

# Cinderella! Cinderella!



by  
Edith Weiss



 **Pioneer**  
DRAMA SERVICE

# Cinderella! Cinderella!

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For Preview Only

# CINDERELLA! CINDERELLA!

By EDITH WEISS

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

	<u># of lines</u>
OLD LADY/PRINCE .....	42
the enlightened prince, who sometimes disguises himself as an old lady; represents the Age of Reason, when it was first believed that all men are created equal	
MASTER HAROLD THE HERALD .....	54
town crier and assistant to the prince	
PRUNELLA .....	86
the older, meaner and more beautiful of the stepsisters	
CRUDELLA .....	76
the other beautiful step- sister; mistreated by Prunella; pronounced "Crude-ella"	
CINDERELLA .....	99
very kind, of course, but quit plain with big feet; changes from a wimp to a stronger person	
TOM CAT.....	63
a cat Cinderella has adopted	
LADY LOTTA BONBON .....	42
man-hungry wealthy lady; considers herself a friend to stepsisters, though they wouldn't agree	
FAIRY GODMOTHER .....	53
no-nonsense person with bad eyesight; prone to making mistakes	

## SETTING

Time: 1342.

Place: The Village of Derry-on-Dale, Old England.

Scene One: A village street and Cinderella's home.

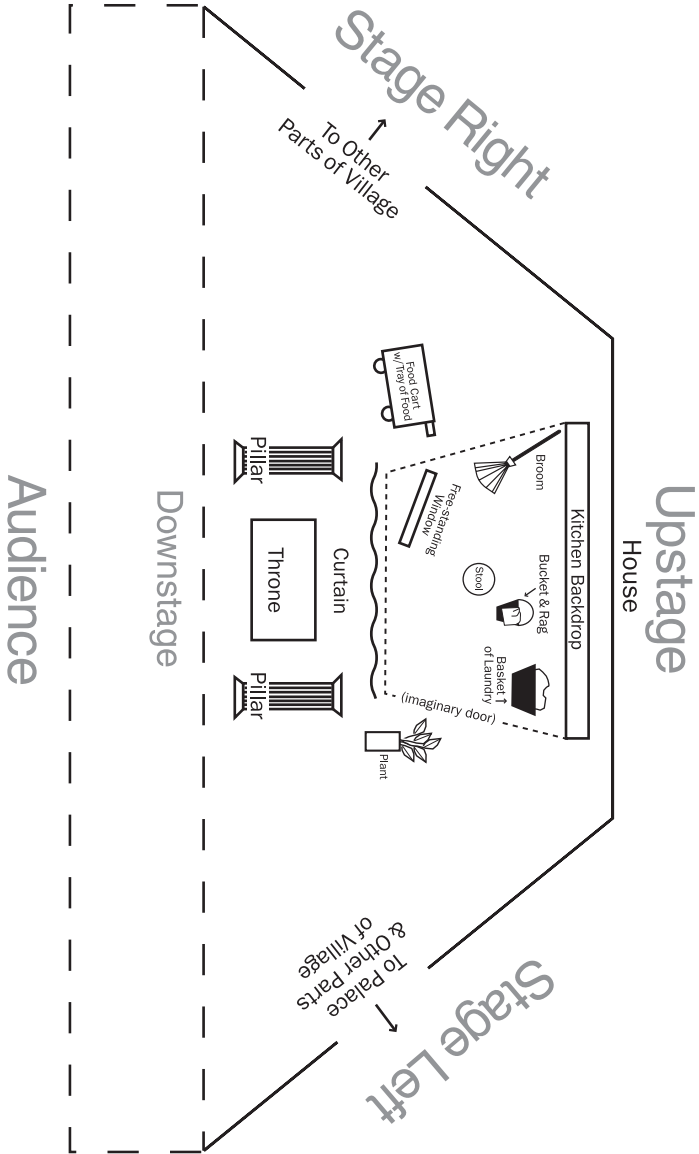
Scene Two: The same.

Scene Three: The palace and Cinderella's home.

The set depicts a street and the home of Cinderella and her stepsisters. CENTER STAGE is a house set with a free-standing window, a stool, a bucket and rags, and a painted backdrop of a kitchen. An EXIT UPSTAGE leads to the rest of the house. There is an imaginary door to the LEFT of the house set. EXITS LEFT and RIGHT lead to other areas of the village. HERALD and FAIRY GODMOTHER may use the center aisle for ENTRANCES and EXITS if desired.

For the palace scene, a curtain conceals the house set. A throne, two pillars, a cart with a tray of food and a potted plant are brought on.

# Cinderella! Cinderella! - Set Design



# CINDERELLA! CINDERELLA!

## Scene One

1 LIGHTS UP: An OLD LADY ENTERS LEFT, wearing tattered rags and a shawl, carrying a basket of wares.

**OLD LADY:** Cabbage balls! Cockles, mussels and cabbage balls!

**HERALD'S VOICE:** *(From OFF RIGHT.)* Twelve o'clock and all is well!

5 **HERALD:** *(ENTERS RIGHT.)* Twelve o'clock and all is—

**OLD LADY:** Cabbage balls! Cockles, mussels and cabbage balls!

**HERALD:** *(To OLD LADY.)* You'll excuse me a moment, won't you? I haven't finished with my announcement. As the town crier, it's my job to tell the people the time and that all is well. *(Calls out.)* Twelve  
10 o'clock and all is well in the village of Derry-on-Dale in the year of our Lord thirteen hundred forty-two!

**OLD LADY:** *(Indicates AUDIENCE.)* So have you noticed we have visitors in the village?

**HERALD:** *(Looks at AUDIENCE, startled. He hadn't noticed them before, but recovers quickly.)* Well, of course I noticed them. I was tellin' them  
15 the time—I mean, only the rich have clocks, and *(To AUDIENCE.)* although you're very nicely dressed, I daresay you're not rich enough to have a clock or even a calendar. So, welcome to our village. You'll like it here. I'll be happy to be your guide. I don't recognize you, so I  
20 know you don't live here, but we're all friendly here—

**PRUNELLA'S VOICE:** *(From OFF RIGHT.)* Cinderella!

**CRUDELLA'S VOICE:** *(From OFF RIGHT.)* Cinderella!

**HERALD:** *(To AUDIENCE.)* For the most part. Excuse me. *(Hides behind OLD LADY, who acts busy rearranging her wares but is secretly watching the proceedings. PRUNELLA and CRUDELLA ENTER RIGHT, followed by CINDERELLA and TOM, lagging behind. CINDERELLA has a pole across her shoulders, with four buckets attached. PRUNELLA and CRUDELLA each carry an empty bucket in their hands. TOM drops to all fours when the SISTERS see him.)*  
25

30 **PRUNELLA:** Why is that cat following us?

**CINDERELLA:** I've adopted him.

**CRUDELLA:** It's nothing but a filthy hairball. Isn't that right, Prunella?

**PRUNELLA:** Yes, Crudella.

**TOM:** Filthy? I clean myself 20 times a day! They take a bath twice a  
35 year!

**PRUNELLA:** Well, come along. I'm hoping that Lady Lotta BonBon is at the well, so she can see my new dress. *(EXITS LEFT with CRUDELLA.)*

1 **CINDERELLA:** Don't mind them, Tom.  
**PRUNELLA/CRUDELLA'S VOICES:** (*From OFF LEFT.*) Cinderella!  
Cinderella!

**CINDERELLA:** Hurry, Tom! (*They EXIT LEFT.*)

5 **HERALD:** (*To AUDIENCE.*) Like I was saying, most of us are friendly. Not Prunella and Crudella. They live in this house right here. As you saw, they're very beautiful. But they're not very nice. Especially not to their stepsister, Cinderella. I'll take my leave now, before they come back from the well.

10 **PRUNELLA'S VOICE:** (*From OFF LEFT.*) Cinderella! Come on!  
**HERALD:** Too late.  
**CRUDELLA:** (*She and PRUNELLA ENTER LEFT, without buckets.*) Slow, that's what she is.  
**PRUNELLA:** Slow and lazy like a slug. Maybe her big feet are slowing

15 her down.  
**CRUDELLA:** She probably doesn't want to be seen with us. We are, after all, the most beautiful creatures in the village.  
**PRUNELLA:** In many villages. Our beauty is renowned. And she looks even plainer by comparison. Although, you have to admit, I'm more

20 beautiful than you are.  
**CRUDELLA:** Prunella! What a hurtful thing to say!  
**PRUNELLA:** I'm just being honest. I am ridiculously beautiful. Everyone says so.  
**CRUDELLA:** Everyone says I'm pretty.

25 **PRUNELLA:** Aha! You're pretty, but I'm beautiful. I've actually heard people say my beauty hurts their eyes.  
**CRUDELLA:** How can beauty hurt the eyes? You're making that up!  
**PRUNELLA:** (*Furious.*) I am not making that up!  
**CRUDELLA:** (*Notices HERALD, who is still trying to hide.*) Prunella, don't

30 yell. There's a man here.  
**PRUNELLA:** A man?  
**CRUDELLA:** Don't look!  
**PRUNELLA:** A man! Who? Where?  
**CRUDELLA:** Master Harold the Herald. Right behind us.

35 **PRUNELLA:** Pretend to faint.  
**CRUDELLA:** No, you pretend to faint.  
**PRUNELLA:** I'm the oldest, and I think you... (*Elbows her in the stomach. CRUDELLA doubles over and falls to the ground.*) ...should do it. Oh! Oh! Somebody help! My sister's fainted away! (*HERALD rushes over, grabs CRUDELLA.*) Don't touch her! (*HERALD drops*

40

- 1 **CRUDELLA:** The only way she recovers is to lie on the ground for a while. It happens all the time.
- HERALD:** Are you sure she's all right?
- PRUNELLA:** She's fine. Aren't you, darling sister Crudella?
- 5 **CRUDELLA:** *(Prone, glares.)* Yes, I'm fine.
- PRUNELLA:** Master Harold, I do so love the way you say, "All's well." It makes me feel so safe.
- HERALD:** *(Flustered.)* Thank you. Well, I must be getting back to the castle—
- 10 **PRUNELLA:** The castle! I didn't realize you lived at the castle!
- CRUDELLA:** Do you know the prince?
- HERALD:** *(Helps CRUDELLA up.)* Yes, I do. And uh... now I must go. Good-bye. Nice to meet you.
- PRUNELLA:** *(Bows low.)* Charmed.
- 15 **CRUDELLA:** *(Bows low.)* Enchanted. *(HERALD EXITS LEFT. To PRUNELLA.)* You elbowed me in the stomach.
- PRUNELLA:** All's fair in love and war, Crudella. Remember that.
- OLD LADY:** Cockles, mussels, cabbage balls! Help an old woman out and buy a cabbage ball.
- 20 **CRUDELLA:** *(Crosses to OLD LADY.)* Oh. I wondered what that stench was.
- PRUNELLA:** *(To OLD LADY.)* It's not the cabbage balls that are stinky, it's you!
- PRUNELLA/CRUDELLA:** *(Laugh and then...)* Ewwwwwww!
- 25 **PRUNELLA:** Only poor people eat cabbage.
- CRUDELLA:** Now go somewhere else. We don't want this smell in front of our house.
- PRUNELLA:** Go! *(OLD LADY slowly starts to move LEFT. Yells OFF LEFT.)* Cinderella! Cinderella!
- 30 **CRUDELLA:** *(Yells OFF LEFT.)* Bring the water! *(OLD LADY stares at CRUDELLA and PRUNELLA as they EXIT UPSTAGE, further into the house.)*
- CINDERELLA:** *(ENTERS LEFT, bent over, with six buckets of water attached to the large stick she carries on her shoulders.)* Here I come.
- 35 **OLD LADY:** Cockles, mussels, cabbage balls? Would you buy some, miss?
- CINDERELLA:** Oh, they smell so good. And I'm hungry. But I can't. I haven't any money at all. I'm sorry. I wish I could help you.
- OLD LADY:** Well, you may be poor, but you're very kind. What's your
- 40 name?



1 **CINDERELLA:** Cinderella, ma'am. Nice to meet you.  
**OLD LADY:** I'll see you around then. Good-bye. (*EXITS LEFT.*)  
**TOM:** (*ENTERS LEFT.*) Cinderella! Let me help you.  
**CINDERELLA:** (*Sets down buckets.*) I need to rest a moment. Tom, did  
5 you see that old woman who was just here?  
**TOM:** What about her?  
**CINDERELLA:** I've just never seen her before, that's all.  
**PRUNELLA/CRUDELLA'S VOICES:** (*From OFF UPSTAGE.*) Cinderella!  
Cinderella!  
10 **CINDERELLA:** Coming! Let's go, Tom. I have to make dinner.  
**TOM:** Why can't they make dinner? They treat you like a servant.  
**CINDERELLA:** They own the house, Tom. It's good of them to let me  
stay.  
**TOM:** Your father, rest his soul, owned it before he ever married your  
15 stepmother, rest her soul. So the house should be yours.  
**CINDERELLA:** But it's not. It's theirs. And they're powerful and very  
beautiful and I'm just—me.  
**TOM:** Well, it isn't right.  
**CINDERELLA:** Come on. We have to go. (*LIGHTS FADE as TOM helps*  
20 *CINDERELLA with the water. They move into the house and EXIT*  
*UPSTAGE. Beat. LIGHTS UP ON HERALD, who ENTERS LEFT.*)  
**HERALD:** Six o' clock! Wake up, the sun's coming up! Wake up! Six  
o' clock and all is well! (*EXITS up the center aisle. LIGHTS SHIFT to*  
*CINDERELLA'S HOME.*)  
25 **PRUNELLA:** (*ENTERS UPSTAGE.*) Crudella! Are you up? Come here!  
Bring me my hand mirror. It's an emergency.  
**CRUDELLA:** (*ENTERS UPSTAGE, carrying a hand mirror.*) Here you are.  
What's the emergency?  
**PRUNELLA:** I'm afraid I might have gotten flabby since yesterday.  
30 Cinderella makes such lavish meals. (*Looks at her backside in*  
*mirror.*) But, no. I'm still ravishing. Look at me. I said, look at me.  
**CRUDELLA:** I'm looking.  
**PRUNELLA:** If I had gained so much as an inch of flab, Cinderella  
would have to be punished. (*Looks at CRUDELLA.*) Oh. Oh, dear.  
35 **CRUDELLA:** What? (*PRUNELLA makes a face.*) What, Prunella? (*Fixing*  
*hair.*) Is something wrong with me?  
**PRUNELLA:** No! Of course not. (*Insincere.*) It's nothing, really.  
**CRUDELLA:** What are you trying to say, Prunella? (*OLD LADY ENTERS*  
*LEFT and knocks on the imaginary door.*) Cinderella! Get the door!

1 **PRUNELLA:** She's not here. I sent her out to dust the forest. She's been out since four o'clock this morning.

**CRUDELLA:** You didn't! *(She and PRUNELLA laugh. OLD LADY knocks again.)* Aren't you going to get the door?

5 **PRUNELLA:** No, you are.

**CRUDELLA:** All right. *(Mimes opening the door.)* You again! What do you want?

**OLD LADY:** Could you spare me a penny or a bit of food?

**PRUNELLA:** No! Get out! What would the neighbors think if they saw  
10 you at our door? Go away, you filthy beggar!

**CRUDELLA:** Filthy beggar! *(She and PRUNELLA EXIT UPSTAGE. CINDERELLA and TOM, holding a basket of strawberries, ENTER RIGHT and encounter OLD LADY.)*

**OLD LADY:** Excuse me, would you have a penny you could spare? Or  
15 a bit of food?

**CINDERELLA:** Oh, hello. You're the woman with the cabbages. I still don't have any money. But if you're hungry, here are some berries I picked in the woods. *(TOM reluctantly hands over the basket to CINDERELLA, but pops one quickly into his mouth. On CINDERELLA'S  
20 look, he pops it back into the basket. CINDERELLA gives the basket to the OLD LADY.)*

**OLD LADY:** You've very kind. Thank you, Cinderella. *(EXITS LEFT.)*

**TOM:** I was looking forward to those berries.

**CINDERELLA:** She looked so hungry, Tom.

25 **TOM:** You're right. I was being selfish.

**CINDERELLA:** *(Sits. Looks out over AUDIENCE.)* There's the sunrise. It's going to be a beautiful day...

**PRUNELLA:** *(She and CRUDELLA ENTER UPSTAGE, cross to the "window" and see CINDERELLA.)* Cinderella!

30 **CRUDELLA:** Cinderella!

**CINDERELLA:** *(To TOM.)* Oh, no. They look really mad. Did you do something to make them mad?

**TOM:** I might have taken just a little cat nap... on the sofa... where Prunella's gown was.

35 **CINDERELLA:** Oh, Tom!

**TOM:** I'm sorry, Cinderella. But it was so soft, so inviting—

**PRUNELLA:** What are you doing, dawdling?

**CRUDELLA:** We're hungry! Get in here and make us breakfast!

**PRUNELLA:** I hope you found berries in the woods. I'm in the mood  
40 for berries.

- 1 **TOM:** Oh, boy. (*He and CINDERELLA move into the house.*)
- PRUNELLA:** Cinderella, there is cat hair all over my divan and on my gown, which was lying on my divan. So, you neither put away my gown nor kept that hairy beast away from my divan.
- 5 **CRUDELLA:** Prunella's gown is ruined because of that disgusting and horrible alley cat! Why can't you have a poodle like a decent person?
- PRUNELLA:** I insist you get rid of this mangy hairball! (*TOM cowers next to CINDERELLA. She strokes his head lovingly.*)
- 10 **CINDERELLA:** No! I'm not getting rid of Tom! He's my friend.
- PRUNELLA:** You need to be taught a lesson.
- TOM:** Oh, boy. Here we go.
- PRUNELLA:** (*Produces a very long scroll.*) Cinderella, we have a list of chores for you to do today. (*Unrolls the scroll; it reaches the floor. Reads rhythmically.*) Cinderella, Cinderella. Bring my frock and comb my hair.
- 15 **CRUDELLA:** Cinderella, Cinderella. Oil the lock and mend my tear.
- PRUNELLA:** Cinderella, Cinderella. Sweep the floor and wash the dishes.
- 20 **CRUDELLA:** Cinderella, Cinderella. Make a breakfast that's delicious.
- CINDERELLA:** (*Aside to TOM.*) Boy, am I getting tired of this.
- PRUNELLA:** Cinderella, such a dolt! Now milk the cow and shine the bolt.
- CRUDELLA:** Cinderella, mend my clothes! Darn my socks and blow my nose.
- 25 **PRUNELLA:** Cinderella, scrub the ceiling. And Cinderella...
- PRUNELLA/CRUDELLA:** ...do it with feeling!
- CRUDELLA:** Oh, I'm exhausted.
- PRUNELLA:** I need more beauty sleep. Come along, dear sister
- 30 *Crudella. (She and CRUDELLA EXIT UPSTAGE.)*
- TOM:** I am so sorry, Cinderella. I will never again go into their rooms or sleep on their divans or get close to their gowns—
- CINDERELLA:** It's all right, Tom. If it wasn't that, it'd be something else. They just like bossing me around. But it's not fair. (*Starts feeling sorry for herself.*) I do the sewing, the scrubbing, the scouring, the shopping, the mopping, the bed making, the bread baking. I milk the cow, I feed the sow!
- 35 **TOM:** You do everything. But they're mean, and there are two of them.
- 40 **CINDERELLA:** Looks like I'm stuck.

1 **TOM:** Cinderella. I know I'm only a cat, but if it were me, I'd put down  
my paw, and I'd tell 'em! I'd yell, I'd—  
**PRUNELLA'S VOICE:** (From OFF UPSTAGE.) Cinderella!  
**CRUDELLA'S VOICE:** (From OFF UPSTAGE.) Cinderella!  
5 **PRUNELLA'S VOICE:** My pillow isn't plumped.  
**CRUDELLA'S VOICE:** And my mattress is lumpy.  
**BOTH VOICES:** (From OFF UPSTAGE.) How can we rest until  
breakfast?  
**CINDERELLA:** The pillow plumping, the mattress unlumping—if I work  
10 all night, I still won't be done!  
**TOM:** Why don't you stand up for yourself?  
**CINDERELLA:** I don't know. I just can't.  
**TOM:** You plump the pillows and unlump the mattresses, and I'll start  
on the ceiling.  
15 **CINDERELLA:** Thank you, Tom. (TOM grabs a rag and BOTH EXIT  
UPSTAGE. LIGHTS FADE OUT.)

End of Scene One

## Scene Two

LIGHTS UP: HERALD ENTERS down the center aisle. There is a small  
light shining from the UPSTAGE EXIT to suggest candlelight.

20 **HERALD:** (Walks onto STAGE.) Midnight and all is well! Midnight and—  
Candlelight from Cinderella's house! Which means Prunella and  
Crudella have her working all night. Again. Oh, I know everything  
that goes on in this village. I'm taking my leave now, goin' home,  
tucking myself in, I've got to be back here at six in the a.m., so  
25 good night! (QUICK LIGHTS DOWN and FADE UP while HERALD  
EXITS LEFT. He does a quick turn around and RE-ENTERS LEFT.)  
Good morning. I feel like I haven't slept a wink! Six o'clock and all  
is well. (CINDERELLA and TOM ENTER UPSTAGE, sweeping.) Six o'  
clock and all is well.

30 **LADY LOTTA:** (ENTERS LEFT, strolling and fanning herself.) Yoo-hoo!  
Cinderella!

**HERALD:** Oh, no. Lady Lotta BonBon. I'm gone. (EXITS quickly up the  
center aisle.)

**CINDERELLA:** Good morning.

35 **LADY LOTTA:** I saw candles burning all night at your house. What was  
going on?

**CINDERELLA:** Nothing.

**LADY LOTTA:** Were you having a party?

**CINDERELLA:** No.

## PRODUCTION NOTES

### PROPERTIES

#### ONSTAGE:

House: Free-standing window, bucket, rag, scrub brush, fabric, needle and thread, basket containing laundry and a gaudy patchwork dress with cones on it, blanket.

Palace: Royal throne, two pillars, rolling cart containing a tray of food (including cupcakes with whipped cream), potted plant.

#### BROUGHT ON, Scene One:

Basket with “cabbages” (OLD LADY)

Pole with four [then six] buckets attached (CINDERELLA)

Bucket (PRUNELLA, CRUDELLA)

Hand mirror (CRUDELLA)

Basket of strawberries (TOM)

#### BROUGHT ON, Scene Two:

Brooms (CINDERELLA, TOM)

Prunella’s cape (CINDERELLA)

Fan, purse with handkerchief and hand mirror (LADY LOTTA)

Scroll (HERALD)

Bag of wands [decorated with ribbons], slip of paper (FAIRY GODMOTHER)

Shoes (Thrown ON from OFFSTAGE)

#### BROUGHT ON, Scene Three:

Tray of food, including cupcakes with whipped cream (HERALD)

Groucho nose and glasses or other mask (TOM, FAIRY GODMOTHER)

Bag of wands (FAIRY GODMOTHER)

Fan, handkerchief (PRUNELLA)

Handkerchief (LADY LOTTA)

Cinderella’s shoe (PRINCE)

Cinderella’s shoe on a pillow (HERALD)

Small rug, carpet beater (PRUNELLA, CRUDELLA)

### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS

Fairy Godmother’s entrance music (Ponchielli’s “Dance of the Hours” from “La Gioconda” is a good choice), magical chant music and sound effect, cow mooing, cowbell, chicken clucking, courtly music, tango music, romantic waltz music, sirens, thunder.

## COSTUMES

PRINCE and HERALD: tights, knickers, hats with plumes and jackets appropriate for their station in life. The PRINCE wears a gray wig and shawl for his OLD LADY disguise.

TOM: some sort of cat-colored outfit with strips of fur, a tail and ears. Very human for a cat, he spends most of the time upright instead of on all fours. He wears an unbecoming dress and a mask over his furry costume in Scene Three.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: a funky, magical-looking costume. Groucho glasses or a mask for Scene Three.

CINDERELLA: rags, of course, reflecting the medieval period. In Scenes Two and Three, she wears a gown that is nice, but not exquisite, and glittery shoes (but not the classic tiny glass slipper). In Scene Two, TOM presents her with a hideous, garish gown, but it never has to be worn.

STEPSISTERS and LADY LOTTA BONBON: dresses typical of ladies in the medieval period. Fancy gowns for Scenes Two and Three. STEPSISTERS wear bandanas for their final appearance at the end of Scene Three.

BULL: any available cast member appears in a papier-mâché head of a bull during Scene Two while Cinderella is completing her costume change. A full costume is not required since only the head appears briefly.

## ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

*Cinderella! Cinderella!* received its world premiere at the Town Hall Arts Center in Littleton, CO on January 28, 2008. It was directed by Pam Clifton and performed by the following:

Cinderella .....	Kristianne Seaton
Tom Cat.....	Jeremy Make
Herald .....	Doug Rosen
Prunella.....	Robin Wallace
Crudella.....	Meghan McMahon
Fairy Godmother.....	Laurie Gabriel
Prince.....	Johnny Schroeder
Lady Lotta BonBon .....	Michelle Paul

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