

PLAYS FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

A PARTNERSHIP OF SEATTLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE AND CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY-MINNEAPOLIS

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Cinderella

By
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Music by
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Cinderella was first presented by the Children's Theatre Company for the 1966-67 season.

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Characters:

- Host/Father
- Cinderella
- Stepmother
- Dorcas
- Pearl
- Fairy Godmother
- Prince Eric
- Lord High Chamberlain
- Little Girl
- Livery

Ensemble includes: Carolers, Victorian Christmas attendees, courtiers,

PRESHOW ANNOUNCEMENT

THE CAROLERS sing.

**JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS,
TURN YOUR CELLPHONES OFF.
UNWRAP ALL YOUR CANDIES NOW
IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GONNA COUGH, "KHAGF!"
JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS,
CAMERAS ARE A NO!
WE'D LIKE TO STAY AND SING SOME MORE
BUT WE REALLY HAVE TO GO.
CAUSE IT'S TIME TO START THE SHOW.**

(A Victorian Christmas party is established—there is the host family, including a grandfather who acts as an entertainer throughout the party—doing little magic tricks, leading songs, preparations are being made—food, decorations, guests may begin to arrive, being greeted by the family)

LITTLE GIRL

Grandpa! Grandpa!

CHORUS sings.

Olio 1: Here We Come a Wassailing/ Coventry Carol

**HERE WE COME A WASSAILING AMONG THE LEAVES SO GREEN,
HERE WE COME A WAND'RING SO FAIR TO BE SEEN.
LOVE AND JOY COME TO YOU, AND TO YOU YOUR WASSAIL TOO;
AND GOD BLESS YOU AND SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR,
AND GOD SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

**WE ARE NOT DAILY BEGGARS THAT BEG FROM DOOR TO DOOR;
BUT WE ARE NEIGHBOR'S CHILDREN
WHOM YOU HAVE SEEN BEFORE.
LOVE AND JOY COME TO YOU, AND TO YOU YOUR WASSAIL TOO,
AND GOD BLESS YOU AND SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR,
AND GOD SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

GRANDFATHER

The game!

**GOD BLESS THE MASTER OF THIS HOUSE,
LIKEWISE, THE MISTRESS TOO;
AND ALL THE LITTLE CHILDREN, THAT ROUND THE TABLE GO.
LOVE AND JOY COME TO YOU, AND TO YOU YOUR WASSAIL TOO;**

AND GOD BLESS YOU AND SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR,

AND GOD SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

AND GOD SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

AND GOD SEND YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

(Transitions into Coventry Carol)

**OH SISTERS TWO, HOW MAY WE DO, FOR TO PRESERVE THIS DAY
THIS POOR YOUNGLING, FOR WHOM WE SING, BY, BY, LULLY, LULLAY.**

*(LITTLE GIRL is teased/left out of games by the other children, GRANDFATHER
observes this, takes her onto her lap to comfort her)*

GRANDFATHER

(Telling a story) It has been said that - many years ago, in the season of Christmas - the king of a far-away land proclaimed that on the evening of the Twelfth Night there would be a celebration and a grand ball at the palace, for the next day would be the twenty-first birthday of the king's only son: Prince Eric. In due time the Lord Chamberlain - whose duty it was to extend invitations - came to an old, stone house where there lived an old dame and her three daughters. Now one of these daughters was a stepdaughter, and she was forced to serve as cook, cleaning maid, and housekeeper to the others. And even though she was very beautiful, and of a cheery disposition, her only comfort came from warming her toes among the cinders in the fireplace. And she was called...

STEPMOTHER & DORCAS & PEARL

Cinderella!

(CAST does a take out to the audience, and then rushes offstage)

Scene 1

(Lights rise on kitchen: CINDERELLA enters, STEPMOTHER sits center with fat DORCAS on her right and scrawny PEARL at her left, STEPMOTHER is reading a newspaper, THE CASTLE TIMES with the headline BALL TONIGHT)

STEPMOTHER & DORCAS & PEARL

Cinderella!

STEPMOTHER

Cinderella, get me my coffee, you wretch, and be quick about it!

PEARL

And don't spill a drop!

DORCAS

And bring me my sausage!

PEARL

Ooo! Bring me my toast!

DORCAS

Oh, hush, Pearl! It's my morning to order her around—not yours!

PEARL

Mother, will you tell Dorcas that it is my turn?

DORCAS

Mother, will you tell Pearl that it is my turn?

PEARL

No, it's my turn!

DORCAS

It's mine!

(Their fight escalates into a "mine"/ "mine" verbal fight back and forth)

STEPMOTHER

Girls! Girls! *(DORCAS and PEARL stand obediently)* Gee whiz. You may both order her around. Now, isn't that fun?

PEARL

Cinderella, fetch me my toast!

DORCAS

I want my sausage! Can't you see I'm starving here?

No, toast first!
PEARL

Sausage!
DORCAS

Toast!
PEARL

Sausage!
DORCAS

Toast!
PEARL

Sausage!
DORCAS

Toast! Toast! TOAST!
PEARL

DORCAS
Oh, you want your toast? Here, let me butter it for you! (*DORCAS licks toast*) There you go!

PEARL
Well, do you want your sausages, Dorcas? Then come and get 'em!

(PEARL grabs the sausage chain and lures DORCAS in chase around the kitchen, DORCAS catches PEARL and they have a tug of war, STEPMOTHER blows a military whistle)

STPMOTHER
Stop this fighting immediately. Sit down right now. (*PEARL and DORCAS fall into formation and sit*) We are ladies. We are not peasants. Now, I have the most wonderful news. There is going to be a ball at the Castle tonight! Perhaps we will be invited! Pearl! Dorcas! Cinderella! You can clear away these plates, sweep the floor. And, when you are done, then you may take your breakfast from whatever scraps are left. (*STPMOTHER drops a crust of bread near CINDERELLA; DORCAS picks it up and gobbles it down*)

CINDERELLA
Stepmother? (*STPMOTHER and SISTERS slurp their tea*) Stepmother? (*STPMOTHER and SISTERS slurp their tea*) Stepmother? (*STPMOTHER and SISTERS slurp their tea*) Will I be allowed to go to the ball tonight?

(STPMOTHER and PEARL spit out their tea. Beat. DORCAS spits out her tea)

STEPMOTHER

The ball? What Ball are you talking about? I don't know about any Ball.

PEARL

Nope.

(They collapse into hysterics)

CINDERELLA

Well, I heard you talking about a ball tonight.

(Slow burn to CINDERELLA, temperature change from all 3)

PEARL

Mother. Cinderella was eavesdropping.

CINDERELLA

I didn't mean to eavesdrop, but it sounded so exciting! I would so love to go.

STEPMOTHER

Cinderella, front and center! Now, Cinderella, as for your eavesdropping, I don't believe you'll be having any breakfast today after all. That should help cure you of such a disgusting habit. Now as for your chores, Cinderella. Where's my list? *(Pull out phone)* Churn the butter, wash the dishes, do the laundry, sweep the floor - Stop. Stop talking. There's a Pokémon over there! Pokémon Go alert!! *(Starts down the stairs to moat, searching the front row)* Wait a minute, wait a minute. Sir, could you stand up? *(Pulls patron out of chair)* We caught it, the most elusive Pokémon of all! I call it the "Swipe Right." Don't keep me in suspense – tell everyone your name. *(He answers)* Josh, I have a personal question for you. Let me ask you, are you a single fellow? *(Josh answers – usually in the negative)* Of course not, a handsome fellow like yourself - have you heard of Brangelina? Things change! Girls get down here! I want to make an introduction. This is my baby Pearl.

PEARL

Hi Josh, I play Pokémon Go too and I'd sure love to get a Pikachu *(said like "peek at you")*.

STEPMOTHER

And over here this is my eldest, Dorcas.

DORCAS

Hi Josh, I'm Dorcas and I'm into fitness – like fittin' this whole waffle into my mouth.

PEARL

Josh, I'm the prettiest.

DORCAS

No, I'm the prettiest!

PEARL

But, mother, I'm the prettiest!

DORCAS

No, I'm the prettiest!

PEARL

Everyone, everyone, everyone! If you think I'm the prettiest, I wanna hear you roar. Scream Pearl and I'll throw you some candy! Pearl!

DORCAS

No. Shut your faces. Shut your faces right now! If you think I'm the prettiest, scream Dorcas and I'll give you even more candy! Dorcas!

PEARL

No she won't she'll just eat it! Pearl!

DORCAS

Dorcas!

PEARL

Pearl!

DORCAS

Dorcas!

(The girls throw candy to their respective teams)

STEPMOTHER

Girls, girls! We are ladies. We are not peasants. Josh, I'm so sorry. If you think that was tough, wait 'til you try to pay for parking after the show. Now, before I go, Josh – I just wanna keep an eye on you. Everyone turn your attention to the screens – that's the Josh Cam. Now, we are going to watch Josh enjoy the show. Now, Josh, there is someone I want you to meet. This is Victor Zupanc, and the Zamboni orchestra (*applause*). I don't know about you, Josh, but I think a grand orchestra just adds to the holiday feeling –whatever holiday you celebrate! Which in Victor's case would be Boxing Day, as he is a Canadian. Are you not, Victor? Victor, you'll know the answer to this one: What do you call a Canadian who can't sing? Justin Bieber! (*Doorbell rings*) Oh, Cinderella - don't just stand there, go and answer the door, it might be the mail!

(CINDERELLA goes to the door)

DORCAS & PEARL

A male!

STEPMOTHER

Girls. The mail.

DORCAS & PEARL

Oh.

(CINDERELLA hands STEPMOTHER the pile of mail, she proceeds to do a Panto bit surrounding this)

STEPMOTHER

Oh I just love getting the holiday mail! *(STEPMOTHER proceeds to read two audience letters)*
Girls, we have a birthday in the audience! Where is (...) in Row (...)? Can we sing Happy Birthday to (...) at a brisk pace? *(Everyone proceeds to sing Happy Birthday, STEPMOTHER throws the card into the pit, and we hear a crash)*

(STEPMOTHER reads a second letter – usually referencing where someone has driven/travelled from and cracks a joke about that – e.g. You know what the best thing to come out of Wisconsin is? I-94!. STEPMOTHER throws the card into the pit, and we hear a crash)

Oh girls, this one is about today's magic word. Today's magic word is P.I.G pig. When you hear the magic word, you're gonna stand up out of your chairs, scream really loud, and sit back down. Shall we try it? Pig! *(Audience screams)* Pig! *(Audience screams)* Good! *(STEPMOTHER throws the card into the pit, and we hear a crash)*

Oh, girls! These are our invitations to the ball at the castle tonight. This one's yours. This one's yours. This one's mine.

(STEPMOTHER and SISTERS open them up at the same time and scream; STEPMOTHER and SISTERS do the Single Ladies dance around the stage that ends in a snap and a frozen sassy pose)

CINDERELLA

Stepmother, is there an invitation for me?

(DORCAS, PEARL, and STEPMOTHER turn to CINDERELLA and laugh)

STEPMOTHER

(She looks at the last invitation) Wait, Cinderella, there is an invitation addressed to you, but there must be some mistake. Surely they don't want any guttersnipes invited. *(She puts CINDERELLA'S invitation down the front of her dress)* Now go away, Cinderella. The decent folks want to be left alone. Shoo.

PEARL

Shoo.

DORCAS

Shoo.

STEPMOTHER

(Turns to DORCAS and PEARL) Circle up girls! Tonight, the Prince will choose his bride, and so help me, it will be one of you two.

DORCAS & PEARL

(Sings) It's gonna be me!

STEPMOTHER

And Dorcas here will have first chance.

PEARL

(Flabbergasted) Dorcas?

(DORCAS utters a celebratory squeal)

STEPMOTHER

Yes, after all she's the eldest.

PEARL

(Protesting) But Mother, she's so...

DORCAS

(To PEARL) You shut up, Pearl. *(sings)* Our mama don't like you and she likes everyone.

PEARL

Oh, is that so? Well, allow me to tell everyone that you sweat like a pig!

(Audience screams, DORCAS and PEARL begin a fight with silly slapping and a chase, STEPMOTHER tries to separate them but she gets caught in between)

STEPMOTHER

Girls, girls! Stop fighting! Now remember...

PEARL

We are ladies.

DORCAS

We are not pheasants.

(DORCAS and PEARL restore themselves)

STEPMOTHER

Josh, do you have kids? Do you want mine? *(To DORCAS and PEARL)* Girls, get down here!
Victor, music, music...I shall have our ball gowns delivered...this afternoon!

(DORCAS and PEARL shriek in delight, music begins again, the 3 of them do a dance down center Can-Can style)

STEPMOTHER

Tonight, Cinderella will do our hair. She will do our nails. It's gonna be sick! And Dab.
(They Dab)

Ladies, let us away to the boudoir! Cinderella...now you be sure to prepare something special for our dinner tonight. Something warm to make us glow.

PEARL

I'm thinkin' Arbie's.

DORCAS

We have the meats!

CINDERELLA

But Stepmother, do you think I could...

STEPMOTHER

Cinderella, if you manage to get all your work done, and if you find something suitable to wear, and if you behave yourself and don't irk me all day, I guess there is the teeniest chance I may let you attend the ball with us tonight.

DORCAS & PEARL

Mother!

STEPMOTHER

Girls, I said *if!* This is gonna be so much fun!

STEPMOTHER & DORCAS & PEARL sing.

**I COME HOME IN THE MORNING LIGHT
MY MOTHER SAYS GIRLS DID YOU JUST PARTY ALL NIGHT
OH MOTHER DEAR WE ARE THE FORTUNATE ONES
AND GIRLS THEY WANNA HAVE FUN
OH GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE**

**THEY JUST WANNA, THEY JUST WANNA
THEY JUST WANNA, THEY JUST WANNA
THEY JUST WANNA, THEY JUST WANNA
THEY JUST WANNA, THEY JUST WANNA**

GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN!

(They exit through the house, music out, CINDERELLA stands and gazes after them for a moment, she gets out her diary)

CINDERELLA

Dear Diary, I may be able to go to the ball tonight! I have to hurry to get all my work done. *(She lifts cup with mouse underneath)* Hello, my little friend! Well Mr. Edward, and how are you today? *(Mouse Sounds)* Is that right? *(2nd mouse appears on hearth, dusting, mouse sounds)* Well, look at you, Victoria! You're such a good helper. With all this help, I'll have my work done in no time! *(Bird sounds)* Hello little ones! Perhaps if I made a game of my work it would go faster. I know! I'll pretend that I'm going to the ball. It'll be a lovely party, with music and sparkling lights and people dancing and the ladies wear beautiful dresses. *(She stops and looks down at her rags)* It's no place for a guttersnipe like me, I suppose. *(Mouse sounds, CINDERELLA crosses to the closet as it magically opens)* Oh hello Reginald! *(Mouse sounds – mouse removes cloth from trunk, opens trunk and indicates letter)* What is it? *(Mouse sounds)* Oh! *(She takes out the letter)* It's a letter! For me? *(Mouse sounds)*

My sweet girl, I bequeath to you the contents of this trunk and hope they may be of use to you on some special day. How I wish I could see the kind and brave young woman I know you have become. Remember always how much I love you and never forget that dreams can come true. Your loving Mother.

(Mouse sounds)

(She takes out the dress) Oh! My mother's dress! It's been folded away since she died. But look! It's still so pretty *(She holds the dress to her face)* and I can still smell her perfume! Why, I wouldn't be a guttersnipe if I wore this! Perhaps if my Stepmother sees me in this, she'll let me go to the ball! Oh! To go to the ball! To see the prince!! *(Dances with mouse)* Good evening your majesty. *(She dances around holding the dress up to her)* But I still have so much work to do! She'll never let me go unless I finish all of my chores. How will I ever finish it all before tonight?

(A knock at the door)

Shh! Hide!

(Mice and birds disappear as CINDERELLA puts the dress away, a second knock, CINDERELLA opens the door)

CINDERELLA

Hello. I'm sorry, but the ladies of the house are out.

BEGGAR WOMAN

I have no wish to meet them. I am a poor, tired, old woman and I ask only if you would be willing to share some food with me.

CINDERELLA

Of course. Come and sit down. I'd like to offer you tea or chocolate or cookies, but I'm afraid the ladies of the house have eaten everything. There is only this soup I was saving for my supper. But, please, drink it and warm yourself.

BEGGAR WOMAN

Oh thank you, Cinderella.

CINDERELLA

How do you know my name?

BEGGAR WOMAN

You're covered in cinders from head to foot, my dear. What else should I call you? Your hair that should shine and your face that should glow are covered in soot and dirt. You're a very young girl to be working so hard, so early in the morning. Is it because of the palace ball?

CINDERELLA

You know of that, too?

BEGGAR WOMAN

Oh of course!

CINDERELLA

I wish it were...but I work every day like this.

BEGGAR WOMAN

Will you go to the ball tonight?

(CINDERELLA turns away and slowly walks downstage center, with a defeated shake of her head)

CINDERELLA

My work will never ever be done in time.

BEGGAR WOMAN

If you wish to go, you shall. Now...fetch me my broth.

CINDERELLA

Yes, of course good lady. You must be so hungry –

(CINDERELLA dutifully goes to fireplace. When she reaches it, FAIRY GODMOTHER stands and gestures with her wand causing CINDERELLA to freeze. FAIRY GODMOTHER quickly glides downstage, waving her wand about the room, magically cleaning the closet, straightening the sink of dirty dishes, making dinner appear in the oven and whisking away the clothesline of laundry. Just before she exits downstage right, she gestures at CINDERELLA again to unfreeze her, and CINDERELLA resumes

movement. CINDERELLA drops the ladle, turns back toward the table and is surprised to discover that the woman has disappeared)

CINDERELLA

Here we are, nice and warm....Gone? *(She looks about the room, shrugs)* Gone. *(She sighs and puts the ladle back in its place)* Work to be done. The butter... *(CINDERELLA pulls the butter churn from the barrel and we see completed butter as an amazed look crosses her face)* ...the butter's churned! And the dishes? The dishes are clean! And the laundry's done! *(Looking excitedly about the room)* And supper...supper's cooked! All my work is done! Perhaps I will go to the ball after all! *(The mice in the room cheer)* Oh, thank you good lady!

(CINDERELLA dances and sings happily around the room)

**OH, I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY
I WANNA FEEL THE HEAT WITH SOMEBODY.**

**YEAH, I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY
WITH SOMEBODY WHO LOVES ME
WITH SOMEBODY WHO LOVES ME.**

(Lights fade to blackout as Act Curtain descends)

GRANDFATHER

Cinderella was so excited...

LITTLE GIRL

...because she would be able to go to the ball too!

GRANDFATHER

That's so good! How would you like to celebrate?

MAID

Cookies!

GRANDFATHER & LITTLE GIRL

Cookies!

Olio 2: The Challenge Song

MAID

**CHOCOLATE CHIP AND OATMEAL RAISIN,
BUTTER COOKIES I'VE BEEN BAKING.
SUGAR BISCUITS, GINGERBREAD,
SOME WITH FROSTING SOME WITHOUT.
I'VE BEEN BAKING COOKIES EVERY DAY AND EVERY NIGHT
BUT NOW I WONDER
WILL THERE BE ENOUGH OF THEM
FOR EVERYONE TO EAT?**

ENSEMBLE 1

WILL THERE BE ENOUGH FOR ME?

ENSEMBLE 2

OH WILL THERE BE ENOUGH FOR ME.

ENSEMBLE 3 & 4

OH NOT ENOUGH, OH NOT ENOUGH.

ALL

**OH NOT ENOUGH. NOT ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE
TO HAVE A COOKIE**

**WHO WON'T GET ONE
WHO WON'T GET ONE
WHO WON'T GET ONE
WHO WON'T GET ONE
WHO WON'T GET TO HAVE A COOKIE?**

GRANDFATHER & LITTLE GIRL**COOKIE CONTEST****ALL**

**COMPETITION!
 WINNERS GET A COOKIE.
 LET'S SING THE CHALLENGE SONG!**

GRANDFATHER**DO RE MI FA SOL LA TI DO.****ALL****DO TI LA SOL FA MI RE DO.****GRANDPA**

Challenge number 1! Which side can sing the highest? Winners get the cookies! 1, 2, 3, 4 -

SR GROUP**DO DO RE DO.****SL GROUP****DO RE MI RE DO.****SR GROUP****DO RE MI FA MI RE DO.****SL GROUP****DO RE MI FA SOL FA MI RE DO.****SR GROUP****DO RE MI FA SOL LA SOL FA MI RE DO.****SL GROUP****DO RE MI FA SOL LA TI LA SOL FA MI RE DO.****SR GROUP****DO RE MI FA SOL LA TI DO TI LA SOL FA MI RE DO.****GRANDPA**

Challenge number 2! Which side can sing the fastest? 1, 2, 3, 4 -

SR GROUP**DO MI SOL MI DO.****SL GROUP**

RE FA LA FA RE.

SR GROUP

MI SOL TI SOL MI.

SL GROUP

FA LA DO LA FA.

SR GROUP

DO MI SOL. RE FA LA.

SL GROUP

MI SOL TI. FA.

DO MI SOL MI.

RE FA LA FA.

SR GROUP

MI SOL TI SOL.

FA.

DO MI SOL MI.

RE FA LA FA.

SL GROUP

MI SOL TI SOL.

FA.

ALL

**DO TI LA SOL TI LA SOL FA
LA SOL FA MI SOL FA MI RE.**

ALL

**DO TI LA SOL TI LA SOL FA
LA SOL FA MI SOL FA MI RE.**

ALL

**DO TI LA SOL TI LA SOL FA
LA SOL FA MI SOL FA MI RE.**

SOLO CHILD

DO RE ME FA SOL LA TI DO.

DO TI LA SOL FA ME RE DO.

DO RE ME FA SO LA TI DO.

(Lights slowly fade to Blackout)

Scene 2

(Act Curtain rises to reveal the boudoir, a dress form upstage right with PEARL's gown and wig upon it. DORCAS, dressed, sits at a vanity stage center, a half-table with cosmetics, a huge powder puff specifically, upstage left, downstage right is an upholstered chair. PEARL is bent over, her hands braced against the back of the chair, dressed in bloomers and a camisole, her hair knotted beneath a wig cap. CINDERELLA is trying with all of her might to pull on the laces of PEARL's corset, STEPMOTHER is seated on the chaise)

PEARL

(Grunting) Cinderella I have got to get into this corset. Now, pull. Pull! Tighter, Cinderella! Pull!

CINDERELLA

It's no use. If I pull any tighter you won't be able to breathe.

DORCAS

(To CINDERELLA) Hurry up over here! My makeup is a disaster and I want my lips to look as big as my hips.

PEARL

Oh put a cork in it, Rainbow Bright! Can't you see...I'm trying to get into this harness; now pull!

(PEARL pulls CINDERELLA across the stage while she is holding onto the corset ribbons)

PEARL

Hurry up, Cinderella!

CINDERELLA

Breathe in. *(CINDERELLA pulls back on the laces with one huge effort, and then steps back)* There. All finished. How does it feel?

(PEARL is red in the face as if being strangled, her torso rigid, her arms dangling as if all the circulation were cut off)

PEARL

(A gasp) It's perfect. How do I look?

STEPMOTHER

You look gorgeous.

DORCAS

Cinderella!

(CINDERELLA, STEPMOTHER, and PEARL fall to the floor from DORCAS'S scream)

STEPMOTHER

Cinderella!

PEARL

Cinderella!

DORCAS

Cinderella!

PEARL

I've fallen and I can't get up!

STEPMOTHER

Cinderella – go help Dorcas with her makeup!

DORCAS

Forget the makeup. If you want big lips, you need the power of suction. *(Holds up vacuum cleaner)*

PEARL

Warning: What you are about to see is being done by trained professionals. Please do not try this at home.

DORCAS

Cinderella! Turn on the vacuum! *(She holds the vacuum up to her lips and emerges with big red made-up lips)*

STEPMOTHER

Dorcas, you look amazing!

DORCAS

I can't feel my face.

PEARL

Cinderella!

(CINDERELLA rushes to PEARL and drops her diary on the way. STEPMOTHER picks it up)

STEPMOTHER

What have we here? A diary! Keeping secrets from mummy.

(STEPMOTHER holds out diary to DORCAS who takes it. They read from the diary mockingly, while playing keep away from CINDERELLA)

CINDERELLA

Oh no please! Dorcas please give it back! That's very private!

DORCAS

Dear Diary, I wake up every morning, determined to greet the day with a smile...

CINDERELLA

No, Pearl please! It's not right to take from other people!

PEARL

(PEARL steals the diary and reads) ...But, tonight, I was so tired, I cried myself to sleep!

DORCAS

(DORCAS get the diary and reads) Dear Diary, I miss my mother!

(SISTER cry and sob in mockery)

STEPMOTHER

Girls, girls, I won't have you upsetting yourselves.

PEARL

Cinderella, get over here and tighten my shoelaces; I can't bend over in this corset! *(A sudden, horrible thought)* Oh, Mother! Mother-what am I going to do when I meet the prince? I can't curtsy in this corset!

(CINDERELLA tightens PEARL's shoes as DORCAS continues shaving her armpit at the vanity)

DORCAS

Well, since your armpits smell like soup, that should be the least of your worries.

PEARL

Oh is that so? Well let me tell you something, Burger Queen...with that apple in your mouth, you look like a roast pig!

DORCAS

(Ready to explode) I do not look like a pig! Stop it! Thank you.

(Once the crowd quiets, there is a beat and then...)

PEARL

Pig!

(Chase ensues into audience, then onstage behind the chaise as DORCAS tugs on PEARL'S legs. STEPMOTHER crosses to the Armoire, pulls out a revolver, and fires two

shots into the air. DORCAS and PEARL immediately freeze - a plucked, rubber chicken falls down from the fly loft and lands downstage center)

PEARL

Is that a chicken?

(A plush duck falls down from the fly loft and also lands downstage center)

DORCAS

Is that a duck?

PEARL

I don't want to be a chicken!

DORCAS

I don't want to be a duck!

(STEPMOTHER, DORCAS, and PEARL sing and do the "Chicken Dance" here)

**I DON'T WANT TO BE A CHICKEN
I DON'T WANT TO BE A DUCK
SO I SHAKE MY TAIL, CLAP, CLAP, CLAP!**

**I DON'T WANT TO BE A CHICKEN
I DON'T WANT TO BE A DUCK
SO I SHAKE MY TAIL, CLAP, CLAP, CLAP!**

STEPMOTHER

(STEPMOTHER shoots her gun in the air) Stop, Everybody, STOP!

PEARL

Boy, it's a good thing cows don't fly.

(And a cow falls)

STEPMOTHER

Holy cow! We could have been creamed. Oh this is udderly ridiculous. Dan!

*(DAN, a crew member, enters from offstage and looks up into the fly system.
STEPMOTHER hands him the gun as the SISTERS sing at him)*

PEARL

Oh Dan! He's so handsome!

DORCAS

Gorgeous!

STEPMOTHER

Dan! Get over here!

DORCAS

What a Dan, what a Dan, what a Dan, what a mighty good Dan.

PEARL

Mr. Dan man, please be my Dan.

DORCAS

When a Dan, loves a woman.

PEARL

Stand by your Dan.

(DAN gets the cow and carries it offstage)

DORCAS & PEARL

Oh Danny boy, the gals, the gals are calling.

STEPMOTHER

You two girls ought to be ashamed of yourselves, carrying on like that in front of Josh! He is broken-hearted. Now go make him feel better! Kiss cam for Josh!

(DORCAS & PEARL go to JOSH. A Kiss Cam graphic appears on the screen)

PEARL

Hey Josh, I just ate a bag of Skittles, you wanna taste the rainbow? *(kisses JOSH)*

DORCAS

I just ate a chicken fajita. Want to taste the fajita? *(kisses JOSH)*

STEPMOTHER

Girls, now get back up here. It's time for us to practice our presentations for the Prince! Now - Josh, you stay there and you will play the Prince. You two, you will approach, you will curtsy - just as if we were at the palace tonight... *(STEPMOTHER starts mumbling lines from A Christmas Carol)* ...and all of the candles were a-flame, darkness was cheap and Scrooge liked it, Bah Humbug! God bless us, everyone! Marley was dead to begin with...

PEARL

Mother!

STEPMOTHER

What?

PEARL

That's the Guthrie!

STEPMOTHER

Oh...My bad! Now, which one of my lovely daughters will go first? Pearl! You're up!

(PEARL comes downstage and plays "Love Me Tender" on the musical saw)

PEARL

I Saw My Love and It Was You, by Pearl.

Love me tender, love me true
 Never let me go
 You have made my life complete
 And I love you so

Mommy, I did it without cutting myself!

STEPMOTHER

Oh, honey, that was just like a season of American Horror Story. Dorcas! Bring it home!

(DORCAS comes downstage to prepare)

Now just like we practiced! Music!

(DORCAS tiptoes toward STEPMOTHER singing "You Are So Beautiful To Me," but replacing 'You are' with 'I am')

DORCAS

**I AM SO BEAUTIFUL, TO ME
 CAN'T YOU SEE
 I'M EVERYTHING YOU HOPED FOR
 I'M EVERYTHING YOU NEED
 I AM SO BEAUTIFUL TO ME!**

STEPMOTHER

Oh, Dorcas, I smell a winner.

DORCAS

Oh. Sorry.

STEPMOTHER

Now, you two, it's time to practice our court dancing! All right - pick your partners.

(DORCAS just stands downstage center as PEARL impatiently waits upstage center)

Dorcias- pick your partner.

(DORCAS is busy picking her nose)

PEARL

Mother! Dorcas isn't picking her partner; she's picking her....

STEPMOTHER

Dorcias! Music!

(DORCAS then gets ready to dance, beckoning with her snotty finger while PEARL grabs the nasty finger. After a few measures of dancing, DORCAS spins PEARL around by the hand with such force it sends PEARL screaming downstage and off. We hear the sound of PEARL hitting a crash box. STEPMOTHER moves center and looks at Dorcas)

DORCAS

Oops.

(PEARL reappears, burning with anger and humiliation, her dress shifted sideways, both feet wedged inside fire buckets, a bucket on her head, and wearing large, green Hulk hands)

STEPMOTHER

(To audience) Oh Pearl, she's really working on her bucket list.

PEARL

Pearl! Angry! Pearl, smash, Dorcas!

(PEARL raises her Hulk fists and runs toward DORCAS. CINDERELLA exits with the pails. Dorcas beats her with her chest. Pearl falls back as her Hulk hands fly off. Pearl jumps up to go for Dorcas again, and immediately woodblocks are heard)

STEPMOTHER

Listen!

(Woodblocks as horse hooves)

Listen again.

(Woodblocks again)

DORCAS

(sings) Watch me whip! And watch me nae nae! Watch me whip, whip, and watch me nae nae!
Now watch my stanky leg...

(Horse whinny from the pit)

STEPMOTHER

I hear horses. The carriages are approaching! Just imagine - tonight the prince is going to choose one of my daughters to marry!

(CINDERELLA enters dressed in her mother's dress)

CINDERELLA

Stepmother!

(The STEPMOTHER, DORCAS and PEARL gasp in unison)

CINDERELLA

Please! All my work is finished and I found something to wear. Please, may I go to the ball with you tonight?

STEPMOTHER

(Pulling out the invitation) Well, Cinderella. It would appear as if you've gotten all your work done, and you have found something that resembles a gown, but no one gets into the ball without an invitation and that, I'm afraid, is something You. *(She rips the invitation)*

CINDERELLA

No!

STEPMOTHER

Don't. *(Rips again)*

CINDERELLA

Please!

STEPMOTHER

Have. *(Rips again and tosses onto floor)*

CINDERELLA

Don't!

STEPMOTHER

Come girls, we have a ball to attend!

PEARL

(As she passes Cinderella) My, my Cinderella. You call that a dress?? I think it would look better sleeveless. *(She "accidentally" rips the sleeve of her dress)*

DORCAS

(As she passes Cinderella) Yes. Bippity *(She tears one bow)* boppity *(She tears another piece)* boo hoo. I think the dress looks much better now, don't you Pearl?

PEARL

Oh definitely, definitely.

STEPMOTHER

Ladies, to the ball!

(They exit with a flourish. CINDERELLA sinks to the floor to pick up the pieces of the invitation))

CINDERELLA

**WHEN I WAS YOUNG
I NEVER NEEDED ANYONE
THERE WAS HOPE AND THERE WAS FUN
THOSE DAYS ARE GONE.**

**ALL BY MYSELF
DON'T WANNA BE ALL BY MYSELF ANYMORE.
ALL BY MYSELF
DON'T WANNA BE ALL BY MYSELF ANYMORE.**

**ALL BY MYSELF
DON'T WANNA BE
DON'T WANNA BE ALL BY MYSELF ANYMORE.**

(After the song is over, LITTLE GIRL enters crying. GRANDFATHER follows closely behind)

GRANDFATHER

There, there! Why so sad?

LITTLE GIRL

I'm sad because now Cinderella won't get to go to the ball!

GRANDFATHER

Listen closely, my dear. The story isn't over yet!

Olio 3: Christmas is A' Comin'

**CHRISTMAS IS A COMIN' AND THE GOOSE IS GETTING FAT
PLEASE TO PUT A PENNY IN THE OLD MAN'S HAT
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A PENNY THEN A HA'PENNY WILL DO
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A HA'PENNY THEN GOD BLESS YOU
GOD BLESS YOU GENTLEMEN, GOD BLESS YOU
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A HA'PENNY THEN GOD BLESS YOU**

**CHRISTMAS IS A COMING AND THE BELLS ARE RINGING OUT
UP AND DOWN THE AVENUE YOU HEAR THE PEOPLE SHOUT
POPCORN FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AND TAFFY YOU CAN CHEW
ONE A PENNY, TWO A PENNY, GOD BLESS YOU
GOD BLESS YOU GENTLEMEN, GOD BLESS YOU
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A HA'PENNY THEN GOD BLESS YOU**

**CHRISTMAS IS A COMING AND THE SNOW IS EVERYWHERE
SMELLS OF FIGGY PUDDIN' ARE A HANGIN' IN THE AIR
LIKE TO STAND HERE CHATTIN' BUT MY NOSE IS TURNIN' BLUE
AWFUL NICE TO MEET YOU, SIR, AND GOD BLESS YOU
GOD BLESS YOU GENTLEMEN, GOD BLESS YOU
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A HA'PENNY THEN GOD BLESS YOU**

**OO, OO
OO, OO**

SOLO WOMAN

**CHRISTMAS IS A COMIN' AND THE CANDLES ARE AGLOW
MAKING FROSTY PATTERNS AS THEY FLICKER IN THE SNOW
WHEN THE SPIRIT BECKONS, IF YOU'VE NOTHING ELSE TO DO
RAISE YOUR VOICE IN HARMONY**

SOLO MAN

SING GOD BLESS YOU

ALL

**GOD BLESS YOU GENTLEMEN, GOD BLESS YOU
RAISE YOUR VOICE IN HARMONY, SING
GOD BLESS YOU, GOD BLESS YOU, GOD, BLESS, YOU
GOD BLESS YOU
GOD BLESS YOU**

Scene 3

(Act Curtain rises on the kitchen - the table and chairs are not there; the room is quite dark except for the glow of the fireplace and the moonlight pouring through the window upstage. CINDERELLA lies weeping on the floor in her mother's ruined dress, and the BEGGAR WOMAN enters)

CINDERELLA

I won't get to go to the ball. My dress is in rags. I am just a guttersnipe, after all.

BEGGAR WOMAN

Why are you here crying, my dear, instead of going to the ball?

CINDERELLA

It's you. You said that if I really wanted to go to the ball I would.

BEGGAR WOMAN

If you truly wish to go, you shall.

CINDERELLA

Good lady, I know you mean no harm, but please don't promise me what I can never have. I can't go to the ball like this.

BEGGAR WOMAN

Nonsense, Cinderella.

CINDERELLA

Just look at me. My mother's dress is ruined.

BEGGAR WOMAN

Appearances are more than what they seem. Cinderella, look at me and listen...

(A glowing vision of a transformed FAIRY GODMOTHER appears. CINDERELLA sees her and gasps in awe)

I am more than I seemed, Cinderella. I appeared to you first as a lowly beggar woman in need of food and the warmth of your fire. You did not turn away. You gave me these out of the kindness of your spirit and the goodness of your heart. And now, it is my turn to give something to you. Believe in yourself, Cinderella, and believe in me and never forget that dreams can come true.

CINDERELLA

I want to believe...

FAIRY GODMOTHER

Not another word! Come! To the garden!

(CINDERELLA starts for the door)

No, no, not that way...this way!

(With a grand gesture from FAIRY GODMOTHER, the kitchen backdrop and painted wing units glide out of sight, revealing the winter garden. Snow is gently falling on the rows of ripe pumpkins and the lacy trees which surround the stage and stretch into the distance as far as the eye can see. This is a truly magical looking garden in the white snow and soft, blue moonlight)

CINDERELLA

**I'VE GOT A FEELING
THAT TONIGHT IS STRANGELY SPECIAL.
IT'S A FEELING,
THAT MY WORLD IS NOW ALIVE
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING,
SOMETHING I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
AND NOW FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE,
I HAVE SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR!**

(The FAIRY GODMOTHER waves her wand, and we see the two mice that have been playing on the pumpkins downstage magically transform into two liveried pages. They dance upstage with CINDERELLA as the FAIRY GODMOTHER waves her wand to transform the two small deer, eating snow on the hills, into large reindeer ready to pull a coach. With another wave of her wand, she sends a pumpkin flying into the air and offstage, followed by a glowing silver coach floating down to land, ready to receive CINDERELLA and whisk her away. The FAIRY GODMOTHER thrusts her wand into the air, summoning a sumptuous cloak carried in by little birds. She lovingly puts it on CINDERELLA as CINDERELLA looks at the FAIRY GODMOTHER with great joy and wonder)

FAIRY GODMOTHER

Now listen, Cinderella, remember this: before the clock has finished tolling twelve midnight, leave the palace. Your coach will be waiting and will carry you away. For at the last stroke of midnight, all of your finery will turn to rags. Do you understand?

CINDERELLA

I think so.

FAIRY GODMOTHER

Good. Then hurry.

(CINDERELLA turns and begins to leave, stops, looks back with gratitude to FAIRY GODMOTHER) escorts her to the coach, before stepping inside, she turns again to look down at FAIRY GODMOTHER)

FAIRY GODMOTHER

My dear, I see a tear in your eye.

CINDERELLA

It is a tear of joy, for tonight is to be the happiest night of my life! Thank you!

(As one of the pages hooks the reindeer up to the coach, the other escorts CINDERELLA into the coach. The pages hop onto the coach and the reindeer lead the coach off as the FAIRY GODMOTHER waves farewell, then dances off into the night as lights fade and Act Curtain falls)

END OF ACT I**INTERMISSION**