

CINDERELLA – SCRIPT EXTRACT – THEATRE ROYAL BURY ST EDMUNDS

*(As the music grows louder we bleed through to the choir huddled together in the cold. Cinderella lays some food at their feet and collects firewood in her basket. After the music has finished there is polite applause.)*

CINDERELLA                    That was so lovely. It is so nice to hear a song so beautiful.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        *(In disguise)* It is nice to see a smile so beautiful. Thank you for the food.

CINDERELLA                    I'm sorry, have we met before?

FAIRY GODMOTHER        I'm not sure we have met properly Cinderella.

CINDERELLA                    But you know my name.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        I do. As I know your smile. Sometimes a mystery is better than the truth.

CINDERELLA                    I've got goosebumps all down my back.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        Goosebumps and collywobbles are a sign.

CINDERELLA                    About what.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        About something that may happen. Let me see your hand.

CINDERELLA                    Can you see into the future?

FAIRY GODMOTHER        I only know what has past. I can feel the future.

CINDERELLA                    But do you know what will happen.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        Many things can happen.

CINDERELLA                    I know it's such a cliché but I have a dream I will meet someone and I will be so happy I want to burst.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        Do you feel it in your dreams?

CINDERELLA                    I never remember my actual dreams.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        So these dreams are when you are awake?

CINDERELLA                    Yes.

FAIRY GODMOTHER        Another sign.

CINDERELLA                    So what can you see in my palm?

FAIRY GODMOTHER        Close your eyes. I see a handsome face, a swirling background and a broken ankle, no forget that, but be careful on stairs. There is music, you are dancing, you are running, it is cold, tears and laughter, live happily ever after.....

*(During this speech at the mention of music an underscore begins and the Fairy Godmother's voice begins to echo loudly. Beautiful floating butterflies land on Cinderella as the music swells. It is a sign. At a certain point in the music a loud hunting horn and all scatter and hide as the symbolic deer is chased through followed on horseback by the Prince)*

EXTRACT 2

(The sisters exit and Cinderella collapses into a heap and sobs. Buttons enters)

BUTTONS Hi ya gang (Hi ya Buttons). Hey Cinders what are you laughing at? Go on tell me. It must be a really funny joke. Is it the one about the bloke who went on a once in lifetime adventure and said never again. Or the one about the skeleton who walked into a bar and asked for a pint of bitter and a mop? Glug glug glug oh, swish swash. Glug glug glug oh swish swash. Or the one...

CINDERELLA I'm not laughing Buttons.

BUTTONS Nor are they. Are they tears?

CINDERELLA There might be a couple.

BUTTONS That's a relief, I thought it was raining.

CINDERELLA Look what those Ugly Sisters did to my ticket. Now I can't go to the ball. They ripped the beautiful dress I was going to wear. I wanted to dance and...

BUTTONS Here. Why don't you take this corner bit and go for ten minutes.

CINDERELLA Oh, Buttons you're such an ape. I met a man in the woods. I thought I would see him again. At the ball. Oh Buttons he was so...

BUTTONS Handsome.

CINDERELLA Yes, and he had...

BUTTONS Two legs.

CINDERELLA Yes, but he sounded...

BUTTONS La di da.

CINDERELLA Well he was a bit upmarket but that doesn't make him a bad person. It was like, I know it sounds silly - but love at first sight. I was so sure I would see him again. That's why I ran away.

BUTTONS So you'll probably never meet him again. Well first impressions can very misleading. I fell in love once.

CINDERELLA With a beautiful girl?

BUTTONS Yes. No, with my teddy bear. Hey, I have a stupendous fantasmorgoric idea. Why do we not have a ball right here in the kitchen. My lady.

CINDERELLA But kind sir, I have no gown to wear.

BUTTONS No probelmo.

(Buttons goes to the kitchen table and pulls the cloth off in one pull leaving the pots of flowers in place. He wraps her up in it.)

CINDERELLA But a dress with no accessories.

(Buttons grabs a string of nine carrots)

BUTTONS        There we are, nine carrots.

CINDERELLA    I'm a princess where's my crown?

BUTTONS        No, you need a ta ra ra boom di ay.

CINDERELLA    What's that.

BUTTONS        A tiara. Ta Ra Boom Di Ay.

(Buttons fixes the kitchen colander to Cinderella's head)

CINDERELLA    Buttons you're daft as brush.

BUTTONS        Well I'm not the one standing there with a collander on my head. Ma'am your mini cab's ere. I mean your carri-arge awaits. Hang on.

(Buttons at a tremendous pace puts one chair on the table, one in front and fixes two dust bin lids to the table legs)

CINDERELLA    Thank you.

BUTTONS        Up on the top deck. Ding ding fares please.        Roll em out.

(The band start to play Wanderin' Star.)

BUTTONS (cont'd) I was born...Hang on we need something more lively than that. Something like dum dum dum dum dumdiddle dum dumdumdiddle dum do. Ok. Sorry.

THE BAND

Dum dum dum dum dumdiddle dum dumdumdiddle dum do.

BUTTONS        Let's pretend it's snowing

INTO SLEIGH BELLS

EXTRACT 3

BUTTONS        Look Cinders we've at arrived at the Palace. And there is a huge crowd waiting to cheer you. (Hurrah). We're being papped with noisy digital cameras (Whir). As the huge door creaks open (Errrr). All the guests gasp at your beautiful gown. (Gasp). And there is the man of your dreams waiting to dance with you)

(The band begins to underscore the scene with Brahms Op 118 No 2 as Buttons and Cinders dance.)

CINDERELLA    I didn't know you could dance.

BUTTONS        There are a lot of things you don't know about me Cinders.

CINDERELLA    Well I know that you're a really sweet person to try and make me happy.

BUTTONS        Well, what you've never understood is that I do it cos I...I...I love you.

CINDERELLA    Do you?

BUTTONS        And just to prove it. I'm going to give you this. My teddy.

CINDERELLA What's his name?

BUTTONS Squiffy. Cos of the smell.

CINDERELLA I see.

BUTTONS You know I just said I love you.

CINDERELLA I love you too Buttons.

BUTTONS You do?

CINDERELLA Of course.

BUTTONS Wow. I'm so happy. When can we marry?

CINDERELLA But perhaps not in the way that you're thinking. I love you like a sister would love a brother.

BUTTONS A brother.

CINDERELLA I'm sorry Buttons. We can still be friends.

BUTTONS I didn't mean to say the wrong thing.

CINDERELLA You didn't. It's just that I'm a bit mixed up right now.

BUTTONS Can I have my teddy back?

CINDERELLA Yes.

BUTTONS Friends.

CINDERELLA Best friends.

BUTTONS Well, I think I'll go to bed now.

CINDERELLA Good night Buttons.

BUTTONS Good night Cinderella.

(Buttons and Squiffy leaves to dollops of sympathy as Cinderella rearranges the kitchen furniture.)