

CINDERELLA

DETAILS AND SCRIPT SAMPLE



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Cast List:

NARRATOR.....

BARON BOFFIN (A weak minded man)

CINDERELLA (His lovely daughter).....

BARONESS (A wicked selfish woman).....

HILDA and EUPHORIA..... (Her spiteful daughters, played by males)

COOK.....

NELLIE (A parlour maid).....

BUTTONS (the valet-could be played by a female)

BONIO (A dog)TIDDLES (A naughty cat)

Animals: Rats/Mice.....

Bugs/Beetles/Spiders

PRINCE (Ideally played by a female with a high vocal range).....

KING..... QUEEN

MESSENGER.....

HENRY..... TOM.....(party guests)

OTHER GUESTS AT THE PARTY (Bugs, beetles etc could double up)

VICAR

SCENE 1: THE KITCHEN

NARRATOR Once upon a time there was a baron who was married to a sweet and beautiful lady. They had a lovely little girl called Ella. They lived in a big fine house with a cook and a parlour maid called Nellie to help them. Ella was really happy because her mother played with her, told her wonderful stories and taught her everything she could. Ella's father, Baron Boffin, spent most of his time in his study writing letters. And then, one day Ella came downstairs and found her father looking depressed with his head in his hands. (**CURTAINS OPEN**)

ELLA: Father! Father! What's the matter?

BARON: We are all alone now, my dear. Your poor mother has died.

ELLA: Oh father! What are we going to do? Who is going to tell me stories and teach me my lessons now? Who is going to run the house and tell Cook and Nellie what to do? I will miss Mama so much!

BARON: You will have to go away to school. There is a good one in Bognor, I hear. Pack your things and say goodbye to Nellie and Cook and your faithful dog Bonio, and Tiddles the cat. (**Baron wearily leaves. Cook and Nellie enter carrying Ella's boxes and luggage.**)

COOK: Aaaaah! poor Ella! Never mind! You will enjoy school

NELLIE Yes. You will make new friends there. We'll look after Bonio and Tiddles for you. (**Enter Tiddles, doing cartwheels**)

ELLA: Thank you. I will miss you all so much! Oh, Tiddles. Will you be good when I'm away? Because you really are a very naughty cat sometimes!

NELLIE That's true Miss Ella! He's just stolen the pork chops that Cook had ready for dinner!

ELLA: Ooh, Tiddles! You must be good while I'm away!

COOK: We'll see he behaves, Miss Ella. Now come on Nellie, we'd better get Miss Ella's luggage on to the carriage. (**They both exit**)

ELLA: Well it's time to say goodbye, Tiddles. Oh! But where's Bonio? Bonio, Bonio wherefore art thou Bonio? Oh! I can never find him when I really need him! Will you help me, boys and girls? When I call for my faithful dog Bonio, will you help me and call his name with me? Let's have a go then. Bonio!, Bonio! (etc etc) (**Bonio enters from back of hall eventually and Ella weeps while Tiddles does more cartwheels and generally gets in the way.**)

NARRATOR And so, Ella's boxes were packed and a carriage came to the door to take her away to school.

***** CD TRACK 1: SONG: "Goodbye Everybody" *****

*Ella: Goodbye everybody! Good-bye everyone!
It's time that I was leaving! It's time that I was gone!
So goodbye everybody! will be all right! But I will really miss you! I'll write home every night!*

My heart is heavy as a suitcase! And it's beating like a drum! I think my heart is breaking! Goodbye every one!

*Cook, Nellie, All: Goodbye Cinderella! Goodbye little one!
It's time that you were leaving! It's time that you were gone!
So goodbye Cinderella You will be all right! But we will really miss you! Please write home every night!*

Ella: My heart is heavy as a suitcase! And it's beating like a drum! I think my heart is breaking! Goodbye everyone.

(CURTAINS CLOSE DURING FINAL VERSE. SCENE ENDS WITH ALL WAVING GOODBYE TO ELLA)

SCENE 2: The Kitchen, 2 Years Later

NARRATOR Ella stayed away at school for two whole years and during all that time she did not see her home. After a while, her letters were no longer being answered. She missed her father, Cook, Nellie, Tiddles and Bonio so much that she decided to return home and surprise them. Little did she know that she was in for the surprise of her life! **(CURTAINS OPEN - Cook and Nellie onstage. Enter Ella)**

ELLA: Hello Cook! Hello Nellie! I've missed you both so much! I've had ever so much fun at school. We are learning French, you know!

COOK: French! Ooh La La, mademoiselle!

NELLIE: Whatever next!

ELLA: They eat frog's legs and snails in France, you know!

COOK: Eeeagh!

ELLA: Where's Father?

NELLIE: Urm..... Miss Ella, darling! Urm...we've got something to tell you!

ELLA: Not now. I must see Bonio and Tiddles too! **(ENTER TIDDLES, cartwheeling)**

NELLIE: Urm.....You see..it's like this.....

ELLA: Hello Tiddles! It's lovely to see you! Have you been a good cat, Tiddles? **(Tiddles nods vigorously)**

COOK: No, he hasn't. He put some dead fish in your father's shoes this morning!

NELLIE: And he's been chasing birds in the garden again! **(Tiddles imitates this)**

COOK: And he ate Bonio's breakfast this morning too!

ELLA: Ah! Where's Bonio? Help me find him, boys and girls! Bonio! Bonio! Bonio! (etc etc) **(Bonio eventually enters, obviously pleased to see her.)**

NELLIE: Miss Ella, I must tell you something!

ELLA: Not now Nellie. Yoo-hoo! Yoo-hoo, Bonio! Here boy! Good dog!

(Enter Baron Boffin, sheepishly)

BARON: Aah, Ella darling, what a pleasant surprise! Urm, yes well...I was going to write... urm you see, well I have a ...urm... lovely surprise for you, my dear... .you see..**(Baroness sweeps in and takes over the situation)**

BARONESS Eeew! Be quiet, Boff. I'll tell the girl all she needs to know! So this is the child. I've heard all about your airs and graces and the way you've been mollycoddled. You've been to school, I understand?

ELLA: Umm, yes

BARONESS: Don't they teach you to say madam when you speak to your elders? I am now married to your father and I am the lady of this house so you better do exactly as I tell you. Children should know their place!

***** **CD TRACK 2: SONG: Children should know their place** *****

Baroness: *I'm the lady of this house! I'm the mistress of this place!
I'm the one you must obey! 'Cos I do not like your face!
I'm the lady of this house! And I always get my way!
I'm the one you must obey! You will do just as I say!*

All (especially ugly sisters) *You children will all be-have!
Children should know their place! You must be good as gold!
Always do what you're told! Children should know their place!
Children should know their place! Oh Children should know their place! Children should know their place!*

BARONESS: It's about time you had some manners bashed into you. Who told you to put on that dress?

ELLA: Nobody. It's a dress which my father bought for me and I put it on because it is my best one.

BARONESS: Oh indeed! Then you go and take it off and put on your oldest dress. I don't like girls who think they are fashionable. There's only room for one gorgeous lady in this house. These boys and girls will tell you.

(To audience:) You all think I'm absolutely gorgeous, don't you!

AUDIENCE: Oh no we don't! **(BARONESS: Oh yes you do! 3 times)**

BARON: Ella looks tired. Please my precious, leave the child be.

BARONESS: Hold your tongue, Boff Boff! I will not have this creature pampered. She will be demanding her own room next and a servant to wait on her. **(To Nellie and Cook)** Take this wretched girl into the cellar. Make her a bed in there! Ha Ha! **(Exit Ella, Bonio, Tiddles, Nellie, Cook. Enter Hilda and Euphoria)**

HILDA: Mother, has that brat of old Boff-Boff has come home?

BARONESS: Yes, my darling daughter! And an obnoxious stuck-up girl she is too!

EUPHORIA: She is going to be bowled over by our beauty! I can't wait to see her face when she sees what a little raver I am!

HILDA: You must be joking! I am much better looking than you, pimply-mush!

BARONESS: **(To audience)** These are my daughters! What playful little darlings! **(ENTER ELLA and BARON)**

ELLA: Father! The cellar is damp and there's mice in there!

EUPHORIA: You're not scared of a few mice are you? It's the RATS you should be scared of! Hee Hee.

HILDA: **(with finger wiggling)** And the spiders! And the beetles! Heeee Heeee.

ELLA: Father! What is going on? How can you do this to me?

BARON: Ella, I'm so sorry, I....

BARONESS: ENOUGH! Do not say a word! I am mistress in this house! Hilda! Euphoria! Take her back to the cellar.

HILDA: Yes! A few days of darkness and bread and water will do you all the good in the world.

EUPHORIA: Yes. A few days alone with the rats and mice will teach you some manners.

HILDA (to Ella): Come with us, you stuck up little minx! Heh Heh Heh! **(CURTAINS CLOSE)**

SCENE 3: The Kitchen

NARRATOR: The Baroness and her daughters Hilda and Euphoria were really mean to Ella because they were jealous of her. They would not let her sleep in her own room or wear her own clothes. Instead she had to sleep in the cellars and wear tatty old clothes. The horrible sisters bullied her and bossed her around. The only friends she had in the world were Bonio and Tiddles, the cook and Nellie the parlour maid. **(ENTER ELLA and TIDDLES)**

ELLA: Oh Tiddles. You and Bonio are my only friends. Where's he gone now? Where's Bonio! Help me find him boys and girls. Bonio! Bonio! **(Bonio enters, hides behind her - Where is he? Behind you! etc etc)** Oh, woe is me! To think that I was once the happiest girl in the whole world! They won't let me go to school because they want to spend all the money on jewels and posh clothes. Look at my hands! I scrub and scrub all their greasy pots and pans then I have to clean out the ashes and cinders from the fires. Oh, well, Bonio, at least I have you and Tiddles and Cook and Nellie to talk to. **(ENTER COOK)**

COOK: Ah, poor little Ella! Are they still being mean to you? Your dear mother would turn in her grave if she could see how they are treating you! **(ENTER NELLIE WITH SACK OF VEGETABLES)** Ah! Nellie! Did you bring the vegetables for dinner?

NELLIE: Here you are Cook. I left the big pumpkin outside, it's so heavy. Ella, you look so sad. Don't be sad! Your father will come to his senses soon. Besides, one day you'll meet a handsome man and get married!

ELLA: I'm not so sure. Even my father is frightened of the Baroness. I'll never meet a handsome man! I never go anywhere! **(ENTER BUTTONS with banjo)**

BUTTONS: Did I hear you say "handsome man"? Well here I am! If it's handsome you want, it's handsome you've got! Oh, you must be Ella! Don't look so sad!

NELLIE: Buttons! How lovely to see you my darling! **(To audience)** This is Buttons! My boyfriend! He works here. He's the valet.

BUTTONS: Let's cheer Ella up, with a song shall we? These boys and girls will help me cheer you up, won't you boys and girls?

*******CD TRACK 3: If you're happy and you know it*******

*Life's too short for being sad! Things are never all that bad!
Life's too short for being sad! Things are never all that bad!
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!
If you're happy and you know it, and you really want to show it
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!*

2 (*Touch the sky!*), 3 (*Wave your arms!*) 4 (*Shout hooray!*) 5 (*Stamp your feet!*)

NELLIE: Oh my darling Buttons! Such a hunk! Such a man! Oh Buttons! If we weren't so poor, we could get married!

BUTTONS: Yes! It was love at first sight, wasn't it, my little cootchy coo!

COOK: (to Buttons) And a fine couple you make too! Where did you two first meet?

BUTTONS: She stole my heart away from the moment I first saw her.....doing the ironing.

***** **CD TRACK 4 SONG: Dashing Away With the Smoothing Iron** *****

*'Twas on a Monday morning when I beheld my darling
She looked so neat and charming In every high degree
She looked so neat and nimble, O
A-washing of her linen, O*

*Refrain: Dashing away with the smoothing iron
Dashing away with the smoothing iron, she stole my heart away.*

*'Twas on a Tuesday morning].....A-hanging out her linen, O
'Twas on a Wednesday morning.....A-starching of her linen, O
'Twas on a Thursday morning.....An-ironing of her linen, O
'Twas on a Friday morning.....A-folding of her linen, O
'Twas on a Saturday morning.....An-airing of her linen, O
'Twas on a Sunday morning.....A-wearing of her linen, O*

(ENTER BARON)

BARON: I thought I heard some rather nice music!

COOK: Sir! Please ask the Baroness to let Ella have her own room back! The cellars are so cold and damp and there are rats down there! Look! Even the cat is playing with a baby rat!

(Tiddles plays with toy rat. Enter Baroness, Hilda (with violin) and Euphoria)

BARONESS: Boff! There you are! What's going on here? You should be working. Go back to your room!

BARON But dearest, I just want to ask Ella how she is....

BARONESS: (Impatiently) SHOOOO! SHOOOO! You should not be sorting out things to do with kitchens and servants. That's womens' work. Now go back to your letters!

BARON: But my dear, why can't Hilda and Euphoria help with the housework too?

BARONESS: What! My little precious lambs! It would ruin their hands! No, they are far too pretty to do any work!

BARON (aside) Yes, pretty revolting!

BARONESS: What did you say?

BARON: Oooh! Nothing my angel!

BARONESS Good! I'm in charge of dishing out the jobs around here. Out, out, out!

BARON All right, dear. *(Exit Baron)*

BARONESS What are you all standing there for? Back to work all of you! And you! Valet! The carriage

needs to be cleaned and polished. I may need to go into town later to have my hair seen to.

BUTTONS: (*aside*) You should have your head seen to at the same time! Ahem! Yes, of course, ma'am.

HILDA (To ELLA) Huh! Ella, you grubby little monster! How do you like it down there in the cellar!

ELLA: I think YOU belong there! There's RATS down there!

(SEVERAL RATS and MICE CREEP ONSTAGE)

HILDA: Ooh! I don't like rats! I hope there aren't any rats! (To audience) There aren't any rats or mice, are there?

(Oh no there aren't ..etc...3 times)

EUPHORIA: (*shrieks*) Ahhh! A mouse! Agggh...another one!

(SEVERAL BUGS, BEETLES AND SPIDERS CREEP ONSTAGE)

COOK: It's the bugs and beetles and spiders I can't stand!

EUPHORIA/ HILDA: Bugs? Beetles? Spiders? Wahhhhhhhhhh!

***** **CD TRACK 5 Song: In the Cellar** *****

(Creatures join in the singing and they dance - especially during violin part)

*Down in the cellar where nobody goes
The bugs and beetles get in your clothes!
Down in the cellar where nobody goes
The dust and dirt goes up your nose!
Sleeping with the rats and mice in the cellar! Cinderella!*

*Down in the cellar where nobody goes! The great big spiders tickle your toes!
Down in the cellar where nobody sees! The dust and dirt will make you sneeze!
Sleeping with the rats and mice in the cellar! Cinderella! (Repeat)*

***** **END OF SCRIPT SAMPLE*******