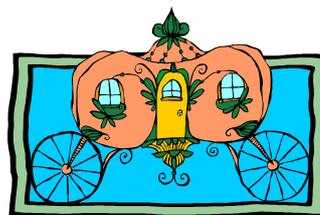
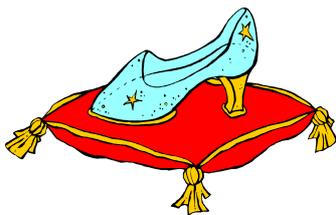


Spotlight Publications

Cinderella In Verse

**A mini-panto by
Dave Buchanan**



Cinderella in Verse

CAST (in order of appearance)

Dandini, the Prince's PA
Tiger Lily
Trixibelle the Ugly Sisters
Lady Hardup
Buttons
Cinderella, the Baron's daughter
Prince Charming
Fairy Foozle

Chorus of servants and ballroom guests

Scenes - the village square of Much-Mincing-in-the-Marsh, Hardup Hall, and Hambledon Hall

Time - long ago

Please note: this can be done with or without a chorus, with or without songs, or any combination of these.

Scene 1

The village of Much-Mincing-in-the-Marsh. A typical village square, with backdrop of shops, etc.

The Chorus of villagers is onstage for the first number

Song 1: "Shine" (Take That) (Chorus)

The Chorus exits after the song

Dandini appears R with a bell and a scroll

Dandini Hello there, are you all okay? (Yes)
 What was that? What did you say? (Yes!)
 I'm Dandini, (bows) and I work for the Prince,
 And this is the village of Much-Mincing (minces)
 In-the-Marsh. Good name, d'you agree?
 Now why am I here? Let's see.
 Oh yes.

He rings the bell, and the villagers assemble

Oyez! Oyez!

Villagers Oh no! Oh no!

Dandini I've got good news, I'll have you know!

Villager 1 Well get on with it then!

Boy You twit.

Dandini (looks at the boy) Watch it. (He clears his throat, and holds up the scroll) "His Royal Highness, Prince Charming—"

There are Oohs and Ahs from the mainly female crowd

It's alarming how charming he is—

The crowd goes “Ooh!”

“Lord of Hambledon and Hertford,
Rochester and Dartford—”

(Note. These names can be localised.)

Villagers Ooh!

Dandini “The venue is Hambledon Hall,
And the Prince has invited you all!
So remember, remember
The fifth of December,
Prince Charming’s fantabulous Ball!”

Everyone is very impressed and they start discussing it animatedly

At this point, enter R Tiger Lily and Trixibelle, the Ugly Sisters

Tiger Lily Oh, Trixi, look! A proclamation!

Trixibelle Oh goody, that’s an excitation!

Tiger Lily Alright, you plebs, just step aside.

We have quality, you just can’t hide.

There are loud jeers

Villager 1 Quality, you two?! That’s a laugh!

Villager 2 (*pointing to Trixibelle*) She’s size seventeen and a half!

Loud laughs

Tiger Lily Beasts! (*To Dandini*) Oy! You with the bell!

Dandini Who me?

Tiger Lily Yes. Be so good as to tell

Us what you’ve told them.

Dandini But I’ve finished! It’s over, kaput.

I’ve gone and given it the boot.

Tiger Lily What?

Dandini That’s right. And now I’ve gotta go

And watch TOWIE. It’s my favourite show.

Laughs

Tiger Lily Oh alright. Trixi, give him a quid.

Trixibelle (*to Dandini*) There you are, sweetie. (*To Tiger Lily*) I just did.

Dandini Prince Charming is having a ball—

Chorus Girl 1 In Hambledon Hall—

Chorus Girl 2 He’s invited us all!

Trixibelle Ooh fancy!

Dandini All females in the town—

Tiger Lily (*looking round archly*) No problem there.

Laughs and expressions of doubt

Dandini And villages all around,

Whose age is under—

Trixibelle Fifty?

Dandini Down.

Tiger Lily Forty?

Chorus Down!

Tiger Lily (*horrified*) Under thirty?
 (*Shrugs*) Oh well, I still qualify. Just.

Looks and cries of disbelief from the Chorus

Don't get shirty!
Dandini That's a lot of tosh, a saga,
 If you're twenty nine, I'm Lady Gaga!
Tiger Lily (*rolling up her sleeves*) I've a mind to bop you one.
Trixibelle I'll join you, after what he's done.

Laughs

Tiger Lily Trixi, we are goin' to forget
 We're ladies, so let's go get 'im!

The Sisters converge on Dandini, but he ducks and they barge into each other and fall heavily, amidst laughter

Trixibelle Boo-hoo! I landed on me bum!
 It's paralysed and gone quite numb!
Tiger Lily Never mind, Trixi, don't bother.
 After all we've got each other.

The Sisters go off bawling L, and the Chorus exit too

Buttons enters UR

Buttons Hi, everybody, girls and boys!
 Come on, let's hear the noise!

Interaction with audience

Listen, kids, when I come on will you shout
 "Hi, Buttons"? Will you do that? ("Yes!") Let's try it out.

Practice ad-lib

Have you met the Baroness? What a rotter!
 Godzilla! Then there's her daughters!
 Tiger and Trixi, that awful twosome,
 They're absolutely truly gruesome!
 But there's someone in my life, (not a fella)
 Her name is Cinders, Cinderella.
 I love her (*aah!*) but I daren't show it;
 I feel it, but she doesn't know it.

He encourages the audience to say, "Ah!"

(*Sighs*) Unrequited, whatever that is.

He goes off waving

Scene 2

The living room of Hardup Hall

Seated downstage, is Cinderella

Cinderella Hello. I'm Cinderella, and life is tough,
I clean and dust, and if that's not enough
I've lots of other chores that keep
Me going: I cook and sew and sweep
All day long. *(Pause)* I said, all day long— *(Aah!)*
I think I'll have to sing a song.
I often dream about twenty eighteen,
Bet it's nothing like I've ever seen.

Song 2: *(To the tune of 'My Favourite Things') (Cinderella)*

Toffees and chocolates and strawberry ices,
Burgers and doughnuts and chicken fried rices,
Nice Christmas prezzies all tied up with strings,
These are a few of my favourite things.

Makeup and perfume and gel for my tresses,
High heels and lipstick and tight little dresses,
Blue jeans and hipsters and lockets and rings,
These are a few of my favourite things.

Love my mobile -
And my Ipod -
And my DVDs;
I take all my credit cards,
Go to the shops,
And then I buy what I please!

(Sighs) But it isn't twenty eighteen, is it?

Buttons appears R

Hi, Buttons!

Buttons Hi, Cinders! Singing the blues?

Cinderella I guess.

Buttons Heard the big news?

Cinderella No.

Buttons His Royal Nibs is having a ball.

Cinderella So what's new? Is that all?

Buttons No, a Grand Ball. Everyone's invited.

Cinderella Fancy! Bet they're all excited.

At this point Lady Hardup enters L, to boos. She glares at the audience

Lady Hardup *(to Cinderella)* Why aren't you doing your chores?

Cinderella I've finished, stepmother. Early doors.

Lady Hardup What, watered the flowers and blooms,

Untangled the brushes and brooms,

Polished the brass,

Cut all the grass,

And dusted the hallway and rooms?

Cinderella Yes, stepmother.

Cinderella and Buttons give each other the thumbs-up sign

Lady Hardup (*to Buttons*) Don't give me any of your lip!
Buttons I'm trying, Your Battleship!
Lady Hardup Ladyship! Call me Your Ladyship, you twit!
Buttons Alright, Your Ladyship, you twit!
Lady Hardup Get out! Get out of my sight!
Buttons Yes, Your Flagship! Alright!
Lady Hardup I'm fed up of looking at you.
You, Cinderella, can go too.

Cinderella and Buttons laugh, and exit R

Cinderella In Verse

(A mini-panto in rhyming couplets)

Dave Buchanan's rhyming version of the classic tale features the two wonderfully appalling Ugly Sisters Tiger Lily and Trixibelle.

Plot Summary

Cinderella lives at Hardup Hall, but has rather a hard time at the hands of stepmother Lady Hardup and stepsisters Tiger Lily and Trixibelle. The latter are determined that Cinderella shall not go to Prince Charming's Grand Ball, but Buttons is equally determined that she *shall*. And of course she does, with the help of Fairy Godmum Foozle.

Running time: with songs, about 55 minutes.

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