

Yellowbrick Publications

Present

Cinderella

A Pantomime in 1 Act

Script by David Barrett

Other pantomimes in this series:

Robin Hood

Aladdin

Ali Baba

Cinderella - Dramatis Personae

Baron Stoneybroke (pronounced Stonybrook)

Cinderella

Grizelda and

Esmirelda the ugly sisters

Buttons

Popper Button's Dad

Zip his brother

Velchro his Mum

Fairy Godmother

Prince Smarmy

Pansy the Prince's brother

Maledictus the executioner

Earl of Hitchin

Lord Lucan

Duke of Kudos

M.C. at the ball

Butler

5 Rabbits

Butterflies and other animals dancers

Little Red Riding Hood

Wolf

Gretel

Witch

Dancers at the ball

Scene 1, The Kitchens at Stoneybroke Castle

- SONG 1: Chorus of Servants and Cooks
(During the song there is a comic routine with mops. At the end of the song Buttons is slapped in the face by a mop and ends up flat on the floor)
- BUTTONS Hey, what did you do that for, Zip, you fool.
ZIP Gee, I'm sorry Buttons, I guess we still need to practise the end of the dance before the opening night.
- BUTTONS What do you mean 'before the opening night'? Have you forgotten, This IS the opening night.
- ZIP What! You mean *(He gestures coyly towards audience)*
- BUTTONS Yes, I do mean *(Mimics gesture)*
(Zip shields his eyes and looks F.O.H.)
- ZIP Oh my Lord! *(He runs and hides behind tabs)*
- BUTTONS I'm sorry about my kid brother, ladies and gentlemen. He wasn't around when the brains were dished out. I had his share. But, how rude of me, I've not introduced myself: I'm BUTTONS. I live and work here in the castle for Baron Stoneybroke. I'm his exchequer. It's a bit like a retired accountant. You see, I used to check his money for him and now he doesn't have any money I'm his ex-checker. I'm good at Maths, you see. I bet you like Maths at school don't you boys and girls. If I'd been born a nobleman I'd have been a count. A COUNT!
(Counts on his fingers) Never mind! Oh and this is my brother, Zip. *(Pulls Zip out from behind tab, by the ear).* My mum and dad, Popper and Velchro work in the kitchens too. *(They step forward and bow)*
- POPPER At your service. *(Buttons produces a parcel from the wings)*
- VELCHRO Oh Buttons, you've bought me a present, how thoughtful of you.
- BUTTONS Well, er...actually it's not for you this time, Mum, it's for..Cinderella. *(To audience)* Just wait till you meet Cinderella boys and girls, she's gorgeous. *(Whispered)* And I'm going to ask her to marry me. *(Loudly)* To marry YOU!
- VELCHRO *(Looking around)* Shhhh! Someone'll hear you.
- BUTTONS But Buttons, she'll never agree to marry you. *(Buttons looks shocked)*
- VELCHRO No, you're too poor. *(Ah)* *(Buttons winces at each remark, finally sinking to his knees)*
- ZIP And too short. *(Ah!)*
- POPPER You can't read or write.
- VELCHRO And you crack your knuckles in bed.
(Buttons cracks his knuckles - loud sound effect)
- ZIP See what I mean
- BUTTONS But I love her *(Ah!)* and I think she loves me too. *(Laughter)*
Boys and girls, if I put this present here will you look after it for me?
And you'll tell me if anyone tries to take it? Just call BUTTONS!
Thank you I knew I could rely on you. *(aside)* I can't trust any of this lot.
- BUTLER Quickly, back to work everyone, the Baron is coming. Not that we ever get paid for working here. The Baron is too poor, but he won't admit

it. We work for nothing, for old time's sake.

Enter Baron

- BARON Good day to you all my loyal and trusty servants!
- ALL Good Day to you Baron.
- BARON My, you have got this place looking spick and span. Buttons, give everyone a rise, they deserve it.
- BUTTONS Certainly, thank you, Baron.
- VELCHRO What does he mean a rise? He doesn't pay us anything anyway.
- BARON I beg your pardon Madam.
- POPPER Nothing...nothing, My Lord. She was merely expressing her gratitude.
- BARON You're very welcome, Madam, I'm sure. Now what did I come down here for....Oh yes. of course, I was looking for my two lovely daughters, Grizelda and Esmirelda. Has anyone seen them.
- ZIP If they had they'd have run the other way.
- BUTLER But why do you seek them in the kitchens, Sir? They are household, not servants.
- BARON Oh I know that, Butler, but you know how they love their food. I thought they might be on the scrounge again. *(He looks around for them)*
- ZIP Do you know, I saw Grizelda eating with her knife the other day.
- POPPER Yes and when the Baron told her it was not polite she said she can't eat with her fork because it leaks.
- VELCHRO Esmirelda didn't know whether she should stir her tea with her left or right hand.
- ZIP I told her to use her spoon.
- BUTLER Do you know they always say prayers before dinner upstairs.
- VELCHRO Why, don't they trust the cook?
- BARON It's no use, I can't find them. If you see them send them to the west tower would you. *(Exits)*
- BUTTONS Sure, we'll send them, via Australia. *(Enter Cinderella. Servants carry on with their chores)*
- Cinderella, where on earth have you been? I've been looking all over for you.
- CINDERS Oh, I've just been here and there, no place in particular. *(Looks glum)*
- ZIP Why, Cinders, what on earth is the matter, I've never seen you looking so unhappy.
- CINDERS Can't you guess? I'm dressed in rags by those step-sisters of mine and treated as a servant. I work day and night cleaning the castle and clearing up their mess after them.
- ALL Aaah!
- CINDERS How will I ever find myself a rich handsome nobleman to marry?
- BUTTONS Well, I'm not rich, perhaps I'm not handsome and I'm certainly not noble, but I am a man! *(Kneels at her feet)* Marry me Cinders and all your troubles will be over.
- CINDERS Dear Buttons, you're so sweet but I can't marry you. You see, father's marriage contract will only allow me to marry a man of noble blood.
- Oh, how I wish father had never re-married after mother died.
- ZIP Yes, look what he inherited; two of the ugliest creatures you could ever find. Worse than anything in the London Dungeon.

BUTTONS Don't you worry your little head, Cinders, I'll think of something, you'll see.

SONG 2

BUTTONS Come on, Cinders, let's go and put our heads together. I'm sure we can sort this whole thing out. *(loud noises off)* Look out folks; here come the dynamic duo now; a subtle entrance as usual. Quick, let's go. *(They exit. Grizelda and Esmirelda enter from the other side- boos)*

GRIZELDA How about the prince's tall squire. He's very handsome. I wouldn't mind being caught on a dark night by him. *(Cackles of laughter)*

ESMIRELDA Don't be ridiculous, Grizelda, why you're so short, the first time you tried to kiss him you would have to stand on a box. *(All laugh)*

GRIZELDA Hey, who told you you could laugh. No-one laughs at us without permission.

ESMIRELDA And don't you forget it you old windbags. You know the difference between a pantomime audience and a cow with laryngitis, don't you.

GRIZELDA Yes, one boos madly and the other moos badly! *(Shrieks of laughter)*

ESMIRELDA Hey, Grizelda, there's a boy down there still laughing at us. Right there, do you see him.

GRIZELDA What, that really ugly one there on the end of the row.

ESMIRELDA No you idiot that's Mary's mum.

GRIZELDA Really? I never knew she had a beard.

ESMIRELDA No, the one...1..2..3 from the left...Oh, I'll show you. Just a minute. *(She goes F.O.H. and brings up a plant from the audience)*
This is the one Grizzly, isn't he ugly? Really, really ugly.

GRIZELDA Well...yes, but I've seen worse. In fact, I think he's rather sweet. Say, young man, are you busy tonight? There's a good ball on up at Lord Money Penny's. Would you like to go?

PLANT Not with you, you old bag, not if you were the last person on earth. Now if Cinderella were to ask me..... *(Grizelda wails and weeps)*

ESMIRELDA How dare you insult her, you undernourished bean-sprout. I'll teach you. *(She chases him off stage raining blows with her handbag)*
Take that! And that! *(Enter Buttons, excitedly, followed by Cinders)*

BUTTONS Hey, Zip, you'll never guess what.
It says here, Prince Smarmy...*(Noticing Grizelda)* ishaving....a...
NEW HAIRDO!

GRIZELDA What! Let me see. Give me that you trumped up bell-boy!

CINDERS No, Grizelda! It's not important.

ESMIRELDA *(Entering unseen)*
Then you won't mind us seeing it..... *(She snatches the invitation)*
Others put their heads in their hands as she becomes animated.
All eligible LADIES in the realm are invited to a midsummer ball to be held at the royal palace on midsummer's eve. Formal dress.
YAHOO! *(She skips around, holding up her dress)*

ZIP If she's a lady I'm Ryan Giggs!

BUTTONS The invitation is for all LADIES in the house...and that includes Cinderella, doesn't it, Cinders?

CINDERS Well, yes but...I don't have a dress. How can I go dressed like this. I

look like a kitchen maid. It's no use...I might just as well become one of the servants. That's my position in this house. *(She exits weeping loudly)*

BUTTONS Cinders, don't go. We'll find a way for you to go to the ball. *(Follows)*

ESMIRELDA Well, at least she knows her place. And if she goes to the ball the prince won't give us a second glance, so we don't want her at the ball do we boys and girls? *(Reaction)*

GRIZELDA Oh no we don't.....

ESMIRELDA Oh it's no use talking to you lot. You're as bad as these trollops. Grizelda! We're leaving. We must choose our outfits for the ball. *They exit blowing loud raspberries at the audience. The rest of the cast blow raspberries back and thumb noses.*

BUTLER Well that's blown it hasn't it. She'll never win. Not while those two are living under the same roof.

ZIP Buttons will sort things out; he always does. Everything will work out right in the end you'll see.

SONG 3

End of Scene