



Murray J. Rivette

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BIG DOG PUBLISHING

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Cinderellie's Wild Wedding

COMEDY FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES. Prince Herman has proposed to Cinderellie, and the happy couple is set to be married in just one month. Not wanting to hold a grudge, Cinderellie invites her conniving stepmother and two lazy stepsisters, Prunella and Drizella, to the wedding. With so little time to plan a wedding, Cinderellie seeks the help of a wedding planner recommended by her stepmother. In a scheme to ruin the wedding, Cinderellie's stepmother and stepsisters go to the wedding planner's shop and secretly change the venue, music, food, flowers, and even the cake. If the wedding goes as planned, it's going to be one wild wedding!

Performance Time: Approximately 45-60 minutes.

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Illustration by Gustave Doré from the book by Charles Perrault

About the Story

The story of Cinderella is an ancient, popular folktale of which hundreds of versions exist worldwide. The first recorded version of the tale is thought to have been written down in China in 850-60 A.D. and features a heroine named Yeh-shen and a magical fish and a golden shoe. The story was first published in France by Charles Perrault in 1697. It is Perrault's tale that introduces Cinderella's glass slipper, animal servants, and the pumpkin carriage. Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm's German version is known as "Aschenputtel" ("Ash Girl"). In this tale, Aschenputtel plants a tree at her mother's grave and it is there that a magical white dove and gifts appear.

Characters

(3 M, 7 F)

CINDERELLIE: Engaged to Prince Herman; designs clothing for the nobles at the castle; female.

STEPMOM: Cinderellie's stepmother; female.

PRUNELLA: Cinderellie's stepsister; hates to do housework and loves to buy clothes; female.

DRIZELLA: Cinderellie's stepsister; hates to do housework and loves to buy clothes; female.

KING HERMAN: King who loves to tell bad jokes; male.

QUEEN ESTHER: Prince Herman's mother; female.

PRINCE HERMAN: Engaged to Cinderellie; male.

RECTO: A page who works as Cinderellie's bodyguard; wears a tunic; male.

VERSO: Recto's younger sister; a page who works as Cinderellie's bodyguard; wears a tunic; female.

**ROSITA CONCHITA JUANITA LOLITA PEPITA
CHIQUITA ENCHILADAS RAPPAPORT:** Wedding planner recommended by Cinderellie's stepmother; female.

Setting

King Herman's kingdom.

Sets

Stepmom's castle. There is table with two chairs at CS.

King Herman's castle courtyard. The setting is a garden with some shrubbery and benches.

Wedding planner's shop. Exterior of the shop. There is a small counter off to one side with a small table and 3-4 chairs CS.

Synopsis of Scenes

Scene 1: Stepmom's castle.

Scene 2: King Herman's castle courtyard.

Scene 3: Wedding planner's shop.

Scene 4: King Herman's castle courtyard, after the wedding.
(Same as scene 2.)

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Props

Sock with needle and thread

Bundle of unfolded clothes

Bowl

Whisk

Thick wedding catalog

Short sword, for Prince

Phone

Clipboard with papers

2 New tunics, for Verso and Recto

Diamond ring, for Stepmom

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"You invited the Dragon Lady
and the Bobbsey Twins?"

—King Herman

Scene 1

(AT RISE: Stepmom's castle. There is table with two chairs at CS. Stepmom is sitting in a chair at the table darning a sock. Prunella is folding clothes while sitting cross-legged on floor. Drizella is sitting at the table, mixing something in a bowl with a whisk.)

PRUNELLA: Momma, I'm getting tired of doing all the laundry now that Cinderellie is gone.

DRIZELLA: (To Stepmom.) And I'm getting tired of doing all the cooking. Cinderellie did that, too.

STEPMOM: Girls, we've all got to pull our weight now that she is no longer with us.

PRUNELLA: I'm kind of sorry that we didn't treat her better.

DRIZELLA: Yeah, me, too. She might have stayed longer if we had.

STEPMOM: No sense in crying over spilled milk. She's gone, and that's all there is to it. End of story.

PRUNELLA: Why did she go...outside of the fact that we were kind of mean to her?

DRIZELLA: "Kind of mean"?! Wow, I'd have to say we were *really* mean.

PRUNELLA: That's true. She wasn't a bad person. I'm kinda sorry now.

DRIZELLA: You and me both. She did an awful lot of work around here.

PRUNELLA: Yeah, like the laundry and the cleaning –

DRIZELLA: And the cooking and the cleaning –

STEPMOM: And the darning and the cleaning –

PRUNELLA/DRIZELLA: Yeah!

STEPMOM: Well, her fairy godmother got her to the castle ball somehow, and she met Prince Herman, and she also turned 18 and was emancipated.

PRUNELLA: What does "e-man-ci-pate-ed" mean, Momma?

DRIZELLA: Yeah, Momma, what's that word mean?

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STEPMOM: It means that she is free to do whatever she wants.

PRUNELLA/DRIZELLA: Oh.

STEPMOM: That's life, kids. And there's nothing we can do to change it. So...let's make the best of it and just do all our daily chores with a smile. See? (*Big phony grin.*) I hate it, too! (*Frowns.*)

PRUNELLA/DRIZELLA: (*Frown.*) Yeah.

(*Recto rushes on.*)

RECTO: Hold it! (*Prunella, Drizella, and Stepmom freeze. To audience.*) Hello, everyone! I've got to put a stop to this nonsense because it's getting me all farklemt. (*Choked up.*) Do you hear what they're saying? They're having second thoughts about how they treated Cinderellie when she was living here. How about that? Guilty consciences, right? Cinderellie has been doing great on her own. She's been working as a seamstress, making beautiful clothes for the Nobles in the Kingdom. (*Realizes.*) Oh, wait! I'm sorry. I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Recto, and I am a page. My father was in the printing business and he named me Recto because it means "right-hand page." And I *am* right-handed. My little sister is named Verso because that means "left-hand page." But she's not left-handed. She's ambidextrous. That means she can use either hand. Funny, huh? (*Pause.*) Okay, not funny. And my sister's elevator doesn't go all the way to the top floor, if you know what I mean. Dad always wanted us to work in the big castle—King Herman and Queen Esther's castle—and he signed us up to be pages at birth. And we made it! Much better than an arranged marriage! I love being a page and— (*Realizes.*) Oh, I'm sorry. I digress. My little sister and I are Cinderellie's protection detail—her bodyguards, if you will—ever since Prince Herman met her. And just the other night, he popped the question. Cinderellie is on her way over here to tell her stepmother and stepsisters, and my

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sister and I accompanied her. I ran ahead to make sure that all was okay here. I don't want Cinderellie to have any trouble with this wild bunch!

VERSO: (*Offstage, calls.*) Hey, Recto! Where are you?!

RECTO: (*To audience.*) Shhh. Don't say a word. Let's see how long it takes her to realize that I'm inside the old castle. (*Stands directly in front of Stepmom.*)

VERSO: (*Offstage, calls.*) Recto?! I can't find you! Where are you?!

RECTO: (*To audience.*) This is fun. She'll never find me!

VERSO: (*Offstage, calls.*) Come on, Recto! Where are you hiding?! (*Recto snickers. Offstage, shouts.*) Marco!

RECTO: (*Shouts.*) Polo! (*To audience.*) Oh, rats! She got me. (*Calls.*) I'm in here, Sis! Come on in!

(*Verso enters.*)

VERSO: Ah, there you are. (*Crosses and stands in front of Stepmom.*)

RECTO: Yeah, here I am. Where's Cinderellie?

VERSO: Oh, she stopped to talk to some of the street vendors on the way.

STEPMOM: (*Still frozen.*) Hey!

(*Startled, Recto and Verso jump away from Stepmom.*)

RECTO/VERSO: Whoa!

STEPMOM: (*Still frozen.*) Can you please save the chit-chat until later? I'm still frozen here!

VERSO: Impossible! It's the middle of summer. You can't be frozen.

RECTO: Sis, she means she is in a state of suspended animation.

VERSO: A state of suspended animation? Is that a state near [New Jersey]? [*Or insert another state.*]

RECTO: No, suspended animation is a different kind of state.

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VERSO: Oh. *(Realizes.)* Oh, okay, I get it now! She can't move, right?

STEPMOM: *(Shouts.)* Right! I can't move! Now do something...please!

RECTO: All right.

(Recto snaps his fingers. Stepmom, Drizella, and Prunella unfreeze.)

STEPMOM: *(Wiggling fingers and toes.)* Ahhh! *(To Recto.)* Thank you.

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: *(To Recto.)* Yeah, thanks. *(They resume their chores.)*

STEPMOM: *(To Recto and Verso.)* So...what's going on? And who are you two strangers?

RECTO: We are pages and also serve as Cinderellie's protection detail...her bodyguards.

STEPMOM: Why does she need bodyguards?

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: *(To Recto and Verso.)* Yeah, why bodyguards?

VERSO: We gotta protect her from bad people, especially now that Prince Herman –

RECTO: Hey, Sis! We need to let Cinderellie tell them herself. So button it!

VERSO: Oh, right. Sorry. *(Gestures zipping her lips.)*

RECTO: *(Looks off.)* I think I see her coming now.

VERSO: *(Looks off.)* Yep, here she is.

(Cinderellie enters.)

CINDERELLIE: Hello, everyone.

(Recto and Verso cross to the door and stand guard.)

STEPMOM/DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: *(Unenthusiastically.)* Hello, Cinderellie.

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STEPMOM: *(To Cinderellie.)* So what brings you to this part of town? Your own little cottage walls closing in on you? Had to get out for some fresh air?

CINDERELLIE: Actually, Stepmother, I'm here to see you and my two stepsisters.

(Drizella and Prunella stop working.)

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: *(Shocked.)* Really?

CINDERELLIE: Yes, really.

STEPMOM: *(Sarcastic.)* How nice of you to come all the way over here...must be at least a half mile.

CINDERELLIE: I detect a note of sarcasm there, Mathilda. Let's put aside all the bad feelings from the past for now, all right?

STEPMOM: Oh, all right.

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: *(To Cinderellie.)* All right.

CINDERELLIE: Good, because I have some wonderful news to tell you. Prince Herman has asked for my hand in marriage! Isn't that wonderful?!

STEPMOM: *(Sarcastic.)* Oh, terrific!

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: *(Sarcastic.)* Yeah, just wonderful!

STEPMOM: *(To Cinderellie.)* So you came all the way over here just to tell us that you're engaged to the Prince...or just to gloat?

CINDERELLIE: No. No gloating. Actually, I've come to invite all of you to the wedding and the reception, too.

STEPMOM: *(Sarcastic.)* Oh! Well, isn't that special?!

(Excited, Drizella and Prunella crowd around Stepmom.)

DRIZELLA: *(Excited.)* Oh, Mother, maybe I can get a new dress for the occasion!

PRUNELLA: *(Excited.)* Me, too, Mother! I love weddings...and new clothes!

CINDERELLIE: *(To Stepmom.)* So you'll attend?

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STEPMOM: Sure, why not? It's the least we can do for you.
DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: Yay!
CINDERELLIE: I'll even have the King send his royal coach
over to pick you up on the day of the wedding.
STEPMOM: (*Disappointed.*) No limos available?
CINDERELLIE: No, sorry. King Herman wants to reduce air
pollution so he's banning all gas-guzzling vehicles.
STEPMOM: (*Disappointed.*) So no Uber or Lyft, either?
CINDERELLIE: Nope. You'll ride in style in the royal coach.
STEPMOM: (*Disappointed.*) Yeah, right behind a smelly, old
horse.
DRIZELLA: Oh, Mother, it sounds wonderful!
PRUNELLA: Yes, Mother, we'll be like honored guests!
STEPMOM: (*To Cinderellie.*) Oh, all right. We will attend.
So...tell me, Cinderellie, who's making all the arrangements
for the big shindig?
CINDERELLIE: Oh, we haven't started to do any planning for
it yet.
STEPMOM: When is it going to happen? I assume that you've
picked a date.
CINDERELLIE: One month from today.
STEPMOM: One month?! That doesn't give you a lot of time
to make plans. Let me suggest the person who arranged the
wedding between your father and me, Rosita Rappaport.
She's an excellent wedding planner, and she works very fast
too, so she can probably get it all done in a month. She's
that good.
CINDERELLIE: Why, thank you, Mathilda. It's very nice of
you to help me out like this.
STEPMOM: No problem. Just tell Rosita that I recommended
you.
CINDERELLIE: Of course, I will.
STEPMOM: So I guess that we'll see you there.
CINDERELLIE: Oh, yes. I'm so excited at the thought of
becoming a princess.

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STEPMOM: Oh, I can see that. Tell me, will you be moving into the big castle or will the Prince be moving in with you in your little cottage?

CINDERELLIE: Oh, I'll be moving into the castle...the West Wing.

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: Wow!

STEPMOM: *(To Cinderellie.)* How is your business going? Are you still designing and making clothing for the nobles at the castle?

CINDERELLIE: Oh, yes. And I'll probably continue doing it after the Prince and I are married. I love designing and making new clothes!

PRUNELLA: And I love buying them!

DRIZELLA: I love buying them, too!

CINDERELLIE: If you'd like me to make you girls something, I'll even give you a family discount.

PRUNELLA/DRIZELLA: Yay!

CINDERELLIE: And perhaps after Prince Herman and I get settled, you will all come over for tea some afternoon?

STEPMOM: Hmm, I don't know. What do you girls think?

DRIZELLA/PRUNELLA: Yes!

STEPMOM: The last time I had occasion to visit the big castle, your father was still alive. I miss him.

CINDERELLIE: I miss him, too, Mathilda. But life goes on.

STEPMOM: "Ob-la-di, ob-la-da, life goes on," yeah.

CINDERELLIE: So that's a yes?

STEPMOM: Of course.

CINDERELLIE: All right. I'll let you know when. I'll send one of my pages to tell you.

STEPMOM: Fine.

CINDERELLIE: Okay, time to head home. *(To Recto and Verso.)*
Let's go home.

(Cinderellie exits with Recto and Verso.)

STEPMOM: Well, I never thought I'd ever see her again!

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DRIZELLA: *We are* going to her wedding, aren't we, Momma?

PRUNELLA: *(To Stepmom.)* She did invite all of us, so we should go, right?

STEPMOM: Oh, yes, of course. We'll go to the wedding...and maybe I'll have some *special* plans for it, too. *(Evil laugh.)*

PRUNELLA: Oh, Mother, you're not going to do anything foolish, are you?

DRIZELLA: Yes, Mother, please don't do anything foolish. It was nice of her to invite us.

STEPMOM: Hush, you two! What I do or don't do is my business and mine alone! *(Evil laugh.)*

[END OF FREEVIEW]