



**Mike Noland**

BIG DOG PUBLISHING

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**BIG DOG PUBLISHING**

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## **Cinderella Redux**

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**Cinderella Redux** was first performed at North Little Rock High School East Campus in November 2009.

**NARRATOR:** David Knight

**CINDERELLA:** Shelby Matney

**STEPMOTHER:** Iaja Rogers

**BROOMHILDA:** Michael Pertrarca

**GRIZELDA:** Taylor Puckett

**FATHER:** Clint Cameron

**WILHELM:** Jay Stanley

**PRINCE:** Donovan Dowers

**ENGLEBERT:** Kenderick Scorza

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Savannah Harrington

**MALCOM MOUSE:** Curtis Reeves

**EMILY MOUSE:** Meredith Short

**TRUMPETER:** Chris Bell

**HANZEL:** Nathaniel Darbonne

**GRETEL:** Taylor Cameron

**MR. COOK:** Drew Ellis

**MRS. COOK:** Kelly Montgomery

**GUY 1/GUARD 1:** Hunter Brown

**GUY 2/GUARD 2:** Mike Pruss

**GUY 3/GUARD 3:** Gabe Young

**GIRL 1:** Madison Ellis

**GIRL 2:** Corissia Fairchild

**GIRL 3:** Marissa Harris

**GIRL 4:** Abbey Allen

**GIRL 5:** Amber Fleming

**GIRL 6:** Kaylie House

**GIRL 7:** Morgan Oehlertz

**LADIES AT THE BALL:** Morgan Anderson, Bailey Bevans, Baylee Dunn, Hannah Fender, Alexandria Haley, Lexi Haney, Temerity Jackson, Bailey Martin, Stella Morrow, Caylee Nickel, Sierra Snow, Michelle Strahan, and Miranda Wiggins.

## Cinderella Redux

**COMEDY.** Audiences of all ages will love this off-kilter, madcap version of “Cinderella.” With the bad economy and no job skills, Prince Wigglesworth needs to find a bride so he can become king and rule the kingdom. So the Prince decides to host a masked ball so he can meet all the eligible maidens in the kingdom. Forbidden to attend the ball by her evil stepmother, Cinderella visits her mother’s grave, where she meets a licensed and certified, full-service fairy godmother who specializes in “wishes granted, spells cast, futures told, and uni-brows plucked” and who helps Cinderella prepare for the ball. When the Prince meets Cinderella, he falls madly in love with her. But when Cinderella suddenly disappears, the Prince has to find her with the help of his dimwitted palace security guards who may have been hired from Idiots-R-Us!

**Performance Time:** Approximately 75 minutes.



Illustration by Gustave Doré from the book by Charles Perrault

## About the Story

The story of Cinderella is an ancient 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, Ashenputtel plants a tree at her mother's grave and it is there that a magical white dove and gifts appear.

## Characters

(11 M, 13 F, 7 flexible, opt. extras)

(With doubling: 9 M, 11 F, 2 flexible)

**CINDERELLA:** Beautiful young girl whose stepmother and stepsisters force her to do all the work around the castle like washing the pigs, putting fresh water in the moat, and digging new outhouses.

**STEPMOTHER:** Cinderella's mean and nasty stepmother who has really good hearing and smells like parmesan cheese.

**BROOMHILDA:** Cinderella's ugly stepsister who is selfish, conceited, and stupid.

**GRIZELDA:** Cinderella's ugly stepsister who is selfish, conceited, and stupid.

**FATHER:** Cinderella's father, a sad, weak little man.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Licensed and certified full-service fairy godmother who specializes in "wishes granted, spells cast, futures told, and uni-brows plucked" and who helps Cinderella prepare for the ball.

**MALCOLM:** Mouse who is transformed into Cinderella's coach driver and dance teacher; wears a formal outfit suitable for a coach driver.

**EMILY:** Mouse who is transformed into Cinderella's lady-in-waiting and dance teacher; wears a fine dress.

**WILHELM/WILHELMINA:** Sarcastic servant who works for Cinderella's stepmother; flexible.

**PRINCE WIGGLESWORTH:** Has no real job skills and needs to find a bride so he can become king and rule the kingdom.

**ENGLEBERT:** Prince's loyal manservant.

**NARRATOR:** Tells the tale of Cinderella; annoyed with Royal Trumpeter's incompetence; flexible.

**TRUMPETER:** Prince's royal trumpeter who plays terribly; flexible.

**HANSEL:** Lost in the woods while looking for a candy house, speaks with a German accent.

**GRETEL:** Hansel's sister; speaks with a German accent.

**MR. COOK:** Castle cook who teaches Cinderella how to dance.

**MRS. COOK:** Castle cook who teaches Cinderella how to dance.

**GIRL 1-5:** Guests at the ball; female.

**GUY 1-5:** Guests at the ball; male.

**GUARD 1-4:** The Prince's palace guards who were probably hired from Idiots-R-Us; wear uniforms; flexible.

**EXTRAS (opt.):** As additional Ball Guests and Guards.

## **Options For Doubling**

**MALCOLM/HANSEL** (male)

**EMILY/GRETEL** (female)

**TRUMPETER/WILHELM** (flexible)

**MR. COOK/GUY** (male)

**MRS. COOK/GIRL** (female)

**GUY 1-4/GUARD 1-4** (4 flexible)

## Set

The sets may be as simple or as elaborate as your budget allows.

**Interior of Cinderella's castle/Prince's castle.** There is a fireplace and a table with chairs.

**Woods.** There is a backdrop depicting a woods and a large tree marking the spot where Cinderella's mother is buried.

**Cinderella's bedroom.** There is a bed, window, and a small closet with a working door.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

**Scene 1:** In front of the curtain.

**Scene 2:** Interior of Cinderella's castle.

**Scene 3:** Interior of the Prince's chambers.

**Scene 4:** In front of the curtain.

**Scene 5:** Interior of Cinderella's castle.

**Scene 6:** The woods where Cinderella's mother is buried.

**Scene 7:** In front of the curtain.

**Scene 8:** Cinderella's bedroom.

**Scene 9:** Prince's palace, evening of the masked ball.

**Scene 10:** Cinderella's bedroom.

**Scene 11:** The woods where Cinderella's mother is buried.

**Scene 12:** Cinderella's bedroom.

**Scene 13:** Interior of the Prince's chambers.

**Scene 14:** Prince's castle, night of the second ball.

**Scene 15:** Cinderella's bedroom, after the ball.

**Scene 16:** In front of the curtain.

**Scene 17:** Interior of the Prince's chambers.

**Scene 18:** Cinderella's bedroom.



## Props

Trumpet	Masks, for Guests
Feather duster	2 Cups
Pot of peas	Air horn
Whistle	Conch
Beautiful ball gown, for Cinderella	3 Small beanbags
Gold shoes, for Cinderella	Pogo stick
Magic wand	Women's wig, for Guard 3
Harmonica	Large bucket of water

## Special Effects

Dance music

Smoke

Sparks

Lights flash

Ballroom music

Banging on door

Country music

Chime

Knock at the door

Sound of outdoor power  
equipment

"Many, Many years ago,  
back in the old country,  
there was a very dysfunctional family.  
The father was a sad, weak little man,  
and his wife was an unpleasant creature  
who smelled like parmesan cheese...

## Scene 1

(AT RISE: In front of the curtain. Narrator enters. Note: Narrator can step out from the wings or could have a set location where he stays throughout the play. This will speed up the flow.)

NARRATOR: (*To audience.*) Once upon a time—. Wait, sorry, let me try that again. There once was a man from New Delhi—. Oops, that's wrong. Let me think... (*Thinks.*) Oh, okay. Many, many years ago, back in the old country, there was a very dysfunctional family. The father was a sad, weak little man, and his wife was an unpleasant creature who smelled like parmesan cheese.

STEPMOTHER: (*Offstage, shouts.*) I can hear you!

NARRATOR: (*To audience.*) With really good hearing. She also had two equally nasty, conceited daughters who thought only of themselves. However, there was one bright spot in the house, or Castle, really. Not a huge place...you know, about ten bedrooms, formal dining room, family room (rarely used), and five outhouses. It was the Middle Ages, after all. But I digress. The old man was a widower and had a daughter with his late first wife. His daughter was as beautiful of face as she was of heart. Her name was Ella. Unfortunately, she was treated like a maid. Her stepmother and stepsisters made her do all the work around the castle including cleaning the cinders out of the fireplace. So, of course, they called her "Fireplace-cleaning Ella," which sounded really stupid, even to them. So they bought a book of names to shame people by and came up with "Cinderella." I told you they were mean and dumb.

BROOMHILDA/GRIZELDA: (*Offstage, shout.*) Would you hurry up, you slow-witted ox!

NARRATOR: (*To audience.*) Ah, voices like nails on a chalkboard. You're gonna love 'em. So, now, without further ado, here is the classic tale of "Cinderella."

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BROOMHILDA/GRIZELDA: (*Offstage, shout.*) It's about time.

NARRATOR: (*To audience.*) Enjoy...

## Scene 2

(AT RISE: Interior of Cinderella's Castle. Stepmother enters.)

STEPMOTHER: How many times must I tell you girls this?

BROOMHILDA: Just once more, Mummy.

GRIZELDA: (To Stepmother.) We'll pay attention. We promise. Pleeeeeease...

STEPMOTHER: Well, all right. You know I can't deny my precious babies anything. (Broomhilda and Grizelda giggle.)

We are more beautiful, intelligent, talented, and better at water sports than anyone else because...

BROOMHILDA/GRIZELDA: Say it, say it...

STEPMOTHER: We are dancers.

(Music. Stepmother, Broomhilda, and Grizelda dance horribly. Father enters.)

FATHER: Dear heavenly saints, they have been possessed by demons! Get a priest! Get a doctor—

STEPMOTHER: Get a grip. We were dancing.

FATHER: Oh, praise be! I thought a horrible, dark beast had taken over your body and caused you to convulse and contort in a way that is both unnatural and unpleasant to behold.

STEPMOTHER: If you have something to say about our dancing, would you just say it already?

FATHER: (Meekly.) It scares me.

(Broomhilda and Grizelda start crying.)

STEPMOTHER: Now look what you've done! You have upset the girls. So to make it up to them, you must take them to get new dresses.

*(Grizelda immediately stops crying.)*

GRIZELDA: *(To Father.)* And shoes! I really need new shoes!

BROOMHILDA: *(To Father.)* Gloves! I want matching gloves!

GRIZELDA: *(To Father.)* Jewelry...a big expensive necklace with lots of rubies and gold!

FATHER: I didn't think I upset you both that much.

BROOMHILDA/GRIZELDA: You did! You did!

BROOMHILDA: *(To Father.)* I might cry and wail until I develop an eating disorder.

GRIZELDA: *(To Father.)* And I may start to write really depressing poetry about death, dying, and how no one understands me. I will start listening to music by long-haired boys who are moody and emotional like...like...oh, what's his name? You know, he writes all those...songs.

FATHER: You mean...Mozart.

GRIZELDA: Yeah, that's the guy.

FATHER: You're not upset. You're normal.

*(Grizelda and Broomhilda scream.)*

BROOMHILDA: What a horrible thing to say!

GRIZELDA: Mummy, Stepfather just called us terrible names. Make him stop.

STEPMOTHER: *(To Father.)* How dare you say rude things to these innocent flowers of sweetness!

*(Father starts to exit.)*

FATHER: *(To himself.)* Maybe I will have the cook pour scalding oil down my pants. It can't be worse than this.  
*(Exits.)*

STEPMOTHER: Don't worry, my babies. I'll get you some new dresses if we have to torture all the women on the castle staff.

BROOMHILDA: Thank you, Mummy.

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GRIZELDA: You're the best. Can we start with Cinderella?

STEPMOTHER: Of course. (*Calls.*) Cinderella, where are you?

(*Blackout.*)



## Scene 3

(AT RISE: Interior of the Prince's chambers. Prince and Englebert enter.)

PRINCE: (To Englebert.) I don't know where to meet women anymore. Lately, they have all been the same. (High-pitched voice.) "Oh, Prince. Over here. You are so cute. Is that your carriage outside...with the gold rims and the six white horses?" There has to be a better way to meet women.

ENGLEBERT: Let me see if I understand your problem...people are dying of the Black Death, holy wars are raging throughout Europe, everyone has really bad breath because their teeth are rotting, and you are complaining because women throw themselves at you?

PRINCE: Yes.

ENGLEBERT: Just wanted to be clear. Then we have to find a way to let you meet women without them realizing that you are the prince.

PRINCE: Exactly, Englebert. Is that so hard?

ENGLEBERT: Hmmm...well, every bit of clothes that you own has the royal seal on it. You always travel with the royal guard. And every time you enter a room, the royal trumpeter blows his horn.

PRINCE: Maybe we could do without the royal trumpeter.

ENGLEBERT: Yeah, he really is kind of annoying.

PRINCE: Especially when I am just going to the *throne* room, if you know what I mean. I don't want everyone to know.

ENGLEBERT: Let's see... (Thinks.) Perhaps, we could have a spelling bee and have all the eligible girls in the land enter it.

PRINCE: (Totally bored.) Yeah, that sounds great.

ENGLEBERT: Give me a chance. I am just getting started. (Excited.) How about we invade a country, make all the men slaves, make the children wear really stupid hats, and make all the eligible women bake their favorite dessert?

PRINCE: Let's see...it's cruel, silly, and possibly tasty. (*Optimistic.*) That might work. How long would something like that take?

ENGLEBERT: What day is it?

PRINCE: Friday.

ENGLEBERT: Let's see...Friday, Saturday, Sunday...nine months!

PRINCE: No, I don't want to wait that long. If I don't find a suitable bride quick, Daddy won't let me rule the kingdom and then what will I do? I have no real job skills. Have you seen the economy lately?

ENGLEBERT: And more importantly, what would I do? I cannot go back to working at Burger King.

PRINCE: Working at Burger King?

ENGLEBERT: I meant working for King Burger. (*Embarrassed.*) I always mess that up.

PRINCE: This seems hopeless.

ENGLEBERT: (*Gets idea.*) Not so fast...I have it! (*Proudly.*) A brilliant idea if I do say so myself! We will have a masquerade ball. Everyone will wear elaborate costumes based on their favorite fairy tale characters, tons of makeup that takes hours to apply, and specially designed hats that represent the characters' innermost secrets.

PRINCE: Or they could dress up and just wear a mask.

ENGLEBERT: That works, too.

[END OF FREEVIEW]