

CINDERELLA?

*(Based very loosely upon the tales by the
Bros. Grimm. First produced at Brown
Ledge Camp, 1975.)*

Conceived and Written By

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

FAIRY GODMOTHER

STEPMOTHER: JUDY ANDREWS

STEPSISTERS: PATSY
MAXI
LEVINE

CINDERELLA

KING

QUEEN

PRINCE

HERALD

THE BUNCH OF PEOPLE

SETTING: As simple or elaborate as budget will allow.

REQUIREMENTS: Stool for Fairy, 2 short stools (Thrones).

COSTUMES:

Requirements - Large full-skirted dress (MOM)

2 Matching Ball Gowns (CINDERELLA and FAIRY
GODMOTHER)

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Scene 1

(AT RISE: The CURTAINS open on a dark stage. We hear the following:)

CAST: Dum – dee – dum – dum ... Boy, does this sound
DUMMMMMM!

(The first section of the FAIRY GODMOTHER'S line is spoken in the dark - possibly on tape.)

FAIRY: *(With little useful expression.)* This is the land. Fairy-tale land. A bunch of people live here. Some nice ... some nasty. Kings, queens, princes and paupers. Wise men and worms. Every one of them wants something he doesn't have. Some of them steal ... some of them don't. That's where I come in ... *(LIGHTS up on FAIRY GODMOTHER. If previous was taped, she now speaks to audience.)* My name's Tuesday. I'm a Fairy Godmother. I carry a wand. *(If possible, SHE is followed by SPOTLIGHT.)* I try to patch things up around here. Here in Fairy-tale Land, I weld together break-ups. I mend tears. Close friends call me Tuesday Glue. It was 8:30, Friday night. I was working nightwatch, Step-Daughter division. Commander was Captain Merryweather. The call came in. I answered it. A young girl was crying. Her Stepmother and Stepsisters had gone to the Prince's Ball at the Palace. The young girl was forced to stay home. Obviously an 807 ... 234... 195 ... 6. I had to check it out. I pulled out the file. Then the Captain made me take a speech course. Said she couldn't stand my diction. I suggested she sit down. She suggested something else to me. I took the speech course.

(FAIRY GODMOTHER crosses to stool. She picks up file and sits down. Cuts speech pattern.)

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FAIRY: *(Cont'd.)* When I got back from the speech clinic, I had a few minutes to study the case. Five people lived in the house. The Stepmother's name was Judy Andrews. She wasn't too pretty. *(LIGHTS up on STEPMOTHER.)* In fact, she was downright ugly. That was because as a juvenile she was always getting beat up. None of the other children liked her. All the other kids were always punchin' Judy. *(STEPMOTHER gives thumbs down and razzberry as LIGHTS go out on her.)* Judy Andrews had three daughters: Patsy, Maxi and Levine; The Andrews Sisters. *(LIGHTS up on SISTERS.)* They were pretty ugly, too. They probably got it from their mother. If you ask me, they should give it back. Unfortunately they knew nothing of Avon, Eve Arden, plastic surgery or even personal hygiene. *(The wind has blown the wrong way and the FAIRY GODMOTHER has gotten a whiff.)* Oh, no. *(SHE pulls out a can of air spray and sprays in the direction of the SISTERS as the LIGHTS on them fade out.)* The other person who lived in the house was a young girl. The Stepsisters used to walk all over her. *(LIGHTS up on CINDERELLA - her dress is covered with footprints.)* Her name was ... ah was, ah ... *(SHE checks file.)* Cinderella. *(Does double-take.)* CINDERELLA? *(BLACKOUT. In the darkness we hear.)*

SISTERS: Cinderella! *(LIGHTS come back up on SISTERS.)* Cinderella!

CINDERELLA: *(Enters.)* Coming. Yes, dear Stepsisters?

PATSY: What's going on, Cinderella?

MAXI: What are you trying to do?

LEVINE: Insult us or something?

SISTERS: Huh?

CINDERELLA: Whatever do you mean, dear Stepsisters?

PATSY: Who's been -

MAXI: Shootin' off -

LEVINE: The air spray?

SISTERS: Was it yoooooooouuuuuu????

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CINDERELLA: Oh, no, dear Stepsisters. I don't have any air spray any more. I used to have air spray when I lived alone with my father, but when he remarried your mother, all my spray was taken away for I wasn't the heir any more.

PATSY: Well, then you have no time -

MAXI: To sit and chatter with us.

LEVINE: You better get back to work. *(SISTERS exit.)*

CINDERELLA: Well, I think I'll go play in the cinders by the fire.

(CINDERELLA exits. The FAIRY GODMOTHER re-enters, crossing to stool as LIGHTS fade down to a SPOT on her. She watches Cinderella go off and then speaks to the audience:)

FAIRY: Cinderella? It sounded a little strange to me, so I checked it out. It seems that it was only an alias. Her real name was Beulah Yenkowitz. I made a mental note to tell her to stick with Cinderella. But I still wanted to know where she got saddled with that handle.

(LIGHTS down on FAIRY GODMOTHER. LIGHTS come up on JUDY, PATSY and MAXI.)

PATSY: Hey, mom,

MAXI: We wanted - *(Beat, beat.)*

PATSY: How she -

MAXI: Ever got - *(Beat, beat.)*

PATSY: Of -

MAXI: Cin - *(Beat.)*

BOTH: - ella?

MoM: Say what? *(LEVINE rushes in.)*

LEVINE: Sorry I'm late.

MOM: Okay, take it from the top.

PATSY: Hey, mom,

MAXI: We wanted -

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LEVINE: To know -

PATSY: How she -

MAXI: Ever got -

LEVINE: The name -

PATSY: Of -

MAXI: Cin -

LEVINE: - der -

SISTERS: - ella?

MOM: I named her that because she's always playing in the cinders and making an ash of herself.

(SISTERS give thumbs down with a razzberry.)

CINDERELLA: *(Enters carrying a letter.)* Stepmother, Stepsisters, look what just came in the mail!

MOM: *(Taking letter and opening it.)* Let me see that!

PATSY: What's it -

MAXI: - say, -

LEVINE: - Mom?

MOM: It says that the Prince is having a big blow-out up at the Palace tonight and we're invited.

CINDERELLA: And the messenger who delivered the letter said that the Prince will choose the fairest girl in the kingdom to be his bride!

PATSY: The fairest -

MAXI: - girl in the -

LEVINE: - kingdom.

MOM: Well, girls, just keep your fingers crossed. Hopefully she won't show up and you'll have a chance.

PATSY: What else -

MAXI: Does it -

LEVINE: Say, Mom?

MOM: Let me see ... "Fairest girl at the Ball becomes Prince's bride; lovely consolation prizes, door prizes, party hats and favors. Decision of the Prince will be final. Party begins promptly at 9 o'clock, doors will open at 8:30.

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MOM: (*Cont'd.*) No one will be admitted after the first gavotte. Music by the Palace Playboys. Refreshments will be served."

PATSY: Music!

MAXI: Party hats!

LEVINE: Favors!

SISTERS: Food!!!!

MOM: Now we have to hurry, if we don't want to be late. I'm going to get ready and you girls had better do the same.

SISTERS: Yes, Mother. (*SISTERS start to exit.*)

CINDERELLA: Oh, dear Stepmother, may I go, too?

MOM: (*Laughs.*) You? I've never heard anything so funny in my life. (*SISTERS all laugh - being cut off on cue from MOM.*) Of course you won't go to the Prince's party, Cinderella.

CINDERELLA: But why not, dear Stepmother? The Prince has invited all the single young girls in the kingdom.

MOM: I must admit that you do have a striking beauty about you.

CINDERELLA: And I am single.

PATSY: Strike one!

CINDERELLA: And I'm young.

MAXI: Strike two!

CINDERELLA: And I'm a girl.

LEVINE: Strike three!

MOM: Three strikes and you're out! (*CINDERELLA starts to cry.*) Now Cinderella, go snivel and sniff somewhere else. (*CINDERELLA exits. To STEPSISTERS.*) Now I'm going to go and get ready and you three had better hurry up or we'll miss the refreshments. (*SHE exits.*)

PATSY: Yes -

MAXI: - I guess -

LEVINE: - We best -

SISTERS: - Change clothes. (*Which THEY do. They undress, exchange clothing, and re-dress in each others' clothes.*)

End of Freeview

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