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The Sleeping Beauty

by
Eileen Moushey

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CAST OF CHARACTERS/SETTINGS

NOTE: The Sleeping Beauty may be performed by adults or young actors or a combination of both. Ages are not important except in relationship to each other. Costumes are typical fairy tale/fantasy type. The FAERIES' (except LUCINDA) costumes should be light, ethereal, and flowing. They should stand out from the "people". The FAERIES' costumes should reflect their personalities.

QUEEN JANE: Mother of AURORA. Stately, majestic. Dressed royally..

KING WILLIAM: Father of AURORA. Dignified and compassionate.

PRINCESS AURORA: The Sleeping Beauty. Lively and energetic.

FAERIE ALICE: A good Faerie. ALICE is absent-minded and easily flustered. But she's not nearly as twitty as she appears initially. Dressed in pink.

FAERIE GWEN: A good Faerie. No-nonsense, short on sense of humor, GWEN is really just as much of a "softie" as the others, but goes to great pains to hide it. Dressed in pale blue.

FAERIE MERRY: A very good Faerie. MERRY is the unspoken leader of the trio and is sensible, smart, and very brave. Dressed in pale yellow.

FAERIE LUCINDA: A downright wicked Faerie. LUCINDA is bitter and mean-spirited and a practical joker. Dressed in dark green.

DEREK THE GUARD/PRINCE JETHRO: Both these roles can be played by the same actor. DEREK has a Scots-Irish accent. JETHRO is princely, but not as handsome as PRINCE MICHAEL.

WALTER THE HERALD/PRINCE MILTON: Both these roles can be played by the same actor. WALTER is crusty and curmudgeonly. PRINCE MILTON is veeery, veeery, old and hard-of-hearing.

ROBIN THE PAGE/PRINCE KENNY: Both these roles can be played by the same actor who should be as young as possible. ROBIN is smart and enthusiastic about everything. KENNY is a typical little boy who's main interests are bugs and frogs. Girls are

waaaaay down on the list.

PRINCE MICHAEL: Handsome, athletic, brave but very shy.

HECTOR: Prince Michael's manservant and friend. Physically, he is the prince's opposite.

The action of The Sleeping Beauty takes place in three locales:

1. The inner courtyard of King William's castle.
2. The thorny forest that grows up around King William's castle.
3. A room in Prince Michael's castle.

It is not necessary to use a complete stage setting for The Sleeping Beauty, although this is of course possible. The descriptions in the script are the ones we used in the original production. Since this is a fairy tale, a lot can be suggested by set dressing and props, rather than walls and flats. Certain pieces are necessary (the clock tower, the alcove, etc.) but you may adapt as you wish.

You will find within the script many references to lighting specials and sound effects. While you may adapt for your production, the use of these greatly enhances the play. Likewise, the use of music as underscoring for some scenes and scene changes is strongly recommended.

For the statue effect we used two identical costumes. This included a grey painted mask and matching grey cape with hood. It is closed in front and drapes to the ground. For the real statue, this was placed over a dress form with wig "head". For LUCINDA, the mask and cape are worn on her back. The audience, accustomed to seeing the statue in Scene One, will not notice that it is really LUCINDA in Scene Three.

PROLOGUE

COURTYARD - KING WILLIAM'S CASTLE

SETTING: This courtyard is comprised of two castle turrets. Between them, figuring prominently, is a large Big Ben style clock. In the base of the SR turret is an arched alcove with curtains. Through this, AURORA'S bed can be pushed. A corresponding alcove on the stage left turret has contains a statue. As the Prologue begins all is in darkness. A single spot illuminates the three good FAERIES.

FAERIE MERRY: Hello, children. We are so happy you could come to the theater today so we could share a very special story with you. My name is Merry. This is Gwen and this is Alice. Our play will begin in just a moment but before it does I need to tell you a little bit about the people you will be meeting. Once upon a time...

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, let me tell them, please, Merry!

FAERIE MERRY: Alice, dear, do you think you can? I mean, you do have a tendency to forget things...

FAERIE ALICE: I can do it, I know I can.

FAERIE MERRY: Very well, dear. Children, Alice is going to introduce the play.

FAERIE GWEN: This ought to be good.

FAERIE ALICE: Just ignore her, boys and girls. Now let's see....Where should I begin?

FAERIE GWEN: How about starting with the title?

FAERIE ALICE: Good plan. Okay, here goes. Welcome one and all to the tale of... um.. ..The beautiful story you are about to see is called.....it's called... it's called....Oh dear, I knew it a minute ago....CINDERELLA,...of course.....no, no, that's wrong....Wait a minute....RAPUNZEL....Ah, yes, good old Rapunzel with the hair, that's it, isn't it?.....No? Oh, snakes and toads, I've forgotten the name of this thing. That's it!! THE TOAD PRINCE!!....Oh my, my, my...that doesn't sound right, either.....Really, it's on the tip of my tongue.

FAERIE GWEN: Oh, for pity's sake, Alice, you are such a DINGDONG!! I'm sorry, Merry, but unless I take over we will be here until spring.

FAERIE MERRY: I'm sure you would do a lovely job, Gwen. However, you don't really describe everything when you tell a story. You've got to flesh out the bare bones....

FAERIE GWEN: Describe? What's to describe?

FAERIE ALICE: It's coming to me.....

FAERIE GWEN: It's a very straightforward story. Look, there was this king, see..

FAERIE MERRY: ...who was good and kind and wise...

FAERIE ALICE: ...Snow White?....The Importance of Being Earnest?.....

FAERIE GWEN: (*Glaring*)...and this King was married to Queen Jane...

FAERIE MERRY: ...who was sweet and pretty and well loved by the entire kingdom..

FAERIE ALICE: A Date with Judy?.....

FAERIE GWEN: ANYWAY, this King and Queen were really happy and all that...

FAERIE ALICE:I've got it! A Streetcar Named Desire!!!!

FAERIE GWEN: (*Losing temper*) How about A Nitwit Named Alice?

FAERIE MERRY: Girls! Girls! That's enough! Children, I do apologize for this sorry display of Faerie foolishness. Oh, we didn't tell you that, did we? Yes, we three are Faeries and as such we are very important to this story. Alice, Gwen, unless you object, I think maybe I should tell our young friends a little about King William and his good Queen Jane.

FAERIE ALICE: (*Hurt*) Oh, all right. If you think you must....But it will come to me in a minute.

FAERIE GWEN: Yes, Merry, why don't you describe it to them. But

make it brief or that one....(*Pointing to a child in the audience*) will fall sleep before you-know-who.

FAERIE MERRY: Yes, yes. Well, children, this King and Queen were very happy together and their kingdom was a peaceful one.

FAERIE ALICE: (*Sniffing*) I'm not hurt, honest.

FAERIE MERRY: Everyone was so happy that the only thing that was lacking, the only thing missing, was a baby for the royal couple. King William and Queen Jane wanted a family very, very much. And after several years, their wish was granted and they had a beautiful baby girl, that they named....

FAERIE ALICE: (*Eagerly*) Miss Scarlett!

FAERIE GWEN: Aurora. They named her the Princess Aurora.

FAERIE MERRY: That's right. Aurora. Which is really where we enter the story. The king and queen asked us to be godmothers to the baby princess. And so, children, our play begins with the christening of Aurora. It's an exciting, beautiful tale called...

FAERIE ALICE: (*To children*) Help me. Whisper it. Do you know the name? (*They tell her.*) Thanks. I've got it! I've got it! It's called "The Sleeping Beauty."

FAERIE GWEN: Say ta-ta to the children, Alice.

FAERIE ALICE: (*Waving*) Ta-ta, children, see you in a bit.

ALICE, MERRY, AND GWEN: Ta-ta! Ta-ta! Ta-ta! (*They exit SL.*)

SCENE ONE

COURTYARD - KING WILLIAM'S CASTLE

SETTING: As the FAERIES exit, the lights come to full and the castle comes to life. DEREK and ROBIN enter on the SL turret.

DEREK: Well, lad, have you seen her?

ROBIN: Oh yes, sir, and you were right.

DEREK: Aye, she's a bonny lass. And we aren't the only ones hoping for a glimpse of the wee babe. Look at that crowd, will you, my boy!
(Crowd noises)

ROBIN: It looks like everyone in the kingdom! I've never seen so many people in the castle courtyard before. *(WALTER enters.)*

WALTER: Any sign of the them? Guard! Are you watching for the Faeries, or just standing there holding up the tower wall? Why is it I have to do everything myself around here?

DEREK: Be calm, man, be calm. I'm watching for the Faeries, just as you ordered, but there's been no sign of them. Though I'm thinking they're the only ones not here just now. Have you ever seen such a crowd?

WALTER: No, and it's a good thing! Look at the mess they're making in the courtyard. You there, pick up that apple core right now. *(Laughter is heard.)* Same to you, buddy! Rabble!

DEREK: Ah, Walter. It's not every day we christen a new Princess. The people just want to have a look at her. Do you think you might be persuading themselves to come out on the balcony here for a wee moment?

WALTER: Oh, I don't have enough to do, Derek? Announce this, announce that. Now I'm supposed to be the castle persuader too?

ROBIN: Please, sir, could you try?

WALTER: Well.... maybe, but I'm not promising anything, boy....Asking isn't the same as getting, you know.

DEREK: Ah, but they'll do it if you ask, I'm sure. Robin, it's like I was just saying, if you want to influence the King and Queen, the man

to talk to is Walter here.

WALTER: *(As he exits)* Do my best-that's all I can do. *(Muttering as he exits.)* Ask the King this, ask the Queen that.

DEREK: That, me boy, is what is known in some circles, as diplomacy.

ROBIN: My dad calls it something else, I think, Derek.

DEREK: *(Laughing)* I'm sure he does, lad, I'm sure he does. *(WALTER enters on SR turret, with trumpet. He blows a fanfare.)*

WALTER: Hear ye! Hear ye! Their royal highnesses, KING WILLIAM and QUEEN JANE *(Crowd cheering noises)* and... the PRINCESS AURORA *(The crowd goes wild. KING and QUEEN enter on the SR turret. The QUEEN is carrying a baby.)*

KING WILLIAM: My beloved subjects, I greet you today on the joyous occasion of my daughter's christening. The birth of the Princess Aurora was the answer to many prayers, yours and ours. We accept your good wishes and thank you most humbly for them.

QUEEN JANE: Becoming a mother has made me even more aware of how precious children are. And so, in honor of the Princess Aurora, we ask that you go home today and spend time with your own children. The Faeries Alice, Gwen, and Merry will be here soon to serve as Aurora's godmothers. Your good wishes and theirs will be a fitting christening present for our little princess.

KING WILLIAM: Go now, loyal subjects, and may God be with you. *(Crowd cheers as the KING and QUEEN wave. The FAERIES enter through the audience, down the SL aisle. ROBIN spots them first, points them out to DEREK. DEREK motions to WALTER who informs the KING and QUEEN. They go into the castle, but reappear onstage through the SR alcove.)*

WALTER: *(Fanfare.)* She's sweet and she's good, she's never contrary, please welcome now, the good Faerie Merry.

FAERIE MERRY: Yoo-hoo we made it. Hello, hello!

WALTER: *(Fanfare)* She's wise and she's witty, though sharp now and then, but everyone loves, the good Faerie Gwen.

FAERIE GWEN: Did he say sharp? Oh, well,...we're here, your

majesties..

WALTER: (*Fanfare*) She's sweet and she's charming, with no trace of malice, not exactly a genius, she's the good Faerie Alice.

FAERIE ALICE: (*To aisle child*) I just love to be announced, don't you? (*To those onstage*) Where is she? Where's that little girl? (*As they reach the stage, they will cluster around the KING and QUEEN. DEREK, WALTER and ROBIN will exit. There is a moment of silence as the FAERIES are in awe of the baby.*)

FAERIE GWEN: Oh, my.

FAERIE MERRY: She's so tiny.

FAERIE ALICE: I could just cry. I'm so happy. OH! Did you see that? She smiled at us, I'm sure of it!

FAERIE GWEN: Did-ums? Did-ums smile for us? Her's such a widdow fweetie. Yes, her is. Her Godmama Gwen could just kiss her a-a-a-ll over. (*At the others' stares, GWEN stops.*) A lovely baby, Your Majesties. You are to be congratulated. (*Amid cries of congratulations and embracing, the lights on stage dim briefly, but noticeably.*)

QUEEN JANE: What was that? It grew dark for a moment.

KING WILLIAM: Look, a bird. A huge black bird. It flew in front of the sun.

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, no. Is it...? (*She and GWEN look worriedly at MERRY.*)

QUEEN JANE: What is it? What's wrong?

FAERIE MERRY: (*Hurriedly*) Nothing. We're just three old worry-warts. Now let's get started. As you know, Your Majesties, faeries may only have one hundred wishes in their lifetimes. After that, they still have special powers, but they cannot bestow certain gifts.

FAERIE GWEN: Or curses like...

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, Gwen, please, let's not talk about her today.

FAERIE MERRY: As I was saying, we only have a limited number of

wishes. Therefore, it gives me a special pleasure to use one on little Aurora. Ahem...Wish Number Ninety-Nine. I wish that the Princess Aurora grow to be good and kind and wise. (*A tinkling sound is heard.*) Gwennie?

FAERIE GWEN: Wish Number Ninety-Nine. I wish that the Princess Aurora grow to be an independent thinker, a person who stands up for what is right. (*Tinkling sound is heard.*)

FAERIE ALICE: And I wish that the Princess Aurora grows up to be curious, with a thirst for knowledge. That's wish number Ninety-Nine, for me, too....I think....(*A tinkling sound is heard. And as FAERIE ALICE is giving her wish, FAERIE LUCINDA enters down the SR aisle.*)

FAERIE LUCINDA: Oh, come now, sisters, you can do better than that. (*All gasp in shock.*)

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, no, it's Lucinda!

FAERIE MERRY: Begging Your Majesties' pardon, but inviting Lucinda was really not a very good idea...

QUEEN JANE: But we didn't invite her...

KING WILLIAM: Especially after what she did at our wedding....

FAERIE LUCINDA: Oh, you didn't like the tornado? I thought it a rather unique wedding gift.

FAERIE ALICE: Go away, Lucinda, nobody wants you here.

FAERIE MERRY: Lucinda, why don't you just leave now before someone gets hurt...

FAERIE LUCINDA: Oh, sisters, sisters, give me another chance.

FAERIE MERRY: We've given you dozens of chances and you always manage to find some way to make everyone miserable. You and your dirty tricks. (*LUCINDA has by now reached the stage.*)

FAERIE LUCINDA: But it's different this time. Really. Please. Let me try and explain. You see, I know I sometimes go too far.

FAERIE ALICE: Sometimes?

FAERIE LUCINDA: But I'm trying to reform. Honest. Cross my

heart and hope to lie, I mean DIE.... *(To others' looks of disbelief)*
Did you ever think that maybe I'm not happy always being the wicked one? Maybe today marks a fresh start for me. Maybe I want to be a good faerie now.

FAERIE GWEN: And maybe Alice here is the Rose Bowl Queen. Maybe, but we seriously doubt it.

FAERIE MERRY: Lucinda, you have caused pain wherever you go. You've mistreated animals, you've played cruel practical jokes on humans, and you've distorted and abused your faerie powers. Is it any wonder that we don't trust you?

FAERIE LUCINDA: You're absolutely right, Merry. I...I've been wicked, I know it now. But I can change. The fact that I wasn't invited to the Princess Aurora's christening...Or asked to be a godmother. I was hurt, I don't mind admitting it...

QUEEN JANE: We never meant to hurt you, Lucinda, it's just that...

FAERIE LUCINDA: Oh, I don't blame you. I know why you didn't invite me....You were right.

KING WILLIAM: But we're glad you're here now. Please stay and celebrate with us.

FAERIE LUCINDA: Oh, I couldn't.

FAERIE GWEN: *(To KING and QUEEN)* Don't listen to her..

QUEEN JANE: Lucinda, if you really want to change, we'd be honored to have you as a guest today.

FAERIE ALICE: I don't know about this...

FAERIE LUCINDA: Well, all right. But first you must let me give the baby princess a gift. Princess Aurora, my Faerie wish for you is that by the time you are sixteen you will be the most...

FAERIE MERRY: Lucinda....

FAERIE LUCINDA: Hush, Merry, I'm not finished.....By the time you are sixteen, you will be the most beautiful....

FAERIE ALICE: Oh that's nice, Lucinda. We forgot beautiful, Gwen..

FAERIE LUCINDA: Please, sisters, I want to say this right.....My Faerie wish for you, little Princess Aurora, is this: I wish that before your sixteenth birthday is over you will be the most beautiful girl in the land... (*All breath a sigh of relief.*) Unless, of course, you prick your finger on a spinning wheel and die!! Gotcha! Gotcha! Gotcha! (*The wish tinkle sound is heard again, followed by LUCINDA'S wild laughter. The others react with horror.*)

QUEEN JANE: Oh, no! Oh, take it back!!

FAERIE ALICE: How wicked!! This is the worst

FAERIE GWEN: I knew it! This is horrible, Lucinda, even for you...

FAERIE MERRY: You will regret this. You will regret this.

FAERIE LUCINDA: I will regret this? Oh, no, Merry dear, the ones who have something to regret are those who presume to ignore me and my power. I guess my next invitation won't get "lost in the mail," will it, Your Majesties?

KING WILLIAM: Can't you just cancel her wish with one of your own?

FAERIE MERRY: No, but I can alter it. Wish Number One Hundred....

FAERIE LUCINDA: It's your last wish, Merry, better make it good.....

FAERIE MERRY: Wish Number One Hundred. Princess Aurora, if you prick your finger on a spinning wheel you will not die, but merely fall into a deep sleep.....This I wish. (Tinkle)

FAERIE GWEN: And I wish that the kiss of a true prince will break the spell. (*Tinkle*) Wish Number One Hundred....

FAERIE ALICE: And I wish that you will live happily ever after with your prince and Lucinda and her nastiness won't be able to touch you. (*Tinkle*) That's Wish One Hundred for me and worth it. (*She sticks out tongue at LUCINDA.*)

FAERIE LUCINDA: My, my. We are determined to protect the little brat, aren't we? You do realize you've used up all your wishes, don't you? And, I, of course, have lots left. But you don't know how many, do you? I've never really gone along with this business of announcing numbers.

FAERIE MERRY: You can't undo our wishes, even if you have

FAERIE LUCINDA: But I merely want to add to the good wishes you've given to the little Princess. Let's see, where were we? Oh yes, she will prick her finger on a spinning wheel, fall into a deep sleep, be awakened by a true prince, and live happily ever after. How sweet. But, just suppose this true prince doesn't show up? I think we need a time limit, don't you? How does this sound? If a true prince has not awakened her in one hundred years, she will..... (*She has an inspiration.*) Oh, that's good. Yes, yes, that's it! My final wish for you, Princess Aurora, is this: When that clock strikes the hour, one hundred years after you fall sleep, you will either be awake or.... you will sleep forever! (*Tinkle*) I think that's fair, don't you? Surely, in a hundred years you can come up with something!

FAERIE ALICE: What I'd like is one more wish, Lucinda, and I'd change you into a toad, or a slug, or...or...a TELETUBBY!

FAERIE LUCINDA: (*Shaking her head.*) Sisters, sisters. No imagination. Just the same old threats. Well, hate to curse and run but I've got to toddle along. There's mischief to be caused somewhere and I don't want to miss it...Ta-ta, sisters, see you at the kid's Sweet Sixteen birthday party. Oh, and if you're stuck for a gift idea, I'd suggest pajamas. (*She exits down SL aisle, laughing wildly.*)

QUEEN JANE: Oh, what can we do? Can't we stop her horrid curse from coming true?

KING WILLIAM: Well, I can certainly try...I'll start by making spinning wheels illegal..I'll have them all destroyed. And then, I'll...I'll...Oh, dear friends, I feel so helpless!

FAERIE MERRY: I know, sire, we all do. But perhaps we can stop Lucinda's dreadful wish from happening. For the next sixteen years we must guard Aurora closely. (*The KING and QUEEN exit into the SR alcove. The FAERIES move downstage as the lights dim and the clock begins to chime.*)

SCENE TWO

COURTYARD - KING WILLIAM'S CASTLE

SETTING: As before, sixteen years later. The stage is dark, enabling LUCINDA (or, rather, the back of her costume) to replace the "statue" in the SL alcove. A single spot illuminates the FAERIES as they speak.

FAERIE MERRY: So the King and Queen did their best to prevent the consequences of Lucinda's horrible wish...

FAERIE ALICE: But we knew better. We knew that simply destroying all the spinning wheels in the kingdom would not be enough to stop Lucinda....

FAERIE GWEN: But it made the King feel better, it made him feel like he was doing something....Which was more than we could do....

FAERIE MERRY: All we could do was be ever watchful.....

FAERIE ALICE: And keep Aurora safe for year after year.....

FAERIE GWEN: Until the dawning of her sixteenth birthday.... (*They exit offstage.*)

SCENE THREE

COURTYARD - KING WILLIAM'S CASTLE

SETTING: At the end of GWEN's last line, the lights come up again. It is AURORA'S sixteenth birthday party. The KING and QUEEN enter through SR alcove.

QUEEN JANE: William, it's so hard to believe that our baby is sixteen years old today....

KING WILLIAM: And after today, we won't have to worry about the curse...

QUEEN JANE: Stop! Don't talk about it! For sixteen years, we have protected Aurora from harm. And for sixteen years, we haven't heard or seen Lucinda. Surely, she's forgotten or given up. *(The FAERIES enter down the SR aisle.)*

FAERIE MERRY: Your Majesties.

KING WILLIAM: Oh, Faeries, We're so glad you are here.

FAERIE GWEN: We had to be here. We have to protect Aurora, on this day more than any other.

FAERIE MERRY: Where is she? Does she know about the danger?

QUEEN JANE: I didn't have the heart to tell her...She's so excited about her birthday. *(AURORA enters.)*

KING WILLIAM: There's our birthday girl! *(She embraces her parents and the FAERIES as they congratulate her.)*

AURORA: Father, do you know that the guard is not allowing anyone to go in or out of the castle?

KING WILLIAM: Yes, dear, but it doesn't concern you. Don't worry your pretty little head about it..

AURORA: But then, Walter and Derek and Robin will have to work instead of coming to my party.

QUEEN JANE: Aurora, darling, they have a job to do today. You can have another party with your castle friends tomorrow. Today is for your family celebration. Which reminds me, William, shouldn't we be

wrapping something?

AURORA: Oh, a present for me!! I know it!! What is it? What is it?

KING WILLIAM: Now it wouldn't be a surprise if we told you, would it?

FAERIE ALICE: Ooh, can we see, though? I'm an absolute whiz with ribbon, I can help you wrap.

QUEEN JANE: *(Laughing)* Oh, yes, come along. Not you, Aurora, you have to be patient. Stay right here and we'll be back shortly to start your party.

FAERIE MERRY: *(Meaningfully)* And I'll stay and keep her company. And make sure she doesn't peek.

KING WILLIAM: Good idea. Our Aurora is a very clever little girl. *(To the FAERIES)* It's alright. This courtyard has been completely sealed. She'll be safe here.

AURORA: I won't peek, Father, honest. But hurry, I can't wait much longer! *(KING, QUEEN, and FAERIES ALICE and GWEN exit through SR alcove. To MERRY)* Oh, Merry, don't you just love birthdays?

FAERIE MERRY: I love your birthdays, sweetheart. It's fun to watch your face as you open your gifts.

AURORA: The presents are wonderful, Merry, and the cake and everything. But that's not the best part. The best part is sharing the celebration with your family and all the people who love you....I wish every day was a birthday.

FAERIE MERRY: *(Laughing)* So do I, darling, so do I.... *(MERRY'S answer is drowned out by a huge crash from offstage.)* Goodness, what was that?

AURORA: I don't know. Shall I go see?

FAERIE MERRY: *(Worriedly)* No, but I think perhaps I should. If I go, do you promise not to move from this courtyard?

AURORA: I promise.

FAERIE MERRY: It's probably nothing, Aurora, but....I'll be right back. *(MERRY exits SR. AURORA checks to make sure she's really*

gone and then she skips over and starts to peek in the SR alcove. While she is doing this the "statue" in the SL alcove slowly begins turning, revealing LUCINDA who is carrying a small spinning wheel tied with a big bow.)

FAERIE LUCINDA: *(Singing softly)* Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday, Aurora, happy birthday to you.

AURORA: Oh, hello....I didn't notice you there. Don't tell them I was peeking!

FAERIE LUCINDA: Don't worry, Aurora, it will be our little secret.

AURORA: I'm sorry, I don't mean to be rude but.....do I know you?

FAERIE LUCINDA: We've never been formally introduced. I'm Lu....let's just say I'm an old friend of the family. I heard it was your birthday and I was in the neighborhood so I thought I'd drop by with a little gift. *(LUCINDA hands the wheel to Aurora who takes it and looks at it curiously.)*

AURORA: How thoughtful of you! And thank you very much for this..this...

FAERIE LUCINDA: It's a spinning wheel, dum...pling.

AURORA: A spinning wheel? I'm afraid I don't know what that is.

FAERIE LUCINDA: Why, it's used to spin wool into yarn. See... *(She gives the wheel a few turns.)*

AURORA: How interesting. *(As she talks she is playing with the wheel.)* Now you must stay for my party. It's just family and a few close friends but we'd love to have you, I'm sure. It will be lots of fun. Why, I was so excited last night, I couldn't sleep a wink!

FAERIE LUCINDA: *(Stifles her laughter)* Well, you won't have that little problem tonight!

AURORA: And I'm very sorry I didn't send you an invitation.....

FAERIE LUCINDA: Must run in the family....

AURORA: ...but I didn't... *(She pricks her finger.)* Ouch!

FAERIE LUCINDA: What's wrong, kid?

AURORA: I've pricked my finger on the needle.....I've stuck myself. Oh my... ..Goodness...I feel so strange, so... (*She falls to the ground*)

FAERIE LUCINDA: Aurora. (*Gives her a little shake*) Princess! (*She shouts in her ear.*) GOOD MORNING. WAKE UP. RISE AND SHINE. Ha-Hah! Betcha didn't know it was gonna be a slumber party, did ya, kid?..Oh that's a good one! Slumber party, get it? I'm so funny I make myself laugh. (*To children*) Look, I gotta run, so when my goofy sisters and their royal dopiness get back, you be sure and tell them I was here. I'm sorry I can't stick around myself to needle them. HAHHAH!!! Get it? Stick around to needle them....Oh, Lucinda, you are funnier than a dwarf with fallen arches....or a giant in high heels. (*She exits, laughing horribly, up the SL aisle. KING and QUEEN and FAERIES ALICE and GWEN enter from SR alcove as FAERIE MERRY enters from SR. The KING, QUEEN and two FAERIES are singing "Happy Birthday" and carrying a gaily wrapped present. All spot the PRINCESS, rush to her, and the KING takes her in his arms.*)

QUEEN JANE: Oh, no, my baby!!!

KING WILLIAM: Aurora, wake up, please!!

FAERIE MERRY: I only left her for a second.....it's all my fault! We heard this crash and I thought it might be Lucinda so I went to check....but it was nothing and now this....I'm so sorry....

KING WILLIAM: Don't blame yourself, Merry, look!

QUEEN JANE: A spinning wheel!

FAERIE ALICE: But, sire, didn't you order that all spinning wheels be destroyed?

KING WILLIAM: Yes, and they were..

FAERIE GWEN: Unless....Wait a minute...Children, was that wicked Lucinda here just now? (*The children respond.*) See. Lucinda came herself just to make sure the curse would come true.

FAERIE ALICE: Oooh, if only I'd been here! I'd have taken this stupid old spinning wheel and smacked Lucinda in the head with it....I'd have stuck more than her finger with the needle, too!

QUEEN JANE: But what can we do now?

FAERIE MERRY: We must undue the curse. We will find a true

prince who will kiss Aurora and break the spell.

KING WILLIAM: But that could take years!

QUEEN JANE: We might be very old. We might even die before we can see Aurora again!

KING WILLIAM: I can't bear the thought!

FAERIE MERRY: But we can put you to sleep too. We can weave a spell to place the entire castle into a deep trance that can only be broken when Aurora awakens.

FAERIE GWEN: And we will surround the castle with a thorny forest. It will protect all of you while you sleep. *(Taking QUEEN JANE's hand, KING WILLIAM looks at her questioningly.)*

KING WILLIAM: Jane?

QUEEN JANE: *(To him)* Yes. *(To FAERIES)* Yes, please. Cast your spell. And then hurry and find a true prince for our daughter. *(QUEEN JANE and KING WILLIAM, carrying Aurora, exit through the SR alcove.)*

FAERIE MERRY: Gwen, Alice, help me put everyone in the castle into a deep sleep.

FAERIE GWEN: Then we've got to start searching for a prince!

FAERIE ALICE: *(As she looks at the clock which has begun to chime)* And we've only got one hundred years. *(Turning their backs to the audience the three FAERIES appear to be casting a spell on the castle.)*

SCENE FOUR

THE INTERVIEW "ROOM"

SETTING: The interview can be held in the thorny forest, or in front of the closed curtain. FAERIE GWEN is onstage with a clipboard.

FAERIE GWEN: *(To children)* And so we began that day to search for a true prince to awaken our Aurora. But it wasn't as easy as it sounded. True princes were in short supply, we found as the years sped by. *(She yells offstage.)* Next!

FAERIE ALICE: *(Entering from behind curtain)* Would you come this way, please?

PRINCE JETHRO: *(Following ALICE)* Heard you were looking for a prince. Something about a beautiful young princess in peril...

FAERIE GWEN: Yes, she's the princess Aurora and she ..

PRINCE JETHRO: Well, if you need someone who's brave and bold and frightened of nothing, I'm your man. Rescuing a princess is all in a day's work for me.

OFFSTAGE VOICE: JETHRO!

FAERIE GWEN: Who was that?

PRINCE JETHRO: Um...no one..I didn't hear a thing...

OFFSTAGE VOICE: JETHRO! Where are you?

PRINCE JETHRO: So, about this princess...

OFFSTAGE VOICE: Jethro, answer me or you'll spend another night on the rack!

PRINCE JETHRO: You know...hmm.....actually, that sounds like it might be my. . um. . .wife... wonderful woman...great lungs....

OFFSTAGE VOICE: JETHRO!!!

PRINCE JETHRO: Er...I better go see what the little lady wants...Sorry I can't help youComing, Lumpkin!! *(He exits.)*

FAERIE GWEN: Oh, good grief. Send in the next one, Alice.

FAERIE ALICE: (*Gesturing offstage*) This way, please...Oh, dear..

PRINCE MILTON: (*Comes tottering onstage. He is very, very old and is using an ear trumpet as he is also very deaf.*) SPEAK UP! DON'T MUMBLE! YOUNG PEOPLE NOWADAYS JUST DON'T GET THE VOLUME UP.

FAERIE ALICE: I'm afraid there's been a mistake...

PRINCE MILTON: NO, THANKS. NOT HUNGRY.

FAERIE ALICE: You see, we need a prince to break a magic spell..

PRINCE MILTON: I THINK YOU'RE PRETTY SWELL, TOO, HEH-HEH.

FAERIE ALICE: No, no, you don't understand. We are in a terrible situation!

PRINCE MILTON: TRY SOME PRUNES. ALWAYS WORKS FOR ME...

FAERIE GWEN: THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, SIR. WE'LL BE IN TOUCH. Alice, would you show the gentleman out, please. (*ALICE takes his arm to lead him off.*)

PRINCE MILTON: HEY, HONEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING AFTER WORK? HOW ABOUT YOU AND I GO BOWLING? (*He exits.*)

FAERIE GWEN: Next!

FAERIE ALICE: There's only one prince left, Gwennie, and I don't think..

FAERIE GWEN: Is he married?

FAERIE ALICE: No, I'm sure he's not ...

FAERIE GWEN: Is he under ninety?

FAERIE ALICE: OH, yes...

FAERIE GWEN: Then show him in!

FAERIE ALICE: (*Gesturing offstage*) Come in. (*PRINCE KENNY enters. He is a young boy.*)

PRINCE KENNY: I heard you were looking for a brave young prince. What do you need? A dragon slain? A giant killed?

FAERIE ALICE: Actually, dear, we were looking for someone just a little older....

PRINCE KENNY: Ah, gee, that's what they always say. "Eat your vegetables and then you can grow up and do princely deeds."

FAERIE ALICE: I'm sorry, dear.

PRINCE KENNY: That's okay. My mom probably wouldn't let me go, anyway. But what was it you needed done? Maybe I....

FAERIE GWEN: We need a true prince to kiss a princess.

PRINCE KENNY: KISS! You mean like a girl? Ooh yuck! Kiss a girl. Royal gross-out. I have to go....I've got to do my homework...
(He exits.)

FAERIE ALICE: Gwen, dear, that was the last one. Unless Merry can find one. And time is running out.

FAERIE GWEN: It wouldn't be so hard if you hadn't put in that part about Aurora falling in love with the prince who awakens her. We could've used the old geezer.

FAERIE ALICE: You're the one who said it had to be a prince. Why not just a man? Then we could've used anyone wearing armor.

FAERIE GWEN: She is royalty, Alice. You can't let just anyone kiss a princess. But we certainly could have done without the falling-in-love bit..

FAERIE ALICE: You have no romance in your soul, Gwen...

FAERIE GWEN: And you have no brain in your head, Alice! *(During this argument FAERIE MERRY enters down the SR aisle.)*

FAERIE MERRY: Girls! Girls! Stop arguing. Quick, tell me--any luck?

FAERIE GWEN: Only bad, I'm afraid. How about you?

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, please say you've found someone!

FAERIE MERRY: I'm afraid not. For a hundred years we've searched and still we can't find a true prince for our Aurora.

FAERIE ALICE: *(She starts to cry.)* Then it's hopeless? There's no way we can stop Lucinda's terrible curse from coming true?

FAERIE GWEN: Oh, Merry, there must be a way!

FAERIE MERRY: Well, there is one small hope..

FAERIE ALICE: What is it?

FAERIE MERRY: Well, on my search I saw every prince in the world, except one.

FAERIE GWEN and FAERIE ALICE: *(Together)* Who was it? Why didn't you see him?

FAERIE MERRY: His name is Prince Michael and he is very shy which is why I couldn't meet him. I don't know what he looks like or if he's brave or even if he would help us.

FAERIE ALICE: But surely he would, if only he knew the story...

FAERIE GWEN: I say we go to his castle, explain the situation, and ask him to come here.

FAERIE MERRY: And suppose he doesn't want to come?

FAERIE GWEN: Then we drag him here, even if we have to tie him up to do it!

FAERIE MERRY: Now, girls, I don't think that's really the spirit...

FAERIE ALICE: *(Firmly)* No, Merry, for once I agree with Gwen. No more Mrs. Nice Faerie. This Prince Michael is our last chance and he's coming here and kissing Aurora whether he likes it or not.

FAERIE GWEN: Right!! Merry? *(They look at MERRY.)*

FAERIE MERRY: Oh, all right! Hang on to your crown, Prince Michael, wherever you are, 'cause the Faeries are coming!! *(All three exit up SR aisle as the curtain opens on PRINCE MICHAEL'S castle.)*

SCENE FIVE

A ROOM IN PRINCE MICHAEL'S CASTLE

SETTING: The room in Prince Michael's castle features a door leading to a hallway and an US window. There is a throne-type chair on which rests PRINCE MICHAEL'S crown and cape. PRINCE MICHAEL and HECTOR are engaged in a fencing match. With a final flourish, the PRINCE wins the match.

PRINCE MICHAEL: Touche'

HECTOR: I yield! I yield! (*HECTOR collapses in exhaustion. Both remove protective gear.*) I think I could have won this time but my knee's been acting up again....

PRINCE MICHAEL: Oh, your eyes are much better, then?

HECTOR: What?

PRINCE MICHAEL: The last time I won, you said that your eyes were bothering you.

HECTOR: Oh, yes, they're fine....but this knee...

PRINCE MICHAEL: Then there was the time when you had a splitting headache, and last month you had that ferocious heartburn...

HECTOR: I'm telling you sir, if you ever catch me on one of my good days I'll give you a battle royale.

PRINCE MICHAEL: (*Laughing*) I look forward to it, Hector, old friend. Whew! That workout's given me a fierce thirst. Would you go downstairs and order us some drinks?

HECTOR: That I will. And I'll see if I can't get that new maid to bring them up. Isn't she a sweet thing, sir?

PRINCE MICHAEL: I...I...guess so. Hector?

HECTOR: (*Stopping on his way out the door*) Yes, sir?

PRINCE MICHAEL: Um....Could you...could you (*Remembering who he is.*) Hector, just bring up the drinks yourself.

HECTOR: Ah, sir,...sir.....I mean, Your Highness has really got to get over this...

PRINCE MICHAEL: I...I don't know what you're talking about, Hector...

HECTOR: Yes, you do, sir. I'm talking about being so shy. About being afraid of people. I know it's not my place to speak to you like this but somebody has to.

PRINCE MICHAEL: Oh. You noticed?

HECTOR: When you haven't been anywhere or met anyone new in over five years, people are bound to notice.

PRINCE MICHAEL: I see your point.

HECTOR: I'll tell you what I can't figure. I've seen you at games, and watched you fight and I know there's no stronger, braver man alive. So I ask myself, "How can a man who shows such courage on the playing field be so timid when faced with people?"

PRINCE MICHAEL: The answer is quite simple, Hector. I'm surprised you haven't guessed it.

HECTOR: Guessed what?

PRINCE MICHAEL: That I'm not afraid of people. Well, not exactly. Actually, I do just fine with you and the knights and the other guys. The only time I get really shy is around....you know....

HECTOR: What?

PRINCE MICHAEL: Well... *(He looks around.)* I get shy around....Girls.

HECTOR: GIRLS?

PRINCE MICHAEL: SHHH! Yes, girls! I know it's hard to believe but I find girls....women...absolutely terrifying. I like them. I like them a lot. But they scare me to death. Maybe if I'd had a sister....

HECTOR: *(Mulling it over)* You aren't really shy, except around girls?

PRINCE MICHAEL: That's it.

HECTOR: But that's crazy!! I mean, sir, take it from me.....There is nothing to be afraid of. Why, girls are absolutely wonderful. They're every bit as smart as men and they can be spectacular at games and.....

PRINCE MICHAEL: I know all that, man. But that doesn't keep me from getting totally tongue-tied every time one's around. Not that you'd understand.

HECTOR: (*Indignant*) And why wouldn't I understand?

PRINCE MICHAEL: I've heard the stories. About how good you are with the ladies.

HECTOR: You have? I am? I mean, that's true, I am. But, sir, the trick to being good with ladies is no trick. Simply be yourself.

PRINCE MICHAEL: Easier said than done, I'm afraid, Hector. Whenever I get around a girl I can't think of anything to say.

HECTOR: Well, then, sir, do something where you don't have to talk.

PRINCE MICHAEL: You mean like wrestling?

HECTOR: Well, not on the first date....But....How about dancing? It's nice if you can talk and dance, but conversation isn't absolutely necessary.

PRINCE MICHAEL: It's not?

HECTOR: No, not at all! So that's it, then. You've simply got to start attending dances and balls. And once you're comfortable dancing with girls, you'll find that talking comes easy. And before you know it, you'll be almost as much of a ladies' man as I am.

PRINCE MICHAEL: The problem with that, Hector, is that I can't....I mean, I never learned....Oh, darn it, Hector, I don't know how to dance!

HECTOR: You're kidding! Really?

PRINCE MICHAEL: (*Shaking his head, ruefully*) No, I had riding lessons and fencing lessons and archery lessons and even jousting lessons, but I never took dancing lessons. That required a partner. A GIRL partner, which brings us back to square one.

HECTOR: Well, if that's all that's stopping you..... *(He does a dance step)* I can teach you how to dance.

PRINCE MICHAEL: You can?

HECTOR: Of course. They don't call me "Hector the Hooper" for nothing! *(What follows is a dance that begins with HECTOR and the PRINCE dancing side by side. Then HECTOR "plays" at being the lady using the Prince's cape as a veil. The PRINCE bows and holds out his hand. HECTOR coyly accepts. They dance and only stop when HECTOR steps on the PRINCE'S foot.)*

HECTOR: I'm sorry, sir, I guess I'm just used to leading.

PRINCE MICHAEL: *(Laughing)* That's alright, Hector. Oh, that was fun! I can't wait to try it with a girl. No offense.

HECTOR: None taken. Whew! I wonder where our drinks are. Maybe I should....*(An idea dawns.)* Sir? Perhaps the new maid isn't able to carry that big tray all by herself. Don't you think one of us should go and help her?

PRINCE MICHAEL: Yes, I suppose so.....Go and give her a hand then... *(Sees the grin on HECTOR'S face and understands.)* What? Me? Oh, I don't think so, Hector...

HECTOR: C'mon, sir, you can do it! Besides, it's the chivalrous thing to do!

PRINCE MICHAEL: *(Making up his mind.)* You're right! And I would never turn my back on a lady in distress. *(He starts for the door, stops.)* You know something, Hector, you may be just a servant but I think you're also a real prince of a guy.

HECTOR: Thank you, sir. *(The PRINCE exits.)* A prince of a guy, huh? You know, Hector, old bean, he's right. You would make a terrific prince. *(He spots crown and cape and dons them.)* Ah, to be royal. *(He picks up a sword and brandishes it.)* Of course, I would be unbelievably courageous and frightened of nothing. And all who dared to cross me on the battlefield would wonder at my strength and agility. *(He begins to fight an imaginary opponent just as three Faerie faces appear at the window.)*

FAERIE GWEN: That must be him. Not much to look at, that's for sure.

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, I think he's kind of cute.

FAERIE MERRY: We've run out of choices, remember, girls. (*Louder, to HECTOR*) Ahem, Your Majesty....

HECTOR: What? Who?.... (*Looking around*) Are you talking to me?

FAERIE GWEN: We are if you are Prince Michael.

HECTOR: Prince Mi.....Oh, he just... (*An idea...He can't resist.*) Oh, yes, I am. (*He bows.*) Prince Michael, at your service. (*He helps them climb in the window.*) Allow me. Now, lovely ladies, how may I help you today?

FAERIE MERRY: First of all, we must ask you....Are you a true prince?

HECTOR: (*Laughing.*) Of course, dear lady.

FAERIE GWEN: Are you very, very brave?

HECTOR: (*Laughing confidently*) I'm probably the bravest man alive.

FAERIE ALICE: Do you have a wife or sweetheart? Someone special in your life?

HECTOR: (*Suavely*) Not till I laid eyes on you!

FAERIE GWEN: Oh, brother.

FAERIE MERRY: He'll have to do.

HECTOR: Do? What do I have to do?

FAERIE ALICE: Just come with us. We'll explain on the way.

HECTOR: Um, wait a minute, where are we going?

FAERIE GWEN: No time to go into it now. Come on.

FAERIE MERRY: It's a long story, but the main thing is: we desperately need a true prince for a very important job.

HECTOR: A true prince? Oh, just a minute, there's something I'd better tell.... .

FAERIE GWEN: I knew it! The little wimp's going to try and get out of it. Grab him, girls! (*ALICE and MERRY produce a rope which they wind around HECTOR.*) Prince Chicken, you're the last chance we've got and you are coming with us.

HECTOR: BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! (*GWEN shoves a gag in his mouth.*)

FAERIE ALICE: Please, Michael, we wouldn't ask if it weren't so important...

HECTOR: WRRRMNPHLL (*By this time they have pushed him out the window and are following. MERRY brings up the rear. Before she leaves she places a note on the throne. Just after they exit, the PRINCE reappears*)

PRINCE MICHAEL: I did it, Hector! I talked to her and it wasn't so bad. Though I think maybe I startled her 'cause she dropped the tray with the drinks and.....Hector...Hector? (*He sees note, reads.*) "To whom it may concern. Prince Michael is on a mission of great importance. He will be back by tomorrow." Prince Michael? But... (*He looks around and realization dawns.*) My crown! My cape! Oh, Hector, you fool! You'll get yourself killed! (*He snatches up his sword.*) Don't worry, old friend, I'm right behind you! (*He exits through window. The curtain closes.*)

SCENE SIX

THE FOREST OF THORNS

THE SETTING: This scene takes place in the thorny forest that has grown up around the castle where Aurora sleeps. HECTOR has escaped from the good faeries. He enters, breathless and frantic down the SL aisle.

HECTOR: I think I've lost them. *(He starts to move slowly down the aisle.)*

FAERIE GWEN: *(Entering down SR aisle)* Prince Michael! Yoo-hoo, here, Prince! Oh, where is the little twerp?

HECTOR: Oh, no! There's one of them! Quick! Help me hide! *(He crouches on the floor in front of a child seated about halfway to the stage.)*

FAERIE MERRY: *(Entering SR aisle)* Any sign of him?

FAERIE GWEN: Not yet. I told you we should have kept him tied him up. That is one sorry excuse for a prince.

FAERIE ALICE: *(Entering out of breath and joining them.)* Did you find him?

FAERIE GWEN: *(Shakes head.)* No, but when I do, Aurora isn't going to be the only thing he's going to kiss. *(She is making a fist.)*

FAERIE MERRY: Now, Gwen, you can't really blame him. I mean, we practically kidnaped the poor fellow.

FAERIE ALICE: Merry's right. We never did explain why we needed him.

FAERIE GWEN: How could we? The little dweeb took off before we could tell him anything.

FAERIE MERRY: Girls! The important thing now is to find him and find him quickly! In just a few minutes the hundred years will be up and Aurora will be lost forever.

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, she's right, Gwen, we must find him. Michael! Where are you? We aren't going to hurt you, honest!

FAERIE GWEN: Come out, come out, little prince. All is forgiven. *(During the latter part of this, HECTOR has been crawling toward the stage.)*

FAERIE MERRY: I know! Let's ask the children if they know where he is. *(She does so. Hopefully, they will tell her, but, if not, HECTOR will stick his head up and be "spotted" by them. The FAERIES will chase him up onto the stage.)*

HECTOR: Look, ladies, there's something you gotta know..

FAERIE GWEN: Now don't move. Everything's gonna be all right. Just stay where you are. No one's gonna hurt you. *(To MERRY)* You keep talking to him while I go behind and conk him on the head..

FAERIE ALICE: Now stop it, Gwen! All we have to do is tell him why we are in such desperate need of a prince. *(On this LUCINDA steps from behind "a tree.")*

FAERIE LUCINDA: PRINCE! Did someone say PRINCE?

HECTOR: Ah, nuts, not another one! *(During the next exchanges, he is gradually moving away.)*

FAERIE ALICE: You go away, Lucinda, we found him fair and square. He's our prince and he's ...

FAERIE LUCINDA: *(Sneering)* Fair and square, ask me if I care. "Fair and square." Now there's a dopey idea. Honestly, Alice, don't you ever get tired of being so dumb? I ought to turn you into a mouse so your little brain would feel right at home. Eek, eek... *(She laughs as she advances on ALICE.)*

FAERIE GWEN: *(Stepping between them.)* DON'T YOU DARE PICK ON ALICE, YOU...YOU...

FAERIE LUCINDA: Oh, relax, Gwen, I wouldn't waste a wish on her. I'm being very careful about them lately. In fact, I think I'll dispose of Princie here without using magic. Yes, I'll do it the old-fashioned way. I'll kill him.

FAERIE MERRY: If you can catch him, that is. *(By now HECTOR is off and running.)*

FAERIE GWEN: Oh, no here we go again! *(What follows is a chase both onstage and in the house. It ends onstage with HECTOR and the*

three good FAERIES.)

HECTOR: Please, please, listen to me!

FAERIE ALICE: No, no, there isn't time!...There's a lovely princess who is doomed if you don't go immediately to the castle and kiss her.

FAERIE MERRY: When the castle clock strikes the hour the one hundred years will be up!

HECTOR: The clock?

FAERIE GWEN: Yes, when it chimes again it will be too late! That's why we need you. Only a kiss from a true prince can break the spell.

HECTOR: BUT THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL YOU! I'm not really the prince....My name is Hector and I'm just a servant to the prince....When you saw me I was just pretending... *(Wild laughter is heard. LUCINDA steps onstage, carrying an hourglass.)*

LUCINDA: Oh, this is priceless, this is! I couldn't have planned it better myself. The prince's servant. HECTOR? Oh, I love it, I really do! And, hey, look, sisters, the time is almost up! Any minute now we should be hearing the "snooze alarm" from the castle clock. Get it? Get it? Snooze alarm. Only I don't think it will wake anyone, do you? *(She exits, down SR aisle, laughing and muttering about "snooze alarms and catching 40,000 winks" etc.)*

HECTOR: *(Looking at the crestfallen FAERIES.)* I'm sorry. It was just a joke. If I'd known how important it was...I never would ...Oh, I'm so sorry...

FAERIE ALICE: It's not just your fault, Hector.

FAERIE GWEN: No, it's not. If we had told you the whole story... Maybe you could have persuaded the real Prince Michael to help us.

HECTOR: And he would have. I know he would!

PRINCE MICHAEL: *(Offstage)* Hector! Hector, where are you?

FAERIE MERRY: Listen!

PRINCE MICHAEL: *(Offstage)* Hector!

HECTOR: It's him! It's Prince Michael! He must have followed us!

FAERIE ALICE: Oh, but is it too late? There's only a few minutes left!

FAERIE GWEN: We'll have to try!

FAERIE MERRY: If we can find him quickly and bring him to the castle, we just might be in time!

FAERIE ALICE: But what about Lucinda?

HECTOR: Let me worry about her. Now go quickly. I'll meet you at the castle.

FAERIE ALICE: Hector?.....Be careful.

HECTOR: I will, Alice, I will. *(They gaze at each other longingly.)*

FAERIE GWEN: Do you mind? Can this wait until later?

FAERIE MERRY: Yes, yes, we must run. And, girls, this time when we find Prince Michael, we are going to explain the situation to him, right? *(HECTOR exits offstage. The three FAERIES meet PRINCE MICHAEL in the SL aisle and "confer" with him. ALICE does a recap of what's happened at breakneck speed.)*

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PROPS

Sword (DEREK)

Trumpet (WALTER)

"Baby Aurora" dressed in a long christening dress and wrapped in a blanket (QUEEN JANE)

Wands (FAERIES)

Small spinning wheel tied with a large bow (LUCINDA)

Gaily wrapped present, shoe box size, containing pink ballet slippers (QUEEN JANE)

Clipboard and pen (FAERIE GWEN)

Swords - wooden, obviously fake (PRINCES JETHRO and KENNY)

Ear Trumpet (PRINCE MILTON)

Sword fighting gear: gloves, helmets, breastplates as well as swords

Rope to bind HECTOR (FAERIE ALICE)

Gag (FAERIE GWEN)

Note (FAERIE MERRY)

Hourglass (FAERIE LUCINDA)

Stuffed "pigeon" attached to a black pole for LUCINDA in Scene Eight. A props person wearing black gloves reaches through the split in the draperies to position it on LUCINDA'S head.

The "Statues" For the original production, we used a heavy, gray, floor-length hooded cape with a matching, gray-painted mask affixed to the outside of the hood. This was draped on a dress form to be the "real" statue. For Lucinda's scenes, she wore it as a cape.

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