

# Cinderella



by

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*on the move*

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[A free sound effects pack is available for this pantomime; link in purchased download.]

# Cinderella

## A Pantomime

### Dramatis Personae

*(Many of the characters, especially the Ugly Sisters, can / should be played by opposite gender actors)*

BUTTONS

CINDERELLA

EMILY - UGLY SISTER - *(preferably played by a boy with visible facial hair)*

FLORENCE - UGLY SISTER – *(ditto)*

LADY HARDUP – CINDERELLA'S STEP-MOTHER

HAIRY GODFATHER *(could be doubled by Page)*

PRINCE WILLIAM

PAGE TO THE KING

### Scene 1

*The garden of Cinderella's cottage.*

*There could be background projection which indicates the location of each scene.*

*BUTTONS is sitting on the front of the stage juggling. Time after time he drops a ball. Each time he says "Ahhhh" disappointedly until the audience are joining in and eventually he "notices" them.*

**BUTTONS**

Oh hello boys and girls. *(Pause)* I said **Hello boys and girls.** *(reaction)* My name's Buttons. *(To someone in front row)* What's your name? That's a lovely name. *(Shaking hands)* Pleased to meet you. And what's your name? *(Shaking hands)* Super. And what's... Look, we're going to be here all day at this rate. You know who you are, that's the main thing. And as I said, my name's Buttons. I know it's a silly name but I think it's because I'm a bit of a silly person. When I was little someone said "He's not very bright, is he? He's not as bright as a button". So everyone called me Buttons and it stuck. My real name's...

*He stops because he has noticed Cinderella coming out of her cottage with a washing basket. She starts to peg the washing on the line – an assortment of very odd female clothing – without noticing BUTTONS who lowers his voice.*

**BUTTONS**

That's Cinderella. *(He looks adoringly at her – it is obvious he fancies her).* She's gorgeous. Well, *I* think she's gorgeous. Do you think she's gorgeous boys and girls? Shh, not too loud. She'll hear you. She's my bestest friend in the whole wide world. *(Pause)* Actually, she's my *only* friend in the whole wide world. *(Pause till he gets an Ahhh...).*

*Cinderella "notices" BUTTONS and waves across the stage to him. He waves back and then falls flat on his back with his legs in the air as though he is bowled over by her attentions.*

I don't think she realises how much I ... How much I ... L ... L ... *Like her.*

*Cinderella comes over to BUTTONS and he stands up, sheepishly.*

**CINDERELLA**

Hello Buttons.

**BUTTONS**

*(silly, love-smitten voice, barely comprehensible)* Hello Cinders.

**CINDERELLA**

What are you doing?

**BUTTONS**

*(same)* Nothing in particular. *(Coughs – normal)* Nothing in particular. *(Pause)* What are you doing?

*Cinderella looks at BUTTONS, looks at the washing line, the washing in her hand and back at BUTTONS.*

**CINDERELLA**

*(not maliciously)* I'm cleaning the windows.

**BUTTONS**

Oh right! *(Double take)* What??

**CINDERELLA**

I'm putting out the washing you silly boy.

**BUTTONS**

*(points at a particularly large and horrible pair of bloomers)* Are they... Are they... *(He mimes putting on a pair of pants and points at Cinderella.)*

**CINDERELLA**

Oh Buttons! Of course they aren't mine. They belong to my sister Emily. *(Examining them)* Oh actually, I think those belong to my other sister, Florence. Do you know, Buttons, I sometimes get the clothes mixed up after I've washed and ironed them and I give them back to the wrong sister!

**BUTTONS**

You mean sometimes they wear the wrong... *(Indicates the bloomers)* They put each other's... Ugh!!!! *(Mimes sticking his fingers down his throat and vomiting, indicating the pants, clearing the air with his hand under his nose etc etc, encouraging the audience to share his revulsion).*

**CINDERELLA**

I can't stay here chatting to you, Buttons. I've got to go and cook the dinner.

**BUTTONS**

Hey, Cinders, do you know how Batman's mum calls him to come and eat?

**CINDERELLA**

No, how does...

**BUTTONS**

*(to the tv show theme) Come and get your dinner dinner dinner dinner dinner dinner dinner dinner dinner B A T M A A A N N N!!! (He makes a Batman mask with his fingers and looks around – making sure the whole audience can see it).*

**CINDERELLA**

Very funny. See you later, Buttons.

**BUTTONS**

*(In a Batman American voice) See you later, Robin. (English) Err ... Cinders.*

*(She goes. He stares after her, in raptures. He “takes the mask off”. Long pause. Deep sigh. Suddenly “remembers” the audience. Clears throat).*

She’s lovely isn’t she? Not like her two sisters. Well, step-sisters actually. Her real mum died and her dad, Squire Hardup, married a woman half his age. Silly old man. I think she was only after his money. Trouble is, she found out when he died soon afterwards that he hadn’t got any money! He’d spent it all on her! He didn’t leave her a bean!

Blimey, you should see those sisters. *(He goes over to the washing line and stands behind one of the gaudy, enormous dresses, lifting and moving the sleeves as though he is wearing it, “becoming” the sisters in turn, with their voices and mannerisms).*

Oh hello, my name’s Emily Hardup.

*(Stands behind the adjacent dress – he keeps swapping positions during the following dialogue).*

And I’m Florence Hardup.

*(During the following sequence FLORENCE and EMILY -the two Ugly Sisters – enter in weird and wonderful costumes, similar to those on the washing line. As they watch from a distance, they take more and more offence).*

I’m uglier than you, Emily.

No no Florence! I’m uglier than you.

No, I’m the ugliest in the whole world. I can turn milk into cheese just by looking at it.

Well *I* can turn milk into cheese while it’s still inside the cow!

*(Looks at the sisters without realising and almost starts performing to them).*

I’m so ugly that mummies and daddies put a photograph of me over their mantelpiece to keep their children away from the fire.

That's not ugly. I'm so ugly that... (*double take – sisters / dresses / audience / sisters. Pause while he thinks how he is going to get out of this. Normal voice, to the dresses*).

Yes, you are ugly. Everyone is ugly compared to those beautiful girls, Emily and Florence. Why, if they were here now I would be able to tell them that myself...

(*"Notices" them*).

(*With exaggeration*) Well hellooo! Fancy seeing you here! I was just telling the boys and girls how beautiful the two of you were and all about your fashion sense. (*Looks at their ridiculous costumes*).

**EMILY** Oh, do you like this? It's from Primark. I got it in the sale.

**FLORENCE** I think she means it's *made* out of a sail. It's got about the same amount of material in it.

**EMILY** You can talk. What did they say to you when you went into Next?

**FLORENCE** I don't remember. What did they say?

**EMILY** Next!!

**FLORENCE** You rude old...

(*Their step-mother, Lady Hardup appears*)

**LADY HARDUP** Girls, girls, girls! I hope you aren't squabbling.

**EMILY** Of course we aren't, mumsy-wumsy.

**FLORENCE** No, of course we're not, sweetie-weety. (*Sweet smiles and fluttering eyelashes. As soon as Lady Hardup stops looking, Emily hits Florence*).

**BUTTONS** Look, here's my cousin, the one who is the King's Page.

(*Enter Page*)

**PAGE** Hello Buttons.

**BUTTONS** Hello, coz, what brings you here?

**PAGE** I've got a letter.

**BUTTONS** A letter? For me?

**PAGE** No, it's for her ladyship.

**LADY HARDUP** A letter for *me*? Who from?

**PAGE** From the King.

**LADY HARDUP /  
EMILY / FLORENCE** The King!!!???? (*They all curtsey*)

**FLORENCE** What's in it? Let me see

*(She snatches the letter from the Page, then they all snatch it from each other saying "Give it to me" etc, until eventually Lady Hardup takes possession and says):*

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**Full script running time approximately 40 minutes.**

SAMPLE