONG: "CELEBRATION PROCLAMATION" (Reprise)

Herald Make haste! Make way! A message is on its way!

We have a message here! The message of the year!
 Our royal family, King Coriander
 Queen Alessandra, Prince Alexander
 Ask you to join them tonight!
 The Prince of our nation sends his invitation
 To all of the kingdom today
 A grand celebration by his proclamation
 Is currently underway
 Welcome one and all to a wonderful royal ball
 Tonight at eight, try not to be late. There's a dinner for all.
 The Prince of our nation sends his invitation
 To join him in happy delights
 A festive occasion, a fine celebration
 For all at the ball tonight
 And the Prince is in search of a wife!

Stepsisters Did you hear what they told us?
 What a royal decree! What amazing events!
 For the Prince will be dining with little ole' me!
 There is so much to get ready!
 What shall we wear when we're there?
 Shall I wear pink or magenta or blue?
 And what shall I do with my hair?

Croakette And I need some new underwear!

Stepmother All right. All right. That's enough! Now, come here, my daughters. *(As Cinderella approaches)*
 No, not you. My own daughters... This is an extremely important event. If the Prince is indeed
 using the ball as a way to search for eligible women to marry, then you had better be at your best.
 This is our golden chance to have one of you marry into the royal family.

Cinderella Didn't I get an invitation?
(All laugh)

Stepmother Cinderella, you've been taking expensive lessons at a fancy boarding school. No one has given
 any thought to you or anything about you except all the work you're going to be doing to pay back
 the tuition. Get going!

Croakette Cinderella, you'll need to hand wash my gloves!

Druzel No! Me first! I was downstairs first and I'll need my hair curled...

Croakette And you've got to clean and press my dress—

Stepmother She already has plenty to do here.

Cinderella If I get everything done, may I go to the ball?
(All stop, stare, then laugh)

Druzel Oh, Cinderella look at you— you're a mess. You couldn't possibly interest the Prince.

Croakette Oh my, no. Dreadful! Ha! Ha! What could he possibly see in you?

Druzel And what would you wear? Ha! Ha! You have too many chores to do anyway.

Croakette I'll say! This is simply a matter for us. Druzel and I are the kingdom's best bet!

Druzel Indeed yes. We have all the qualifications he could possibly want!
(Max, Mort, and Liz have emerged slightly from hiding and react to the goings on)

Stepmother Girls, girls, girls! This was one day we shouldn't have stayed in bed so long. It's getting late! We
 have to get ready— it will soon be time to leave.

Druzel Oh my! Look at the time!

Stepmother There's no time to lose. Hurry!

Croakette Oh, how will I ever be ready?

Druzel Cinderella, it's all your fault! (*Exits*)

Cinderella Me?

Croakette You should have done more to help us! (*Exits*)

Stepmother Run along now— I have to get ready too— Oh, poor Cinderella. It is a shame you won't be attending. But there is so much for you to do around here and, well, what's a stepmother to do? On the bright side, you'll have a nice quiet evening to yourself. A productive evening, I trust. (*She chuckles and exits.*)

Mort Let me at her! Let me at that nasty ole' hag! I'll show her—

Max (*Restraining Mort.*) Easy, Mort— Mortimer!

Liz Just what do you think you're going to be able to do?

Mort I'll— er— well— I'll— I'll— I'll bite her toe nails off!

Max My brother. The Killer Attack Mouse!— I'm so sorry. Cinder— el— ooops! I mean, Ella.

Cinderella It's all right, Max. Cinderella... That's my name— That's what everyone will call me.

Mort Thanks to those terrible tyrants.
(Music begins)
(Godmother appears at window and watches)

Cinderella It's not such a bad name. Mother and I spent so much time at the hearth together— Near the ashes and cinders. "Cinderella" reminds me of those happy times.

Mort Golly, isn't that just like her?

Max Always looking on the bright side.

Liz But— Cinderella— wouldn't you like to go the ball?

Cinderella Well— I won't lie to you—

SONG: "DREAMSONG" (Reprise)

Cinderella Here I am— I sit and soak and scrub the floor
 Oh, how I long for one night to soar!
 Just one night to dress and be at my best
 I would be blessed if it were true—
 And I'd take each one of you to join me there
 And I wouldn't care if people stared
 I'd never attend without my good friends
 It's my dream and that's what I'd do
 And we'd take a pumpkin coach to ride there
 So my mother could look down on us and smile
 And we'd have a jolly night
 And dance by candlelight
 The "ooohs and ahhs" would
 Complement our style!

(The Godmother is looking on as Max, Mort, Liz join the song)

All And we'll all say "hello" to the King and Queen
 And say, "hello there, Prince!" You're in our dream
 However it seems, it's our dream to dream
 And dreaming is all we can do
 And some night it just might come true

Cinderella If others dare to try, then why—why can't I? Why can't I?

(The mice, seeing the stepmother and sisters enter, cower away)

SONG: "SONG OF THE STEPMOTHER" (Reprise)

Druzel
Croakette
Stepmother
All Three
Stepmother
All Three

Cinderella, my umbrella needs some mending
And the windows need some washing through and through
And we declare the silverware, the rocking chair and Frigidaire
Our underwear and Tupperware do, too!
Oh, we're saddened and appalled that you will miss the ball
But the chores are so much more than you can do at all
We are sorry that your plans have had to be forestalled
But we'll think of you when we are at the banquet hall!
Cinderella, I can tell that you're unhappy. Keep your chin up, dear
And you'll be glad to know
When we all get to the castle, dear, without a bit of hassle, dear
We'll tell the Prince that you have said "hello!"
We'll tell him you said "hi!"

(Cinderella goes to her bed and begins crying, unaware of the Godmother)

SONG: "DREAMSONG" (Reprise)

Duet

Cinderella:	Godmother:
Oh, dear Lord, it's just one Silly, foolish night And yet I long to go— Is that not right? However it seems It's my wishful dream And dreaming is all I can do— And some night It just might come true If others dare to try Then why—why can't I?	However it seems, It's your wishful dream And dreaming is all You can do— And some night It just might come true By and by—

(Black out)

End of Act I

ACT II

ENTR'ACTE

SCENE 1: CINDERELLA'S COTTAGE (EVENING)

SONG: "DARE TO DREAM, AND LIVE" (Reprise)

Godmother *(To Cinderella)* Dry your eyes— do not fear

Do not cry— I am here
Don't ask why— God is near
God is near— God is near

Cinderella *(Over music)* My mother once sang that to me—

Godmother Yes, I know, child. I was there.

Cinderella You were? Have we met?

Godmother You have seen me before— once upon a time when you were even more unhappy than you are tonight. Look at me well and see if you do not remember.

Cinderella Yes— Yes— now I remember. You were here in mother's room that night when she— left us.
But I never knew who you were.

Godmother The time was not ripe. You only saw me once, but many is the time I have seen you. I have watched you at your work day after day and I know all that you have well endured through the malice of your stepmother and stepsisters. At night, when you were brooding at the cinders, or at your bed, I was never far away. I have watched over your sleep.

(Song resumes)

When you plant a dream who knows just where the seedling grows?

But if the wind and snow should blow

Where you may be— relentlessly—

Keep sowing seeds—

Dare to dream— dare to hope

Dare to love— dare to play

Dare to give— dare to pray

Dare to live— dare to live

Dare to live

Cinderella But... who can you be?

Godmother You may call me Godmother.

(Walking to living area, with Cinderella following, Godmother makes flowers "magically" appear on table. She also "magically" lights the hearth fire and then "magically" draws a chair to herself)

Cinderella You're— you're amazing. That was— er— miraculous!

Godmother That's the trouble today. People don't believe that amazing things can happen. They want to explain everything to death as if there wasn't— a Higher Power. But you know better, don't you?

Cinderella Oh yes, thanks to Mother. I believe in miracles...

Godmother And God, and Godmothers, and— er— guardian angels and such?

Cinderella Oh, of course— er— but you don't see these amazing things every day.

Godmother No you don't. If you did, you might sit on your hands all day and expect all the work to be done for you. You've got to do your part. That's the plan!

Cinderella Oh yes. And I try.

Godmother I know you do.

Cinderella But sometimes, I just dream.

Godmother I know you do. And that's good too. Everything good starts with a wish— a dream. You were crying when I appeared to you. Tell me, what is the matter?

Cinderella It was— er— nothing. I only wanted— I wanted—

Godmother Come, come now, child. It's all right. You want to go to the ball.

Cinderella Yes, I do.

(Music begins)

Godmother Then we have much to do. A miraculous, amazing thing is about to happen again. *(To Max, Mort*

and Liz) Well, come on out, you three. I know all about you. You might as well get in on this, too. In fact, I can use your help. Now, let's see— where shall I begin?...

SONG: "MAGICAL THINGS"

Godmother Magic has a tragic plight 'cause most folks think in black and white
They soon forget that Someone set
The Rules for what is wrong and right
They lose sight that— Magical things—

**C, M, M, L
Godmother** Magical things—
Magical things! Are happening most every day and night!
Why should dark and evil ways monopolize our nights and days?
Why can't magic powers and such
Be governed by the Author's touch?
He does much for— Magical things—

**C, M, M, L
Godmother** Magical things—
Magical things! The things you don't see just every night!
(Gown transformation)
You want to go to the ball, dear. Your faithfulness is repaid—
Someone above heard your call, dear— A magic night's on the way!
It's a highly suitable, irrefutable and inscrutable act, dear—
It's a verifiable, undeniable, certifiable fact, dear!

Godmother, M, M, L It's a highly suitable, irrefutable and inscrutable act, dear—
It's a verifiable, undeniable, certifiable fact, dear!

Godmother Why can't One who reigns above bestow the powers I'm speaking of?
The fact is that He does my friends, the fun-filled magic never ends
He can send us— Magical things—

**C, M, M, L
Godmother** Magical things—
Magical things! It's just a matter of living love!
We've got the magic and gumption to take a melon and broach
The magic realm of a pumpkin and turn it into a coach!
It's a most achievable, quite conceivable and believable act, dear—
A most procurable, quite endurable and assurable fact, dear!
A magic night of surprises. A lizard charts the course
(Lizard & Mice transform)
And just before the moon rises— Two mice are coachmen, of course!

All It's a most sensational, celebrational, inspirational act, dear—
It's a most obtainable, clearly gainable, ascertainable fact, dear
It's a verifiable, undeniable, certifiable act, dear—
A most procurable, quite endurable and assurable fact, dear!

Cinderella Oh, Godmother, it's all so wonderful! But how did you—?
Godmother A little of me. A little of you. And mostly— something much greater. Now, my dear child,
you're all ready. And so beautiful!

Cinderella *(Hugging Godmother)* I can't say enough— you're an angel! Thank you!
Godmother Step into the coach and drive away. But before you go, take careful heed of what I must say.
You may dance and enjoy yourself to your hearts content until midnight, but on the stroke of
twelve, you must leave the ballroom and come home. If you remain even a minute longer,
your coach will become a pumpkin, your coachmen back to mice, and your pretty gown will

change back into your shabby old dress. That will not be nice for you— to have such things happening in everyone's sight. So please— remember my warning.

Cinderella I promise I will. *(She hugs Godmother again as well as Max, Mort and Liz— optional)*

Godmother Have the evening of your lifetime, dear.

(Cinderella exits)

SCENE 2: THE ROYAL CASTLE (GRAND HALL; EVENING)

(Underscore music crescendos to reprise of "Proclamation." As music builds, the Godmother's motions "magically" transform the area to a ballroom and the guests assemble)

SONG: "CELEBRATION PROCLAMATION" (Reprise)

All The Prince of our nation sends his invitation
To join him in happy delights
A festive occasion, a fine celebration
For all at the ball tonight!

Prince *(Spoken over music)* Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the palace!
(The King and Queen preside over the dance at thrones. All others begin waltz— except select royal court members. Among the couples dancing by are Druzel and Croakette and the Stepmother— each with inept partners. The Prince dances near center with various women who do not appear to interest him)

SONG: "THE CINDERELLA WALTZ"

All What a magical night, what unbridled delight
The Prince wants a party and he'll do it right
We'll have fine caviar and some hearty har-hars
The ballroom's alive and aglow— oh—
The stars are in flight and they're shining bright
We're going to trip all the lights tonight!
With the moon up above there's a sensation of
The romance of true lovers in love—
So this is our cue for a fine rendezvous
And true love may come to you
Will you join me, my love? Place your hand in my glove—
A trance of romance is what I'm thinking of
As we glide through the night to a "bravissimo"
The ballroom's alive and aglow— oh—
The stars are in flight and they're shining bright
We're going to trip all the lights tonight
With the moon up above there's a sensation of
The romance of true lovers in love—
So this is our cue for a fine rendezvous
And true love may come to you
What a remarkable night!
Dancing, romancing, and— glancing—