

Opera for the Young presents:

Cinderella

READY, SET, OPERA!

This handbook will help you prepare for your school's performance of Cinderella with Opera for the Young. Inside you will find your lyrics and lines from the show, as well as story line and staging notes to give you a general idea of what's happening. Your teacher will help you get started, and the OFTY cast is looking forward to working with you on the day of the show!

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Your music teacher will help you learn these chorus songs.

If you would like to rehearse the music outside of school, rehearsal tracks are available online:

<https://ofty.org/tms>

Please copy and distribute these materials as needed.

CAST OF CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

Illustrations by Ingrid Kallick; design concept and costumes by Karen Brown-Larimore



CINDERELLA



COURTIER



MICE CHORUS



FATHER



MADAME



STEPSISTERS



FAIRY GODMOTHER



TWO HORSES



KING & QUEEN



NOBLES CHORUS

Cinderella

Courtier

*Mice

Father

Madame

*Stepsisters - Esmerelda & Prunella

Fairy Godmother

*Two Horses

Prince

*King & Queen

*Nobles

OFTY Artist

OFTY Artist

Student Chorus

OFTY Artist

OFTY Artist

Faculty/Staff

OFTY Artist

Student Chorus

OFTY Artist

Student Chorus

Student Chorus

*Your teacher
will select these
individuals
ahead of time

PLOT SYNOPSIS

ACT 1

A royal Courtier invites all unmarried young ladies in the kingdom to a palace ball to meet Prince Charming.

At Cinderella's house, she is too busy doing chores to get ready for the ball. Her Father and the Mice are kind and sympathetic but Madame (her stepmother) is demanding and strict. Cinderella prepares her silly step sisters and they leave for the palace with Madame and Father.

Cinderella is very sad. She wishes she could go to the ball, too. Her Fairy Godmother appears and - with the Mice - sends Cinderella off to the palace in a beautiful gown, magic slippers that prevent people from recognizing her, and horse-drawn carriage. The only rule is that Cinderella must leave when the clock strikes midnight!

ACT 2

At the palace, the Prince dreads another ball. He is tired of searching for the girl of his dreams. But his parents, the King and Queen, demand that he attends. The ball begins and the Prince tries to be polite to the step sisters who are crazy dancers.

Cinderella appears and everyone realizes that she is THE one for Prince Charming; it is love at first sight! Just as they are proclaiming their love for each other, the clock starts chiming twelve times. Cinderella runs off, much to the Prince's surprise and disappointment. He declares he will search until he finds her!

ACT 3

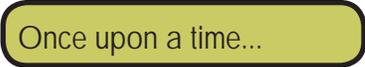
Cinderella runs away from the ball - her carriage has turned into a pumpkin and her gown has turned back to her old dress. But, she still has one of her precious slippers! Where could the other one be?

The royal Courtier makes another proclamation: in hopes of finding Cinderella, Prince Charming is taking her lost slipper around the kingdom for ladies to try on. Madame is thrilled and tells Father that her daughters deserve another chance with the Prince. She admits she's locked Cinderella in her room so the Prince can't meet her! Madame tosses the key away, but the Mice find it, and after scaring Madame, take the key up to Cinderella's room.

Meanwhile, the Prince arrives at Cinderella's house and tries the shoe on the Stepsisters. He's just about to leave, heart-broken that he cannot find his true love, when he hears Cinderella singing. She enters and all is set straight - even Madame apologizes for her behavior. All proclaim a "victory for virtue!"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENT CHORUS & CAMEO ROLES

Here are some tips that will help you read the script.

- The green bubbles “set the scene” and provide a brief description of what is happening onstage. You will also see two blue bubbles describing scenes that involve two adults from your school!  
- Movement directions will be in blue and inside parentheses. All movement will be simple and led by the OFTY artists. (*OFTY Artists then seat CHORUS*)
- All **CHORUS** words are **bold**, sung **CHORUS** words (lyrics) are **also italicized**.
- Listen to the **AUDIO AND VIDEO TUTORIALS** with your teacher.
- You can go to our website (with adult permission) and follow along with the track numbers listed in these instructions to rehearse at home!
<https://ofty.org/tms>
- NOTE: The **MOUSE TRAP** is the designated area near the pianist where the CHORUS sits during the show when they are not involved in the onstage action.

CINDERELLA

During the overture, Cinderella is sweeping and dusting. A royal Courtier appears and makes a proclamation inviting everyone to the palace ball. Then the **MICE** sing their first song with help from the Father.

 #1 Cinderella, Madame rings!

MICE

Cinderella! Madame Rings! The bell sings!
Sweep the floors! Polish doors! Do the chores, each and ev'ry little chore!
We are coming to your aid. Please, oh do not be afraid.
Though we're mice, we are nice. We are nice, helpful mice.

Since Madame bosses you all day, never let's you play, hear us when we say,
“We would understand if you would run away!”

Since Madame bosses you all day, never let's you play, hear us when we say,
“We would understand if you would run away!” - Shoo!

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENT CHORUS & CAMEO ROLES continued

Father: My dearest girl, your loyal friends, little rats though they be.

MICE: Squeak!

Father: All tell the truth about your life. The ugly truth about my wife.
Madame is awful. Take care! She is almost here!
Ah, Madame!

MICE: Ah, Madame!

(Adult cast members then seat CHORUS near pianist in "the MOUSE TRAP")

Cinderella helps Madame prepare the **STEPSISTERS** for the ball - they put on the silly gowns OFTY provides and are taught good posture (no success!). Madame, **STEPSISTERS** and Father leave for the ball in a funny parade.

Cinderella is sad and discouraged, but suddenly realizes that she deserves happiness, too. Her earnest wish to go to the ball makes her Fairy Godmother (FGM) appear. The **MICE** and Fairy Godmother prepare Cinderella with a gown and magical slippers. A little carriage led by **HORSES** whisks her off to the palace. (Note: the 2 **HORSES** should learn all of the Chorus music; they'll sing from wherever they are onstage) Before the song, there is one indignant "Squeak!" that is cued by Cinderella. This song has two parts - the first part is a musical back-and-forth with the **MICE** and the Fairy Godmother.

#2 She's going to the ball - Part 1

Cinderella: I might look like a mousey creature...

MICE: Squeak!

FGM: Friends, we all know this fine, loyal daughter's unhappy.
Tonight her wish for joy is granted.

MICE
and FGM: **She's going to the ball.**

FGM: Let us all work together.

MICE
and FGM: **What do you see?**

FGM: What you deserve, my lovely.

MICE
and FGM: **It's true, you do, so hurry now with preparations.**
You're going to the palace ball. Yes, you!

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENT CHORUS & CAMEO ROLES continued

The Fairy Godmother and Cinderella continue singing about how this is going to work and the **MICE** come in again at the end of the song for part two of "She's going to the ball."

#3 She's going to the ball - Part 2

Cinderella: La!

FGM: Away! Away! Oh, off you go now, Cinderella!

MICE

and FGM: **Remember this! Remember this! At midnight you return!**
Remember this! Remember this! Twelve o' clock!
Oo la la la la la! Voila!

(The Fairy Godmother will lead the **MICE** in helping Cinderella dress up for the ball. At one point, the 2 **HORSES** will scoot backstage to get into their other tunics and prepare to pull the carriage onstage.)

The **CHORUS** has changed into **NOBLE** costumes. The Prince sings a sad aria to begin Act Two and then the **KING** and **QUEEN** enter.

#4 KING and QUEEN dialogue

Prince: Mother, why oh why must I go to another ball?

QUEEN: Because I said so.

Prince: But I'm so bored. Can't I skip just this one?

QUEEN: **N-O** spells no.

Prince: Father, it's tiring for me to dance with so many beautiful women.

KING: It's a tough job, but somebody's gotta do it.

Prince: Why should I worry about finding a wife - you're the king and mother's the queen.

KING: We're not exactly spring chickens.

Prince: But, but, but...

KING

& QUEEN: Don't be such a baby! Be charming!

(The **KING** and **QUEEN** return to the **NOBLES**).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENT CHORUS & CAMEO ROLES continued

The **NOBLES** process onstage led by Madame and Father. They bow to **KING** and **QUEEN**, then get into straight line position. After the **NOBLES** sing, the **KING**, **QUEEN** and **NOBLES** will be sent back to the **MOUSE TRAP** one group at a time by the Father and Prince.

#5 All hail! We salute King and Queen

NOBLES

with Madame
and Father:

All hail! We salute King and Queen.

Everyone's heard, this is the night, Prince Charming chooses his princess.

He's met ladies and dinners and dances. He's certainly had so many chances.

But he says "No!" Forever "No!"

Tonight he might say, "She is right!"

(Father will lead the **KING** and **QUEEN** to the **MOUSE TRAP**. The Prince and **NOBLES** bow/curtsy to each other, then **NOBLES** return to the **MOUSE TRAP**.)

Next is the fun section featuring the **STEPSISTERS**! Their goofy dancing will be taught in rehearsal and then demonstrated during the show by Madame and the Prince. There is nothing for these brave adult performers to worry about!

After the Prince politely endures his dance with the **STEPSISTERS**, Cinderella enters the ballroom and the adults sing a beautiful, a cappella (unaccompanied) quartet. Then, the Prince sings to Cinderella and the **NOBLES** (and **KING** and **QUEEN**) sing with the Fairy Godmother.

#6 Oh my, what a royal romance

Prince: You have come to me....

NOBLES

with FGM:

Oh my, what a royal romance.

It must take some magic to know at a glance.

It is lucky she's beautiful, he is charming.

Prince: Believe me, she is the only one.

NOBLES

with FGM:

Oh my, what a royal romance.

(The FGM will be with the **NOBLES**, and the movement will make it look as if they are gossiping amongst each other.)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENT CHORUS & CAMEO ROLES continued

After a love duet comes a gong chiming 12 o'clock! Cinderella runs off. The **HORSES** have changed back into **MICE** and carry a pumpkin across the stage. All **NOBLES** change into **MICE** tunics at that time. Madame locks Cinderella in her room. Father invites **MICE** to scare Madame and get the key to Cinderella's room.

#7 Though we're only little, tiny mice

MICE: Though we're only little, tiny mice, you see that we have won,
and her evil plans and wicked ways are soon to be undone!

Our dear Cinderella needs a chance to have what she deserves,
and your mean and haughty wife was really getting on our nerves!

We must hurry now, his Highness might arrive at any time.
Hold the key so very caref'ly there are lots of stairs to climb!

(Choreography will be taught by the OFTY cast during rehearsal: it will include 'frightening' Madame so she runs off, then scampering back and forth during the song. The **MICE** will be backstage - to help Cinderella - and quietly return to the "**MOUSE TRAP**" area when directed to do so by an OFTY singer.)

The **STEPSISTERS** have a brief shoe-trying-on scene with the Prince close to the end of the opera.

(A joint curtain call will be taught to students and **STEPSISTERS** by the OFTY cast.)

OPERA TIP: Watch and Listen!

The characters' faces, gestures, and repetition of lyrics help tell the story during opera performance.

ONCE UPON A TIME Page 1 of 2

Create your own fairy tale adventure! Decide WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and HOW. You choose which brainstorm comes first. When you finish, if you like, you can 'tell' your story by putting together all of your ideas – by yourself or with classmates, friends or family!

WHO

Fun Suggestions:

People from the opera "Cinderella" or your own imagination. Can you choose people from your family or school life that could have a similar make-believe story? How about zoo animals? Which would be what character?

Imagine your characters. Draw ideas and write about your picture.

WHAT

Fun Suggestions:

* Brainstorm a list of chores - choose props (duster, broom, etc), one person is Madame and bosses, another is Cinderella with helpers (dogs? cats?) to do chores quickly
 * Create a carriage with decorations. Wagon? Wheelchair? Stroller? Create reins for horses. Take turns riding.

This is your plan or action. Draw ideas and write about your picture.

ONCE UPON A TIME Page 2 of 2

This is your location. Draw ideas and write about your picture.

WHERE

- Fun Suggestions:**
- * school playground
 - * school office
 - * your kitchen
 - * the zoo

WHEN

This is the time. Draw ideas and write about your picture.

Fun

Suggestions:

- * "Once upon a time" ... when fairy tales are usually set
- * Right now in today's world
- * in the future - outer space 'kingdom'

In what way will events unfold? Draw ideas and write about your picture.

WHAT

- Fun Suggestions:**
- * Use the opera overture to create a mood, tell story
 - * Invent raggedy costume for Cinderella and crazy costumes for Stepsisters and
 - * Create setting - draw or paint castle as background scene.

GLOSSARY OF WORDS FROM CINDERELLA

(In order of occurrence and what they mean in the libretto)

1. magnifique	French for magnificent	21. favored	favorite, chosen
2. mingle	socialize or mix with others	22. hoity toit	superior, snobby
3. humble	poor, simple	23. exploit	use, take advantage of
4. abide	live, endure, wait for something	24. lofty model	admirable example
5. mousey	plain-looking, drab	25. intuitive and keen	sharply aware
6. voilà	French for “there it is!”	26. smitten	love-struck
7. yields	gives, produces	27. upbringing	childhood, background
8. spring chickens	young people	28. final straw	limit, breaking point
9. bear	tolerate, stand	29. bemused	bewildered, baffled
10. over the moon	joyful, thrilled	30. bidding	command
11. farce	disgrace, ridiculous situation	31. undone	ruined, lost
12. flounce	prance, bounce	32. haughty	stuck-up, snooty
13. pounce	jump, leap	33. downcast	sad, depressed
14. deceive	fool, mislead	34. beguiling	charming, fascinating
15. chimes	rings, peals	35. trappings	trimmings, frills
16. curfew	time limit, deadline	36. finery	best clothes, fancy dress and jewelry
17. souvenir	knick knack, reminder	37. splendor	glory, excellence
18. eligible	unmarried, available	38. virtue	goodness, honesty
19. proclamation	announcement	39. adieux	plural form of adieu - French for “goodbye”
20. noble heritage	upper class tradition		

CINDERELLA WORD SEARCH

D V R T C F S M L C Y E V D T M E L
 Z O E P I H V I I M T U O E G D G O
 T W W N F O I O A K H T O E I M A F
 I G E N S I L M I W G R U B A Z T T
 A R T W C N N P E L U I A G Q E I Y
 Y M I M H A E A X S A V N N K L R M
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 O T P M I O M G L B W Q F J A X B S
 H U C R Z S M J R G F S X H M H G A

abide
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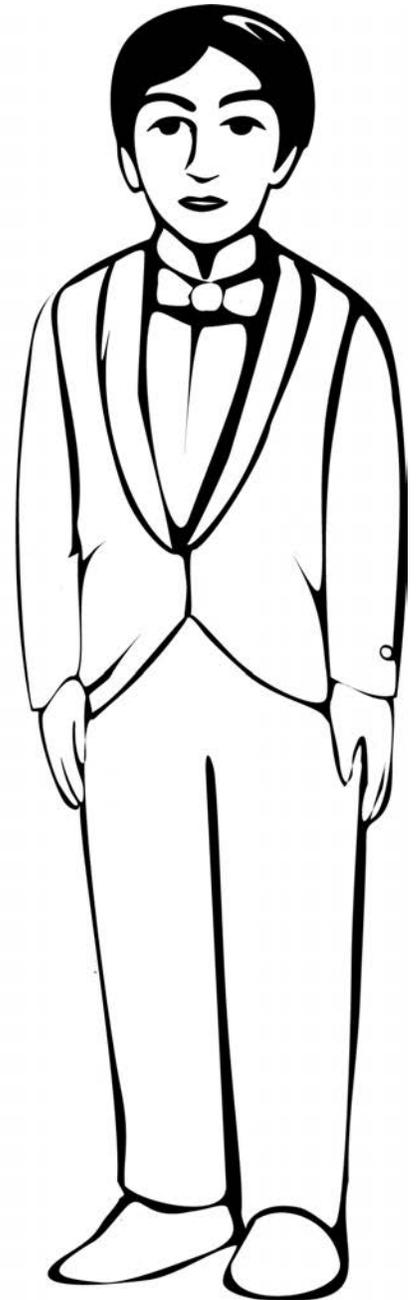
humble
 intuitive and keen
 lofty model
 magnifique
 mousey
 noble heritage
 over the moon

proclamation
 smitten
 souvenir
 spring chickens
 trappings
 virtue
 voila

CINDERELLA



KING, QUEEN, & PRINCE CHARMING



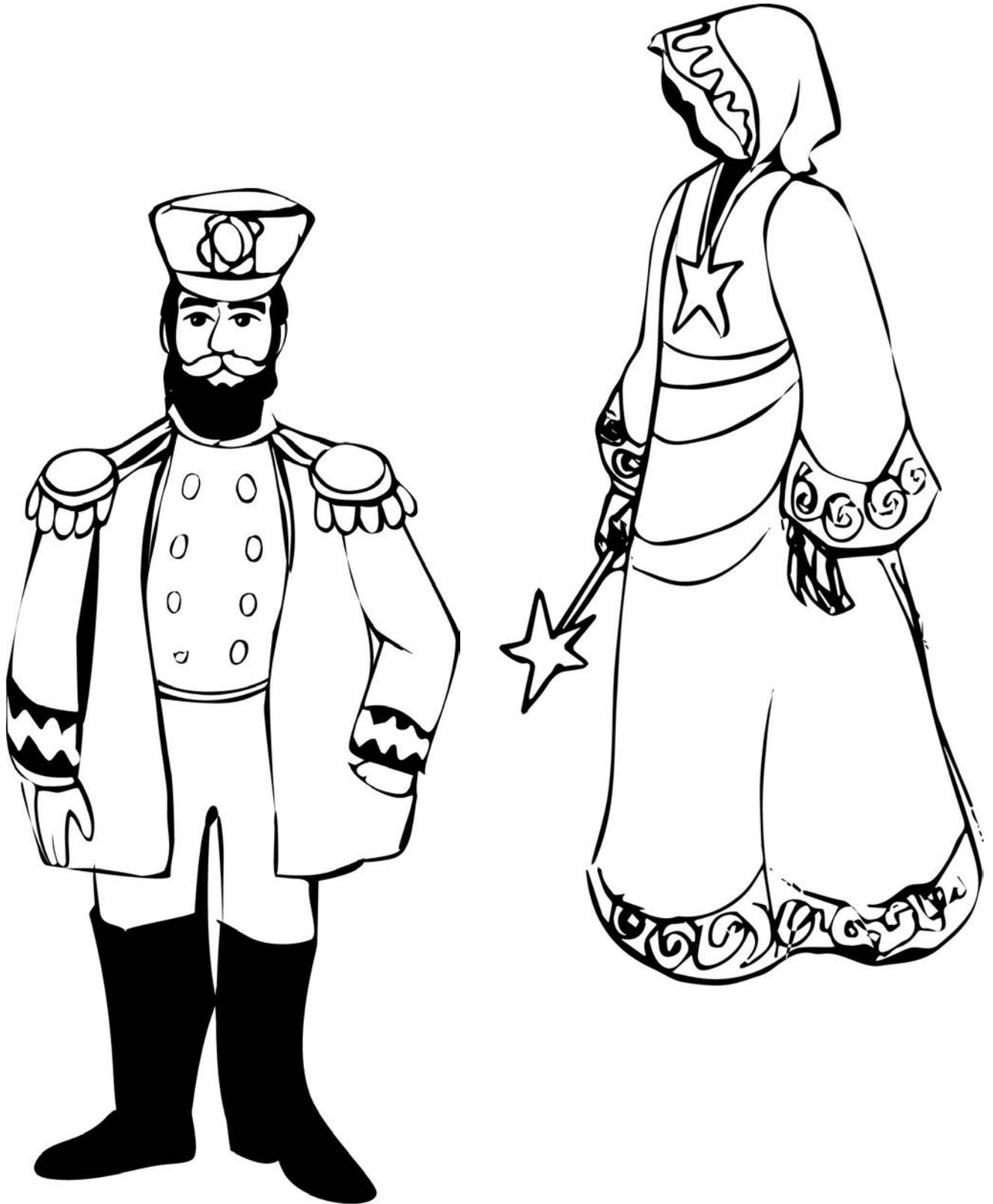
MADAME & FATHER



STEPSISTERS - ESMERELDA & PRUNELLA



COURTIER & FAIRY GODMOTHER



MICE, NOBLES, & CINDERELLA'S HORSES



Opera for the Young presents:

Cinderella

STUDENT CHORUS MUSIC

Cinderella, Madame rings!	Page 20
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All hail! We salute King and Queen	Page 22
Oh my, what a royal romance	Page 22
Though we're only little, tiny mice	Page 23

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Cinderella, Madame rings! MELODY

**Suddenly very animated
and with great excitement** ♩ = 160

Chorus:

trums
sf

Cin-de-rel - la! Ma-dame rings!

5 The bell sings! Sweep the floors! Po-lish doors! Do the chores, each and ev'-ry lit-tle

10 chore! We are com-ing to your aid! Please, oh do not be a -

14 fraid! Though we're mice, _____ we are nice. _____

18 We are nice, _____ help-ful mice. _____

23 Since Ma - dame bos-ses you all day, nev-er lets you play, hear us when we say, "We could un-der-

28 stand _____ if you would run a - way!" Since Ma - dame bos-ses you all day, nev-er lets you

32 play, hear us when we say, "We would und - er - stand _____ if you would run a -

35 way!"

22

Father: Mice:

Ah! Ma - dame. _____ Ah, Ma - dame!

She's going to the ball - Part 1 MELODY

Moderato (♩ = c. 104)

Fairy Godmother ONLY:

hap - py. To - night her wish for joy is gran - ted.

Chorus: Fairy Godmother ONLY: Chorus:

She's go - ing to the ball. Let us all work to - geth - er. What do you see?__

10 Fairy Godmother ONLY: Chorus: **Faster and more excited** ♩ = 120

What you de - serve my love - ly. It's true. You do. So hur - ry now with pre - pa - ra - accel.

14

- tions. You're go - ing to the pa - lace ball.____ Yes, you!

She's going to the ball - Part 2 MELODY

Moderato (♩ = c. 104)

Fairy Godmother ONLY: Fairy Godmother and Chorus: *ppp*

off you go now Cin - der - el - la! Re - mem - ber this! Re - mem - ber this!

4 *pppp*

At mid - night you re - turn! Re - mem - ber this! Re - mem - ber this!

6 *fff*

Twelve o' clock! Oo la la la la la! Voi - la!

All hail! We salute King and Queen MELODY

$\text{♩} = 69$ **Chorus:**

All hail! We sa - lute King and Queen. _____

6

Eve-ry-one's heard, this is the night, Prince Char-ming choos-es his prin - cess!

11 *p* *f*

He's met la - dies at din - ners and dan - ces. He's cer - tain - ly had so man - y chan - ces. But he says,

15

"No! For-ev - er no!" To - night he might say, "She is right!" _____

Oh my, what a royal romance MELODY

Trés modéré $\text{♩} = 76$ **Chorus and Fairy Godmother:**

Oh my, what a roy - al ro - mance. It must take some ma - gic to

5 **Prince Only:**

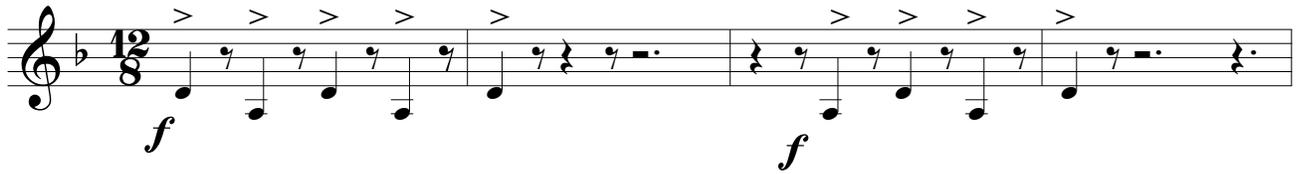
know at a glance. It is luc - ky she's beau - ti - ful, he is char - ming. Be - lieve me

8 **Chorus and Fairy Godmother**

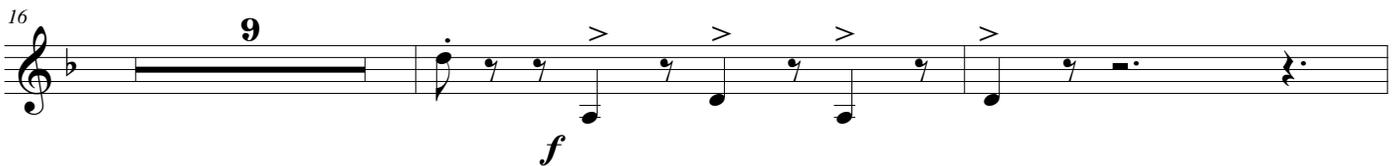
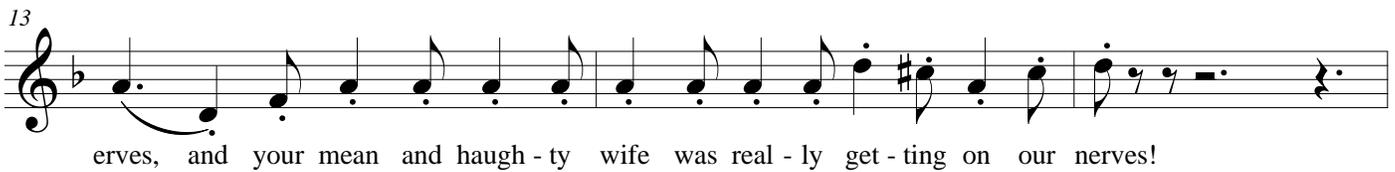
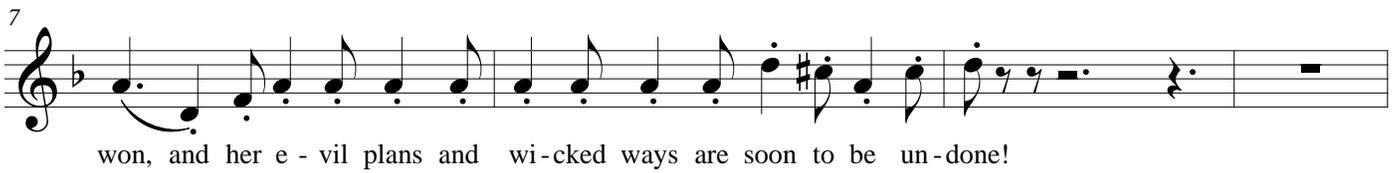
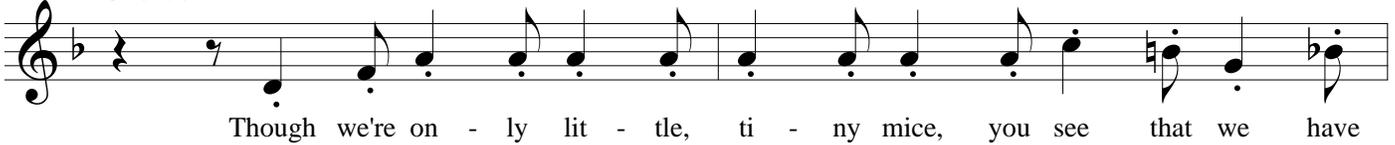
she is _____ the on - ly one. _____ Oh my, what a roy - al ro - mance.

Though we're only little, tiny mice MELODY

Animated ♩. = 160



5 **Chorus:**



27 **Chorus:**

