



# *Cinderella*

## **Cinderella**

### **Synopsis**

Ella lives in Hardup Hall with her widowed father, Baron Hardup. Over the years the Baron has invested in many hair-brained schemes which have ultimately failed. Once a wealthy man, he is now on the verge of bankruptcy and Hardup Hall has fallen into disrepair.

When the Baron meets glamorous divorcee, Madame Debois, he believes he's been given second chance in love. He doesn't realise that she is only interested in his title, and she doesn't realise that he is penniless. After a short romance they marry, and Madame Dubios moves to Hardup Hall with her daughters, Barbie and Kendall.

The Baroness soon realises her new husband's financial predicament and is furious. She and her daughters take an instant dislike to Ella and proceed to make her life a misery with their temper tantrums and constant demands. Ella becomes a servant to her stepmother and stepsisters, spending her days cooking and cleaning with just the mice for company. The Baron soon learns that his marriage to the Baroness was a mistake, but it's too late.

Meanwhile, at the palace, the King and Queen decide to throw a ball for their son, Prince Charming, to acquaint him with society and introduce him to the kingdom's eligible bachelorettes. Though Ella dreams of going to the ball and meeting Prince Charming, her stepmother and stepsisters have other plans.

Things don't look good for Ella, but all is not lost as her friends rally round to help her. Perhaps, all she needs is a lucky break - and possibly a little fairy magic!

## **Characters**

**Ella** A Sweet girl, loved by all - except for her stepmother and stepsisters.

**Prince Charming** Our Hero! As the name suggests, very charming.

**Fairy Kinder** Fairy godmother. An all-round good egg!

**Buttons** The comic. The Baron's handyman and general dogsbody.

**Baron Hardup** A good father with bad business sense.

**Baroness Hardup** Ella's cruel stepmother.

**Barbie** Ella's stepsister. Mean, selfish and nasty.

**Kendall** Ella's stepsister. Also mean, selfish and nasty.

**Dandini** Prince Charming's right-hand man.

**P.C. Crockett** A local bobby.

**P.C. Tubbs** Another local bobby.

**Fuzz** A mongrel of the highest pedigree, he's one clever police dog!

**King Dexter** Charming's father.

**Queen Antonia** Charming's mother.

**Polly** The Queen's handmaiden.

**Chorus** 4 +

## **Act 1**

Scene 1 Welcome to the village

Scene 2 Let's have a party!

Scene 3 A chance meeting

Scene 4 The invitation

Scene 5 Prepare for the Royal Ball

Scene 6 Last minute preparations

Scene 7 So you think you're going to the ball!

## **Act 2**

Scene 1 – The Royal Ball

Scene 2 Whomever the shoe does fit

Scene 3 A bit of a pickle

Scene 4 The loveliest girl

Scene 5 The slipper fits!

Scene 6 Employee of the month

Scene 7 The Wedding

## **Scene Plan**

### **Act 1**

Scene 1 Front of Tabs opening into the village square

Scene 2 Front of Tabs

Scene 3 In the woods

Scene 4 Front of Tabs

Scene 5 In the kitchen at Hardup Hall

Scene 6 Front of Tabs

Scene 7 In the kitchen at Hardup Hall

### **Act 2**

Scene 1 The palace ballroom

Scene 2 Front of Tabs

Scene 3 In the kitchen at Hardup Hall

Scene 4 Front of Tabs

Scene 5 In the kitchen at Hardup Hall

Scene 6 Front of Tabs

Scene 7 The palace ballroom

## **Suggested Songs**

Song 1 Don't Stop – Fleetwood Mac/Keep On Movin' – Five/Bring It All Back – S Club

Song 2 You to Me Are Everything - The Real Thing

Song 3 It Must Be Love - Madness

Song 4 If I Could Talk to The Animals – from Dr Doolittle

Song 5 Man I Feel Like a Woman – Shania Twain

Song 6 I've Got a Feeling – The Black-Eyed Peas

Song 7 Dancing Queen – Abba/Better When I'm Dancing – Meghan Trainor

Song 8 Is She Really Going Out with Him – Joe Jackson

Song 9 My Girl – The Temptations

Song 10 You're the One That I Want – from Grease/Love Is an Open Door - Frozen

Song 11 Can't Stop the Feeling – Justin Timberlake/ All Night Long - Lionel Richie

## Cinderella

### Act 1

#### Welcome To the Village

#### **Scene 1**

*Front of tabs.*

*SFX Magical bells. Fairy Kinder enters DSR.*

**Fairy Kinder** Hello (*Insert town/Village.*) I'm Fairy Kinder, all-round good egg and magical practitioner extraordinaire! I've just started my training to be a Fairy Godmother and I'm about to meet my first case, her name is Ella. Her mother died when she was a girl, so she was brought up by her father, The Baron Hardup. The Baron is a loving and devoted father, and he raised Ella to be caring and kind. Unfortunately, he's not such a good businessman and after many failed investments, his fortune ran out and Hardup Hall has fallen into ruin and disrepair. It was on one of his many business trips that he met wealthy widow turned social media influencer, Madame Dubois. Taken in by her charm, the Baron proposed, and they married immediately. The new Baroness moved to Hardup Hall with her two daughters, Barbie and Kendall, but it soon became obvious that she'd only married the Baron for his title. As you can imagine, she was not impressed when she realised the dire state of his financial affairs and from that day on, Ella's life changed forever. It's my job to restore the balance.

*Ella enters. She wears a Scruffy dress and carries a basket. She stops to read from a long to-do list.*

**Fairy Kinder** Here's Ella now, off to do a long list of jobs for her awful stepsisters. The poor girl is run ragged!

*SFX Phone ringing.*

**Fairy Kinder** Oh, excuse me. *(Answers her mobile.)* Hello, Fairy Kinder speaking, all round good egg and... oh, hello, Tinkerbell. Coffee? Sounds great! Ten o'clock at *(Insert local café.)* ...perfect! *(To audience.)* Sorry folks, I must dash but don't worry, I have a plan to save our Ella. *(Cheerily.)* Catch you later.

*Fairy Kinder exits.*

*SFX Background music. Curtain opens on a busy village scene. Ella picks up her basket and greets the traders and villagers.*

**Ella** Hello, good morning.

**Chorus** Morning, Ella, how are things up at Hardup Hall?

**Ella** Busy, as usual.

**Chorus** You're not running errands for your stepsisters again, are you?

**Ella** Anything for a quiet life, you know what they're like.

### **Song 1**

*During the song, Buttons enters, looking for Ella. They don't see each other, and he exits before the song finishes. The Baroness, Barbie and Kendall enter and give Ella another list, hand her some shopping bags, and exit.*

**Ella** I have to go, I must finish these errands.

*Ella exits.*

**Chorus** Poor Ella! She's exhausted!

**Chorus** Ever since the Baron married that awful woman, she and her dreadful daughters have made Ella's life a misery.

**Chorus** Ella is so like her mother.

**Chorus** Same sweet nature.

**Chorus** Same happy disposition! The Baron was heartbroken when she...

**Chorus** No point in dwelling on the past!

**Chorus** I guess not.

**Chorus** After all she's been through, Ella deserves a happy ever after.

*Buttons enters.*

**Buttons** Hello, folks!

**Chorus** *(Together.)* Hello, Buttons!

**Buttons** *(To audience.)* Hello *[Insert town/village.]* I said, hello *[Insert town/village.]* That's more like it. My name is Buttons and I work for Baron Hardup. I suppose you could call me the odd job man, 'cos I only ever do the odd job. It's not that I'm work shy, I've had plenty of jobs in the past. I worked in a tiddly-wink factory, but I left because it was counterproductive. Then I got a job testing vacuum cleaners, which sucked! Then I was the historian at the local library, but I left 'cos there was no future in it! After that, I came to Hardup Hall, and I've been here ever since! When Baroness stropo pants and her two dippy daughters arrived, everyone else quit. I do get a bit lonely sometimes, there's Ella, of course, but she's always busy waiting on her stepsisters. Will you lot be my friends? *(Audience responds.)* Are you sure? *(Audience responds.)* That's what I hoped you'd say. When I say, 'Hiya, folks!' will you shout back, 'Hiya, Buttons!' Let's have a practice. 'Hiya, folks!' *(Audience responds.)* You can do better than that. *(Repeat.)* That's great, it's like we've been friends forever! I don't suppose you've seen Ella, have you? *(Indicates height.)* She's about so tall, really kind and super pretty.

**Chorus** You just missed her, Buttons.

**Chorus** She's running errands for Barbie and Kendall.

**Buttons** Not again!

**Chorus** Sorry, Buttons, we'd love to stop and chat but it's nearly time for Loose Women.

*The rest of the chorus agree and start to exit.*

**Chorus** Good luck with your search for Ella, Buttons.



*They all exit as P.C. Crockett and P.C. Tubbs enter with Fuzz.*

**P.C. Crockett** 'Ello, 'Ello. What's going on 'ere then? Did I hear right? Is someone missing? You should file a missing person's report.

**P.C. Tubbs** Definitely the proper thing to do, especially if someone is missing!

**P.C. Crockett** (*Takes a note pad and pen from his pocket.*) I'll need a brief description.

**Buttons** That's easy, you are medium height, short hair, and wearing a police uniform.

**P.C. Crockett** Not me, you fool, the missing person.

**Buttons** I'm pulling your leg, P.C. Crockett. It's me, Buttons, from Hardup Hall.

**P.C. Crockett** Buttons, so it is! I really must get my eyes tested. The last time I went to the opticians, he told me I was colour-blind. It came as a complete bolt out of the orange.

**Buttons** I'm looking for Ella, have you seen her?

**P.C. Tubbs** 'Fraid not Buttons! We'd tell you if we'd seen her.

**P.C. Tubbs** But, unfortunately, we haven't.

*Fuzz barks and points excitedly towards Ella's last exit.*

**Buttons** Look, I reckon your dog knows something. What is it, boy, have you seen Ella?

**P.C. Crockett** He does that all the time. He's part Pointer!

**Buttons** (*Pats Fuzz.*) He's cute! What's his name?

**P.C. Tubbs** Fuzz.

**Buttons** Hello, Fuzz, I had a dog like you once. He was great at keeping out intruders.

**P.C. Crockett** Well trained, was he?

**Buttons** Not exactly, I brought him from the local Blacksmith and every time the doorbell went, he made a bolt for the door!

**P.C. Tubbs** Fuzz is our deputy, he's new to the force.

**Buttons** (*Fusses over Fuzz.*) You're very friendly, Ella would love you!

**P.C. Crockett** Don't worry about Ella, Buttons, she'll turn up.

**P.C. Tubbs** You know what she's like for stopping to help folk.

**Buttons** You're right. I just wanted to warn her to be on the look out for her stepsisters, they're on the warpath!

**P.C. Crockett** Those two should take a leaf out of Ella's book, they are rotten.

*Barbie and Kendall enter behind Tubbs & Crockett. The officers continue to rant as Buttons attempts to stop them, but they are oblivious to his efforts.*

**P.C. Tubbs** Don't forget selfish.

**P.C. Crockett** And rude.

**P.C. Tubbs** Unpleasant.

**P.C. Crockett** Disagreeable.

**P.C. Crockett** Spiteful.

**P.C. Tubbs** Obnoxious.

**P.C. Crockett** Malicious.

**Tubbs & Crockett** They're bullies!

**P.C. Crockett** They're so ugly, our police sketch artist refuses to sketch them!

**P.C. Tubbs** They're so ugly, they make onions cry!

**P.C. Crockett** They're so ugly that, when they throw a boomerang, it doesn't come back!

*They laugh but stop abruptly when they see Buttons pained expression.*

**P.C. Crockett** They're behind us, aren't they?

*Buttons nods. Tubbs and Crockett turn around slowly.*

**Barbie & Kendall (Together.)** Boo!

*Tubbs and Crockett jump, and their knees shake.*

**Barbie (Angrily.)** Do continue, Officers.

**Kendall** Who could be worthy of such awful insults, Barbie?

**Barbie** You wouldn't want to get on the wrong side of them, Kendall.

**Together** (*Threateningly.*) Well?

*Fuzz hides behind Tubbs and Crockett and whimpers.*

**P.C. Tubbs** I... I...

**Together** (*Louder.*) Well?

*Tubs jumps into Crockett's arms; Crockett drops him and he scrambles to his feet. They trip over each other in a hurry to exit and Fuzz follows them. They call over their shoulder to Buttons.*

**P.C. Crockett** Catch you later, Buttons.

**P.C. Tubbs** We'll keep a look out for Ella.

**P.C. Crockett** Run, Fuzz, run!

*Fuzz barks as they exit.*

## **Act 2**

### **Scene 1**

#### **The Royal Ball**

*The Palace ballroom.*

The King and Queen are seated with Prince Charming and Polly standing next to them. Tubbs and Crockett are dressed as waiters with serving trays. They wear dark glasses and fake moustaches (*as they are undercover*). Fuzz also wears dark glasses. Dandini stands at the front of the stage to announce the guests. The chorus are guests and are mingling.

*SFX Royal fanfare. Dandini steps forward.*

**Dandini** Ladies and Gentlemen. King Dexter and Queen Antonia welcome you to the palace for the royal ball.

*The Prince sidles over to Dandini.*

**Prince Charming** Any sign of our mystery lady, Dandini?

**Dandini** No yet, Your Highness.

**Queen Antonia** Are you looking for someone, Charming?

**Prince Charming** No, Mother. I was admiring all our distinguished guests.

**King Dexter** They've probably heard the rumours about my magnificent balls and come to see what all the fuss is about.

**Dandini** Yes, Your Majesty!

**Prince Charming** Keep your eyes peeled, Dandini.

*Dandini nods and returns to his post. The Baroness, Barbie and Kendall enter and hand Dandini their invitation, to announce their arrival.*

**Dandini** The Baroness Hardup and her daughters Miss Barbie and Miss Kendall.

**Baroness** Introduce us to the prince, he'll want to meet us.

*She takes Dandini's arm and steers him toward the prince.*

**Dandini** Prince Charming, may I present Baroness Hardup and her daughters Barbie and Kendall. Ladies, this is Prince Charming.

**Prince Charming** Charmed!

**Baroness** The pleasure is ours, Your Highness.

*The prince looks around the room and Dandini returns to his post.*

**Polly** (*Aside to the King and Queen.*) That's the unsavoury woman I was telling you about.

**King Dexter** Good heavens! You weren't joking, Polly.

**Queen Antonia** Dexter! They are your guests.

**King Dexter** Sorry, Dear.

**Polly** Her daughters look just as bad.

**Kendall** (*Pushes Barbie aside.*) Prince Charming, I'm Kendall. I have a feeling we're going to be more than just good friends!

**Barbie** (*Pushes Kendall aside.*) Dance with me, you can't deny the chemistry between us.

**Prince Charming** Ladies, I must greet my other guests.

**Barbie** Of course, I'll be back for that dance.

*They move to the front of the stage as everyone makes small talk and continues to mingle.*

**Kendall** Did you see the way he looked at me?

**Barbie** He was probably wondering if that dress has a dimmer switch.

**Kendall** Shame your mouth doesn't have a mute button.

**Barbie** You're jealous because he promised me a dance.

**Kendall** He just feels sorry for you.

**Barbie** He can't resist my womanly charms.

**Baroness** Girls, do stop bickering. You both look gawjus! I don't know how the prince will choose between you.

*Dandini steps forward.*

**Dandini** Ladies and Gentlemen, be silent for your king.

**King Dexter** Thank you, Dandini. Let the dancing commence.

*Background music as everyone takes to the floor.*

*Ella enters. She curtsies to Dandini, thinking that he is the prince.*

**Ella** Your Highness.

**Dandini** *(Holds up his hand to silence her.)* Please, come with me.

**Ella** But, I...

**Dandini** Please.

*Dandini takes her hand and leads her to the prince. The music stops and everyone parts as Ella and Dandini pass.*

**Dandini** Your Royal Highness, may I present... *(To Ella.)* Sorry, I didn't get your name.

**Ella** It's E-E... *(She looks towards her stepmother and sisters.)* E-Escarbille. That is, Mademoiselle Escarbille.

**Dandini** How unusual. It's French, isn't it?

**Ella** Err, yes.

**Prince** *(In a bad french accent.)* Mais oui! Mon pleasure. Au contraire mon petit mange tout.

**Ella** I don't speak French.

**Dandini** Neither does he! Mademoiselle, may I introduce Prince Charming.

**Ella** Prince Charming?

**Prince Charming** *(Takes Ella's hand.)* It's you, the lady from the woods?

**Ella** I don't understand... you're the prince? Then who is...

**Dandini** I'm Dandini.

**Prince Charming** I wasn't altogether honest with you when we first met. I didn't mean to deceive you. I wanted you to like me for who I was, and not who I am. Can you forgive me?

**Ella** I'll think about it. Dancing helps me think more clearly.

**Prince Charming** Then dance with me.

**Ella** I'd love to.

*They waltz to background music. The conversation continues around them, but they only have eyes for each other.*

**Baroness** Who is that?

**Barbie** She looks familiar!

**Kendall** She's hogging my prince!

**Queen Antonia** Dexter, he's dancing with a girl. I'm going to be a granny.  
**King Dexter** Steady on old thing! Give the lad a chance.

**Queen Antonia** It's so exciting!

**Polly** It's so romantic!

**Baroness** It's so nauseating!

**Queen Antonia** Who is she?

**Polly** It's a mystery!

**P.C. Crockett** (*Lifts his glasses.*) 'Ello, Ello. Did I hear someone mention a mystery?

**P.C. Tubbs** Call the police.

**P.C. Crockett** We are the police, you fool.

**P.C. Tubbs** So we are. We're so far undercover, I didn't recognise us!

**Polly** Do you know that girl, Constable?

**P.C. Tubbs** There is something vaguely familiar about her. I can't put my finger on it!

**P.C. Crockett** I bet she's off that TV programme, Strictly Come Dancing On Ice With The Stars.

**P.C. Tubbs** Why do you say that?

**P.C. Crockett** It's obvious, look how she moves across the floor!

**P.C. Tubbs** I've got two left feet, I wouldn't know a foxtrot from a tango.

## **Song 7**

**P.C. Crockett** Who ever she is, she's very mysterious.

**P.C. Tubbs** Fuzz, keep an eye on her.