

# CINDERELLA

## CINDERELLA AND STEPFAMILY

**CINDERELLA:** It is such a lovely morning and I had a great dream. I won't tell you about it because if I tell, it won't come true. You know that a dream is a wish that your heart makes.  
[clock strikes] Oh, no!! [She speaks to the audience] What time is it? Goodness! Better hurry! They'll be up and hungry and breakfast better be ready.

**STEPMOTHER:** (offstage) Cinderella! Where is our breakfast?!

*(Cinderella rushes to prepare the breakfast)*

**SHANIQUA:** (offstage) Cinderella!

**CINDERELLA:** All right I'm coming! I'm coming!

**ZONITA:** (offstage) Cinderella!

**CINDERELLA:** I'm coming. I'm coming.

**ALL:** (offstage) Cinderella!!!

**CINDERELLA:** In a minute! [Stepfamily enters] Good morning Stepmother, Shaniqua, Zonita. Did you sleep well?

**STEPMOTHER:** Didn't you hear me call you?

**CINDERELLA:** Why, yes. I was just coming up to give you your breakfast.

**SHANIQUA:** [Takes a sip of coffee and spits it out and screams]. Mother Cinderella put salt in my coffee instead of sugar. She made me ruin my new robe. And she did it on purpose!

**CINDERELLA:** But it was an accident. I didn't know –

**STEPMOTHER:** Cinderella!

**SHANIQUA:** Are you gonna get it!

**STEPMOTHER:** Come here.

**CINDERELLA:** But it's not my fault . . . the label looks like it could have been sugar.

**STEPMOTHER:** How dare you talk back. Keep quiet and be still. You clearly have too much time on your hands if you can come up with witless practical jokes.

**CINDERELLA:** But...

**STEPMOTHER:** Silence! Time for mean-spirited practical jokes. Perhaps we can put it to better use? Let's see. . . I'll teach you to use your time and skills more wisely. Upstairs in the hallway there's a large carpet . . .CLEAN IT. The chimney needs cleaning, too. The windows upstairs, clean them all. And

don't forget the chores that you failed to complete yesterday. The mending, laundry, groceries, vegetable gardening and repair those broken bricks on the fireplace before you burn the whole place down. And. . . oh yes, put out traps for that pesky mouse that's been running around here. Come, girls. You shouldn't be exposed to such slovenly behavior. And we should all go and refresh ourselves while Cinderella re-cooks our breakfast.

**CINDERELLA:** I did it already.

**STEPMOTHER:** Well, it's cold now. Do it again! [There is a knock at the door]

**ROYAL GUARD:** (offstage) An invitation by royal proclamation!

[As the invitation is slipped under the door, Cinderella crosses, picks it up and examines it]

**CINDERELLA:** Stepmother, it's an invitation to the palace!

**STEPMOTHER:** Bring it to me. I'm the lady of THIS house. Well, well, well. There's to be a ball in honor of his highness, the prince. And by royal command, every eligible maiden is to attend.

**SHANIQUA:** And I'm so eligible.

**CINDERELLA:** That means that I can go, too.

**ZONITA:** Her? Dancing with the prince? She'll get soot all over him. Hey, yo majesty, I'd be honored to dance with you. Do you mind if I wipe my sooty hands on your royal emblem?

**CINDERELLA:** It says that, by royal proclamation, EVERY eligible maiden MUST attend.

**STEPMOTHER:** We mustn't go disobey a royal command. Of course you may attend if you do all your work and if you can find something suitable to wear and if you do all your chores.

**CINDERELLA:** I will! I will! Thank you, stepmother! (she runs off)

**SHANIQUA:** Mother, what have you done? How can you let her go?

**ZONITA:** She'll embarrass all of us!

**STEPMOTHER:** Settle down, doves. Mommy said IF.

**BOTH SISTERS:** Oooooooooohhhh, "IF".