

Cinderella

PROLOGUE

A young Cinderella stands with her father at her mother's graveside. She feels alone and apprehensive about her future with her new stepmother and stepsisters.

A young Prince stands with his mother by his father's graveside. He feels alone and apprehensive about his future and the responsibilities of leading a kingdom that will soon become his.

10 YEARS LATER

Cinderella is in the forest gathering kindling and making a bouquet for her mother's grave when she encounters a young man with a very familiar face. They feel an instant connection to one another, as if their destinies are meant to be intertwined.

ACT ONE

Cinderella's father, the renowned court painter, is putting the finishing touches on his portrait of the late King in preparation for the Royal Ball. Lady Vivian Tremaine, his wife and Cinderella's stepmother, and his stepdaughters dote on him, but treat Cinderella with cruelty, and as a servant.

There is much commotion around getting ready for the Royal Ball at which the Prince will choose his future Queen. No expense is spared to try and make the stepsisters the belles of the ball. A fashion designer, wig maker and ballet master fuss over the stepsisters making sure everything is perfect for them. The wicked stepmother forbids Cinderella from attending the ball. She is left alone but uses her imagination to enjoy a dance of her own before falling asleep by the fireplace.

Cinderella awakens when her Fairy Godmother appears who promises that in time, she will find true love and fulfilment. Magical Fairies from each season arrive with gifts to help Cinderella with her transformation and prepare a magical coach and horses to whisk her off to the ball. Her Fairy Godmother warns her that the magic will not last past midnight.

ACT TWO

Cinderella's father presents his painting of the late King to the Queen as guests begin to arrive at the Royal Ball. All of the young ladies are anxious to meet the Prince, but once he arrives his thoughts are only on the mysterious woman he met in the forest a few days earlier. The Prince's friends attempt to cheer him up as he continues to greet the beautiful young women politely, but without interest.

Then he sees her. Everything changes, there is an instant connection. Cinderella is the only one he wanted to see, and she has finally arrived. As they draw closer to one another, everything else seems to fade away. She recognizes him and is surprised to learn that he is the Prince who her stepsisters have been talking about. The two dance all night and before they know it, the clock strikes midnight. Cinderella's clothes start to turn into rags. As she runs away from the palace, she inadvertently leaves behind one of her beautiful slippers.

ACT THREE

The Prince continues to search the Kingdom to find his true love. Back at home, Cinderella awakens, wondering if the magical night she experienced was only a dream. She soon realizes that it was real after all. But how can Cinderella and the Prince declare their love for one another if the wicked stepmother succeeds in keeping her hidden from him?