Simply
CINDERELLA

By Jacob Dorn

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SIMPLY CINDERELLA

By JACOB DORN

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(In Order of Speaking)

FAIRY GODMOTHER ..............narrator; wants to help Cinderella 26
STEPMOTHER .....................stepmother to Cinderella; mean 14
HELGA............................Cinderella’s stepsister; bratty 14
OLGA..............................Cinderella’s other stepsister; also bratty 14
CINDERELLA .....................looking for a way to have her own life 33
GUNTER .........................a mouse; Cinderella’s friend 16
JIM.................................a dog; also Cinderella’s friend 16
QUEEN HOBNAIL ................Prince Shubert’s mother 14
PRINCE SHUBERT...............prince of the land 35
HEELY ............................butler at the castle 12
FAIRY EXTRAS ....................assist Fairy Godmother n/a

SETTING

Time: Once upon a time
Place: Where princes and shoes were readily available and fairy godmothers really did grant wishes.

SET DESCRIPTION

The stage is divided into three playing areas. Cinderella’s house is STAGE RIGHT, the castle STAGE LEFT, and outside is at CENTER STAGE. Cinderella’s house consists of a simple stool, chairs, and a table with optional backdrop flats. A broom is pre-set near Cinderella’s stool. The castle consists of a throne on a platform, free-standing banners, and optional backdrop flats. There’s a backdrop UP CENTER with trees and bushes. There are entrances STAGE RIGHT for Cinderella’s house, UP CENTER for outside, and STAGE LEFT for the castle.
SIMPLY CINDERELLA

AT RISE: STEPMOTHER, HELGA, and OLGA sit at the table in the house. CINDERELLA sits to the side on a stool. FAIRY GODMOTHER ENTERS RIGHT and crosses DOWN CENTER.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (Narrates.) Once upon a time, there was a middle-aged woman. She wasn’t very nice.

ST TPMOTHER: Hey!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: And she had two daughters. They were kind of brats.

HELGA: I’m not a brat! Olga is.

OLGA: I am not! Helga is the brat!

ST TPMOTHER: You’re both brats! But I love you.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (To AUDIENCE.) Teenagers, am I right? The woman also had to take care of another young girl, a girl she didn’t love.

CINDERELLA: Hello!

ST TPMOTHER: You should be working!

HELGA: Sweep the chimney!

OLGA: Clean the toilet!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (To AUDIENCE.) See? They were always so mean to poor Cinderella. But all that is about to change. (EXIT RIGHT.)

ST TPMOTHER: Cinderella, you need to get this house in tip-top shape if I’m ever going to find rich husbands for your stepsisters.

HELGA: I want a doctor!

OLGA: I want a civil engineer!
STEPMOTHER: And I want to retire at age thirty-eight, which is what I tell people my age is, so get to work! *(STEPFAMILY EXITS RIGHT.)*

CINDERELLA: *(Picks up the broom and sweeps the floor.)* Oh woe is me! Sometimes I feel like I will be stuck here forever. I will never get married, never have children, never go windsurfing... Sigh.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: *(ENTERS RIGHT, waving her wand. SOUND EFFECT: MAGIC. To AUDIENCE)* Long time, no see *(To CINDERELLA.)* Hello, Cinderella.

CINDERELLA: *(Freaks out.)* Holy stuffed-toaster strudel! It's a giant moth!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: No, child. I am not a moth.

CINDERELLA: Shoo! Get! I hate moths! *(Swats at her with the broom.)*

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I am not a moth! I am your fairy godmother. Put that broom down. I'm trying to help you!

CINDERELLA: *(Lowers the broom.)* Okay, but if this turns out to be one of those moth tricks, I will swat you.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Cinderella, I have seen your plight, and I want to help.

CINDERELLA: Okay, but how? I never thought moths had magical powers.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: I will reveal everything tomorrow.

CINDERELLA: Why?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Because you are being unreasonable right now, and I want to let you calm down *(To AUDIENCE.)* Seriously, this is my whole day. *(SOUND EFFECT: MAGIC as she waves her wand and EXITS RIGHT.)*
CINDERELLA: Wow! A real fairy! Or a moth that is pretending to be one. I have to tell my friends. (*Calls.*) Hey, friends! (*Crosses to CENTER. GUNTER and JIM ENTER UP CENTER.*)

GUNTER: What’s up, Cinderella?

JIM: What’s the haps?

CINDERELLA: I just met a weird fairy thing that said she was my godmother.

GUNTER: Sounds like a scam.

JIM: Yeah, I don’t think anything good can come from this.

CINDERELLA: You are both so negative. Give her a chance. She seemed magical.

GUNTER: If you say so.

JIM: I’ll believe it when I see it.

GUNTER: But until then, you should probably do your chores.

JIM: (*Licks lips.*) I can help clean out the refrigerator.

CINDERELLA: Okay. Come on, you scamps. (*ALL EXIT RIGHT.*)

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (*ENTERS RIGHT and crosses CENTER. To AUDIENCE.*) Meanwhile, over in the castle, Prince Shubert and his mother, Queen Hobnail, were getting ready for the royal ball.

QUEEN: (*ENTERS LEFT with PRINCE SHUBERT and HEELY.*) Come along, son. (*Sits on the throne.*)

PRINCE: But, Moooooom, I want to go play outside.

QUEEN: No, you must learn to act like a real prince.

PRINCE: Can’t I just play video games?
QUEEN: This is a very important dance. This is not some meaningless cotillion or box social. And you are dreaming if you think it will be a hootenanny. This is a royal ball!

PRINCE: I hate dances!

QUEEN: But this one dance will decide who you marry and who becomes queen when I retire at age thirty-eight.

PRINCE: Fine, but I still think girls are gross.

QUEEN: You'll come around. (EXITS LEFT.)

PRINCE: Phooey.

HEELY: There, there young master. No need to be so glum.

PRINCE: I’m not glum.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (Crosses to PRINCE.) Cheer up, Prince Shubert.

PRINCE: Holy French toaster sticks! A giant moth!

HEELY: I shall fetch the broom!

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (To AUDIENCE.) I’m not sure why I bother. (To PRINCE.) No, I’m not a moth. I’m a fairy, and I’m about to make your dreams come true.

PRINCE: A swimming pool full of popcorn?

HEELY: A combination tanning booth and microwave oven?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: You know what? Why don’t I just surprise you?

PRINCE: Neato!

HEELY: What an odd turn of events. (EXITS LEFT with PRINCE. FAIRY GODMOTHER remains ONSTAGE, unseen by any others.)

STEPMOTHER: (ENTERS RIGHT, followed by STEPSISTERS and CINDERELLA.) Girls, did you hear? The queen is
throwing a royal ball, and the prince will be choosing a princess!

HELGA: I want to be a princess!
OLGA: I would be a better princess. I am prettier!

CINDERELLA: I would love to be a princess.

STEPMOTHER: You?
HELGA: But you are so plain.
OLGA: And you are not cool.

STEPMOTHER: (To CINDERELLA.) Go clean the panini maker.
HELGA: We need to get pretty.
OLGA: You do, maybe. (STEPFAMILY EXITS RIGHT.)

FAIRY GODMOTHER: (Crosses to CINDERELLA.) Cinderella, I’m back.

CINDERELLA: You’re back and not a moth! (Calls OFF.) Come see, guys! (GUNTER and JIM ENTER RIGHT.)

GUNTER: She is real!
JIM: So what’s the catch, lady?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: No catch. I am just sick of seeing a good girl like you getting taken advantage of every day. Are you ready?

CINDERELLA: For what?

FAIRY GODMOTHER: Magic! (Waves her wand. SOUND EFFECT: MAGIC. FAIRY EXTRAS ENTER RIGHT and put a dress on CINDERELLA, over her raggedy dress.)

GUNTER: Wow! A gorgeous gown! (FAIRY EXTRAS slip shiny CROCS or other comical footwear onto CINDERELLA’S feet.)
JIM: And shiny shoes!

End of script sample.
PRODUCTION NOTES

PROPERTIES ONSTAGE
Broom, table, chairs, stool, throne, optional banners.

PROPERTIES BROUGHT ON
Fancy dress, shiny shoes, tiara, horse hat, carriage cut-out (FAIRY EXTRAS)
Remote control (HEELY)

SOUND EFFECTS
Magical sound, waltz music, party music, conga music, clock chiming twelve.

OPTIONAL BUBBLE EFFECT
In addition to the magical sound effect, Fairy Godmother’s entrances and exits may be accompanied by bubbles. Fairy Extras can blow bubbles or use a battery-powered bubble gun.

COSTUMES
FAIRY GODMOTHER wears colorful and large fairy wings and carries a wand with a star or ribbons on the top.
STEPMOTHER, HELGA, and OLGA wear typical peasant fairy tale clothing.
CINDERELLA wears a simple patched or tattered dress with an apron and a head scarf.
GUNTER and JIM wear animal hats, complementary colored sweat shirts and sweat pants with tails attached to the waist, and matching socks.
QUEEN and PRINCE wear typical royal robes and tunics. Prince Shubert could have a few modern accessories like sneakers.
HEELY wears a butler costume or typical castle page fairy tale clothing.
FAIRY EXTRAS are dresses as fairies with small wings and sparkles. Alternatively, they can be played as stagehands and dressed in black.

CINDERELLA’S COSTUME CHANGE
Fairy extras bring on a “wrap-around,” loose-sleeved or sleeveless dress that completely covers Cinderella’s plain dress. Or an “apron” type dress could also allow for an onstage quick change. The idea is that Cinderella can put one arm in a sleeve, spin in a circle, and
suddenly be transformed. They may also place a tiara on her head, and they swap out her regular shoes with fancy Crocs, Converse, or other comical novelty footwear.

FLEXIBLE CASTING
GUNTER and JIM may become “GIGI” and “JAMIE.” HEELY could become a lady-in-waiting instead of a butler. You could even change the FAIRY GODMOTHER to a FAIRY GODFATHER, complete with pinstripe suit and fairy wings.

EXTRAS maybe be added to the castle scenes as royal servants or guests at the ball if desired.

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION
Simply Cinderella premiered as Petite Cinderella as part of the Colorado ACTS Shining Stars summer drama camp for children with developmental and physical disabilities. The show was presented to appreciative laughter and thunderous applause after only five mornings of rehearsal!
We hope you’ve enjoyed this script sample.

We encourage you to read the entire script before making your final decision.

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