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Big Dog Publishing

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Happily Ever After's Dating Show

COMEDY. Welcome to the dating show where contestants find the prince or princess of their dreams and live happily ever after...um, well, maybe? Little Red Riding Hood gets to select from an "impressive" group of bachelors including a hyperactive gingerbread man, a shepherd boy who is a pathological liar, and a ravenous wolf who likes wearing sheep's clothing. Then there's Prince Charming, an inspirational speaker and author of several best-selling selfhelp books who must choose between Cinderella, a holistic health nut, or her spoiled, whiny stepsisters who have stinky feet and like to shop and party. Snow White's bachelors include Rumpelstiltskin, a frog who advocates for wetland preservation, and her own stepmother, who has disguised herself as a bachelor so she can trick Snow White into eating a poisoned apple. Rip-roaring, riotous fun!

Performance Time: Approximately 30 minutes.

Characters

(6 M, 10 Female, 2 flexible, extras)

- **FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Dating Show host; carries a magic wand; female.
- **PUSS IN BOOTS:** Dating Show stage manager; flexible.
- **LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD:** Bachelorette; likes to spend time with her grandmother, spending time in the woods, and baking; wears a red cape with hood; female.
- **MR. WOLF:** Bachelor; a wolf who likes to spend time eating, wearing sheep's clothing, and thinks houses should never be made out of bricks; male.
- **SHEPHERD BOY:** Bachelor; a shepherd who herds sheep and is a pathological liar; male.
- **GINGERBREAD BOY:** Bachelor; a hyperactive gingerbread cookie who likes to run as fast as he can and don new gumdrop buttons; male.
- **SLEEPING BEAUTY:** Princess who is asleep after being put under a spell; female.
- **EVIL FAIRY:** Evil fairy who has cast a spell on Sleeping Beauty; female.
- **SNOW WHITE:** Bachelorette; a princess who likes to sing and dance and is known as the "fairest of them all"; female.
- **FROG PRINCE:** Bachelor; a frog who is really a kindhearted prince; advocate for preserving the wetlands and enjoys swimming, catching flies, and jumping from lily pad to lily pad; wears a frog costume; male.
- **RUMPELSTILTSKIN:** Bachelor; a strange little man who is reclusive and introverted and likes to dance and use a spinning wheel; male.
- **EVIL STEPMOTHER:** Snow White's evil stepmother who disguises herself as a bachelor and deals with difficult people by hiring a huntsman or offering them an apple; wears a long black cape; female.

PRINCE CHARMING: Bachelor; a handsome prince and inspirational speaker who has written several best-selling self-help books; male.

CINDERELLA: Bachelorette; spends her time waiting on her stepsisters and cleaning; makes detox juices, practices Tai Chi, and loves kale; wears an apron with a pocket; female.

CLORINDA: Bachelorette; Cinderella's stepsister who has stinky feet and loves to go shopping, attend parties, and get her own way; female.

THISBE: Bachelorette; Cinderella's whiny stepsister who likes to get manicures and pedicure and loves to eat; female.

FAN: Fanatical Prince Charming fan; female.

DWARF: Dating Show film crew member; flexible.

EXTRAS: As Fans for Prince Charming and Dwarves as members of the film crew.

NOTE: Prince Charming's fans can be fairies, princesses, damsels, witches, fantastical creatures, etc. They can hold banners and take selfies with their cell phones, etc. Fans may be planted in the audience and can scream, faint, applaud etc.

Setting

A television studio.

Set

TV game show. There are two stools or chairs on one side for the host and contestant and three stools or chairs on the other side for potential matches. There is a partition between contestants and potential matches. If there is no partition, contestants and potential matches can sit with their backs to each other.

PROPS

Magic wand
Clipboard
Wicker basket
Long black cape
Apple
Bag of chips
Large sign that reads, "Marry me, Prince Charming"
Bag of cookies
Apple with a bite out of it
"Glass" slipper

"I like wearing sheep's clothing."

—MR. Wolf.

Happily Ever After's Dating Show

(AT RISE: Fairy Godmother twirls on, curtseys, and waves her wand.)

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (*To audience.*) Greetings, faerie folk and elves, dwarves and giants, wizards and warlocks, orcs and ogres, witches and bewitched. Welcome to "Happily Ever After," the dating show where contestants find the prince or princess of their dreams to live happily ever after with. I'm your host, Fairy Godmother, here to make all your wishes and dreams come true!

(Puss in Boots enters, holding a clipboard.)

PUSS IN BOOTS: Hey, Fairy Godmother, you ready for the first contestant?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Bring them out, Puss in Boots. (Puss in Boots exits. To audience.) First, let's meet the bachelors who will be competing for a date with our bachelorette. Starting once upon a time with bachelor number one, who enjoys spending time in the outdoors, eating, hunting, eating, meeting new people that he can eat, and eating. Give a warm welcome to Mr. Wolf! Let's give him a hand, knights and ladies!

(Applause. Mr. Wolf enters.)

MR. WOLF: Glad to be here, sweetheart. You're looking very plump and delicious today, if you don't mind me saying so, doll face.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (Awkward.) Um...thanks. (Motioning to stool.) Please have a seat. (To audience.) Now, let's welcome our next guest. His family and friends describe him as sugary sweet and a child at heart. His hobbies

include traveling far from his parents' bakery, running as fast as he can, and sporting new gumdrop buttons. Let's give a round of applause for the Gingerbread Man!

(Applause. Gingerbread Man jogs on.)

GINGERBREAD MAN: Run, run, as fast as you can.

You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I see. Well, why don't you have a seat next to our first bachelor. (*Indicating stool.*)

MR. WOLF: (To Gingerbread Man.) Yeah, sit next to me, you delicious morsel.

GINGERBREAD MAN: (*To Fairy Godmother.*) Can't I just run in place?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I'm afraid not. Running in place is distracting for our live studio audience.

MR. WOLF: Having a delicious, delectably delightful cookie on stage that we aren't allowed to scarf down isn't more distracting?

GINGERBREAD MAN: (Worried.) Oh, bother.

(Gingerbread Man reluctantly sits down on the stool next to Mr. Wolf. Mr. Wolf sniffs him and smacks his lips. Gingerbread Man runs off. Gingerbread Man runs on and sits on his stool.)

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (*To audience.*) And, now, let's bring out our final bachelor competing for the affections of our contestant. He enjoys spending time coming up with fantastical stories and watching his flock of sheep. Let's welcome Shepherd Boy!

(Shepherd Boy enters.)

SHEPHERD BOY: Sorry I am late. I was attacked by a pack of ogres on my way here and I had to fight them off, but then this huge dragon arrived and I had to fight the dragon too,

and then I was attacked by a pack of pixies, and then an evil enchantress showed up and —

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Yes, well, that's enough. Take a seat. (Gestures to stool. To audience.) Now, let's bring out our lucky bachelorette who gets to choose between these three handsome young gentlemen. Our lovely bachelorette enjoys long walks in the woods, spending time with her family—especially her grandmother—flower picking, and baking. Please give a warm welcome to Little Red Riding Hood! (Little Red Riding Hood enters, carrying a basket.) Fabulous cape! I love the color!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Thank you!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Whatever is in your basket smells amazing! Cookies?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Chocolate chip. Sorry, they are for my grandmother. She's ill. (*Sits down on a stool.*)

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I'm sorry to hear that. Right, let's begin. What's your first question for your potential date?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: All right, bachelors. I adore my red cape and can't go anywhere without it. What is your favorite clothing item and why?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: All right, bachelors. (*To Mr. Wolf.*) Let's start with you, bachelor number one.

MR. WOLF: I like wearing sheep's clothing.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Right. Well, what is your favorite clothing item, bachelor number two?

GINGERBREAD MAN: (Starts running in place.) Sprinkles, frosting, gumdrops, and chopped nuts. I am a huge fan of cinnamon myself. It's classic. I feel like it goes with everything. You can dress it up or down for informal or formal occasions. But I'm a traditionalist when it comes to fashion.

[END OF FREEVIEW]