



# Cinderella

by Bradford and Webster

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# **ACT 1**

PROLOGUE

SCENE 1 – THE VILLAGE MARKETPLACE

SCENE 2 – THE KITCHEN, HARDUP HALL

SCENE 3 – THE VILLAGE MARKETPLACE

SCENE 4 – THE FOREST

SCENE 5 – THE KITCHEN, HARDUP HALL

SCENE 6 – CHUMPNEY'S SPA

SCENE 7 – THE GARDEN, HARDUP HALL

# **ACT 2**

SCENE 8 – THE BALLROOM OF THE ROYAL PALACE

SCENE 9 – A CORRIDOR, HARDUP HALL

SCENE 10 – TRINNY AND SUSANNAH'S BEDROOM, HARDUP HALL

SCENE 11 – THE KITCHEN, HARDUP HALL

SONGSHEET

FINALE WEDDING

## **Cinderella - Cast List**

<b>Cinderella</b>	Traditional Principal Girl. Pretty, kind and loving. Treated badly by her step-mother and step-sisters.
<b>Prince Charming</b>	Traditional Principal Boy, usually played by a female.
<b>Dandini</b>	Charming's equerry and best friend. Second Principal Boy.
<b>Trinny &amp; Susannah</b>	The two Ugly Sisters. Step-sisters to Cinderella. Traditionally played by males, panto-dame style. Very over-the-top and flirtacious!
<b>Buttons</b>	Works for the Hardup Family. Cinderella's best friend
<b>Baron Horace Hardup</b>	Cinderella's Father
<b>Baroness Lucretia Hardup</b>	Cinderella's wicked Stepmother & mother to Trinny and Susannah
<b>Fairy Godmother</b>	Traditional Fairy Godmother
<b>King Cornelius Charming</b>	Prince Charming's Father. A little dim, but means well. Often gets his words muddled, which adds to his comedy character
<b>Queen Prudence Charming</b>	Prince Charming's Mother. Definitely the one in charge!
<b>Miss Fitt</b>	Manager of "Chumpneys" the luxury spa
<b>Britney</b>	Receptionist and helper at "Chumpneys"
<b>Rosie &amp; Daisy</b>	Two Village Girls
<b>Petunia</b>	Village Gossip
<b>Herald</b>	The Royal Herald

Also, for the opening 'ballet':-

**Young Cinderella**

**Young Trinny**

**Young Susannah**

**Cinderella's Mother**

**Young Baron**

**Young Baroness**

Plus chorus roles of "Villagers" and "Courtiers"

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**ACT I****Prologue**

*Dramatic music, dark stage. Smoke..... Mirror ball....to create a "dreamy" effect.  
Fairy Godmother's entrance .... possibly with a pyro flash.*

*The upstage area remains smoky & mirror ball revolves. As the Fairy Godmother narrates the story from DSR. A ballet or mime is acted out upstage, in a dream-like way.*

**Fairy Godmother**

Once upon a time  
I've a tale to tell, and true  
And, if you'll stay a while  
I will tell my tale to you

Not so very far from here  
Lived a Baron, and his wife  
Who loved each other dearly  
And they shared a happy life

And soon the pair were blessed  
With a baby, pure and sweet  
A beautiful little girl  
Who made their lives complete

And this is where I join this tale  
For I have a part to play  
My job, as Fairy Godmother  
Is to keep her from harm's way

The Baron and his family  
Grew happier, year by year  
But little did they realise  
That tragedy was near

An illness struck the Baroness  
And she faded, day by day  
She left two badly broken hearts  
When she sadly passed away

The Baron comforted the child  
But the child missed her mother  
So he took himself a second wife  
Though he didn't want another

The woman, at first, seemed good and kind  
She tended every need  
But, beneath this evil masquerade  
She was full of spite and greed

The Baron, grieving, did not see  
That his scheming second wife  
Was, in truth, a wicked step mother  
Destroying his daughter's life

He does not know the suffering  
That Cinderella must endure  
From this evil woman and her girls  
To his daughter, good and pure

So, now, for Cinderella's sake  
I'm here to play my part  
To keep her safe and happy  
So, I think it's time to start .....

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## Scene 1 - The Market Place in the Village of Derbydale

### Opening chorus number

#### Buttons *(to audience)*

Hello, kids! Oh, there's no-one there ... did we forget to let them in?

*Villagers shake their heads & encourage Buttons to get on with it*

#### Buttons

No? Oh right .... better try again then! Hello, kids!

#### Audience

Hello!

#### Buttons

*(to villagers)* Hey, you're right – there are people out there!

*(to audience)* I bet you don't know who I am?!

#### Audience

Buttons!

#### Buttons

Buttons? How did you know that? Have you been here before?

I guess all of these buttons gave you a bit of a clue, didn't they?

Yes, you're right, I am Buttons. So, now that you know who I am, I'd better find out who you are .....

*(Down steps into audience, starts front right)*

Hello, I'm Buttons, pleased to meet you *(holds out hand, to shake)*

*(to next person)* Hello, I'm Buttons, pleased to meet you *(holds out hand, to shake)*

*(to next person)* Hello, I'm Buttons, pleased to meet you *(holds out hand, to shake)*

#### Villagers

Buttons!!!

#### Buttons

Oh, yes, what am I thinking? This will take far too long!

*(returns to stage)*

I'll tell you what, do you mind if I just shout to everyone at once? I'll shout "HELLO KIDS!" And you could shout back "HELLO BUTTONS!" Shall we have a go? ..... HELLO KIDS!

**Audience**

Hello Buttons!

**Buttons**

Hmmm, not bad .... but you don't seem to have much energy. Is that because you haven't had any chocolate? Is your Mum saving the selection boxes until Christmas Day? Do you like chocolate?

**Audience**

Yes!

**Buttons**

I absolutely love chocolate! I bet you can't guess what my favourite chocolate is? *(gives audience clues, if required)*

**Audience**

Chocolate Buttons

**Buttons**

That's right, Chocolate Buttons! Would you like some? I always carry a few spare bags *(pulls out some bags of Choc Buttons)*  
So, let's try again ..... HELLO KIDS!

**Audience**

HELLO BUTTONS!

**Buttons**

Blimey, that was brilliant! You can definitely have some Buttons. Here you go! And some over there! And over there!  
*(Buttons pulls out a bag of real buttons and is about to throw them but realises just in time)*

Whoa!! That was close. Whoops. You wouldn't want to eat these. These are **real** buttons. They're my spare ones - in case I lose any off my jacket. **They** certainly wouldn't melt in your mouth!

So, getting on with the story .... as you know, I'm Buttons, and I live at Hardup Hall, just down the road. I work for Baron Hardup and his family. I'm a kind of ...er...

**Rosie**

Dogsbody!

**Buttons**

No, I'm not! I'm a ... well, actually, yes, I suppose I am, really

**Rosie**

They don't even pay you, do they?

**Buttons**

Of course they pay me! Only an idiot would work for nothing!

**Daisy**

So, how much do they pay you?

**Buttons**

Oh, about (*thinks, as though reckoning up & counts on his fingers*)

**Rosie**

Well?

**Buttons**

(*looks to ground*) Nothing

**Rosie & Daisy**

Nothing?

**Buttons**

Nothing

**Daisy**

So, you **are** an idiot?

**Buttons**

No! ... I ... er ... I get my board and lodgings.

**Rosie**

So you've got your own room?

**Buttons**

Of course! ... well, not exactly. I ... er ... sleep in the airing cupboard.

*Daisy and Rosie shake their heads.*

**Buttons**

Well, at least it's warm!

**Daisy**

Oh, Buttons, why do you work there?

**Buttons**

Er (*thinks, then his face brightens*) ... job satisfaction!

**Rosie**

Job satisfaction? Running around after the Baron's spiteful wife and her two spoilt, ugly daughters?

**Buttons**

(*looks around, worried*) Shhh! ...

*Daisy whispers something to Rosie*

**Rosie**

Oh, I see. Daisy says that you fancy Baron Hardup's daughter, Cinderella

**Buttons**

No, I don't! She's just my best mate. We get on really well. She's bright ... and funny ...

**Rosie**

...and you fancy her

**Buttons**

...and she has a beautiful smile ... it kind of lights up the room ...

**Daisy**

....and you fancy her

**Buttons**

....and gorgeous eyes .... all deep and sparkley...

**Rosie**

.....and you fancy her

**Buttons**

.... and really nice legs ....

**Rosie & Daisy**

... and you -

**Buttons**

- and I fancy her. You're right. That's the only reason that I stay at Hardup Hall .... I really love Cinderella.

**Rosie**

Does she love you?

**Buttons**

I don't know

**Daisy**

You don't know?!

**Buttons**

Well, it's just that .... well I know that she really **likes** me ... you know ... as a friend, we get on really well – she's bright and funny ... and she has a beautiful smile ... it lights up the room ...

**Rosie**

Yes, you mentioned that earlier.

**Buttons**

.... but I'm not sure whether she could ever actually fancy me

**Daisy**

Why don't you ask her?

**Buttons**

Ask her?

**Rosie & Daisy**

Yes!!

**Buttons**

What, just come right out and say it?

**Rosie**

Why not?

**Daisy**

If you really love her – tell her!

**Song –**

**Buttons**

*(with new-found courage)* Yes! You're right! I will!

*Buttons steps forward to soliloquise.*

**Buttons**

I **will** tell Cinderella how I feel.

*Buttons quickly exits*

**Daisy**

I thought that **you** liked Buttons, Rosie?

**Rosie**

Oh, I do .... but he's obviously in love with Cinderella *(shrugs/signs)*....

*Rosie and Daisy exit. Blackout*

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**Scene 2 – The Kitchen at Hardup Hall**

*Cinderella is heard singing in the distance*

**Buttons**

Oh gosh! That's her! That's Cinderella .... well, here goes! Wish me luck!

*Cinderella enters*

**Cinderella**

Oh, hello Buttons, what are you doing here?

**Buttons**

I've been waiting here for you. I've got something to tell you – something really special

**Cinderella**

Have you, Buttons? What is it?

*Buttons does a "wish me luck" kind of look to the audience, with fingers crossed*

**Buttons**

I'm in love

**Cinderella**

Oh, Buttons, you've got a girlfriend! That's wonderful! (*pretend coyness*) Though I did think that I was the only girl in your life.

**Buttons**

Oh, er, um...

**Cinderella**

Oh, Buttons, I'm only kidding. It's great that you've got a girlfriend – I can't wait to meet her

**Buttons**

But Cinderella ...

**Cinderella**

Don't be shy, Buttons! I know that it's a bit embarrassing to admit that you're in love for the first time – but I'm your best friend – you can tell me!

**Buttons**

Do **you** love anyone, Cinderella?

**Cinderella**

Oh. Buttons! Look at me ... in my scruffy old dress .... who would fall for me, looking like this?

**Buttons**

I .... I ... think you're beautiful ...

**Cinderella**

*(laughs)* You're so kind, Buttons ...

**Buttons**

But what **did** happen to your nice clothes? Why are you wearing that old dress? Your Step-Mother's been making you do chores again, hasn't she?

**Cinderella**

*(sadly)* Yes ... and she made me tear up the last of my nice dresses to make dish rags and dusters ...

**Buttons**

*(to audience)*

Come on! It's sadder than that!

**Audience**

Aaaah!

**Buttons**

That's better!

*(to Cinders)* Oh, Cinderella, you've really got to tell your father how horrible she is to you ... and those two daughters of hers – doesn't he realise how spiteful they are?

**Cinderella**

Oh, Buttons, I **can't** tell my father. When my mother died, he thought it was his duty to provide a family to care for me – it would break his heart if he knew he had married such a monster..... don't worry, I'll be fine ...

**Buttons**

Oh Cinders. *(idea)* I know something that'll cheer you up. Meet my new friends. Hello kids!

**Audience**

Hello Buttons!

**Buttons**

I said HELLO KIDS!

**Audience**

HELLO BUTTONS!

**Buttons**

Great aren't they?

**Cinderella**

They're wonderful.

**Buttons**

Here you go.

*Buttons throws choccy buttons to the audience. He again pulls out his bag of spare buttons but realises just in time*

**Buttons**

Oooh, that was a close one. You don't want to be eating my spare buttons, do you?

**Cinderella**

So, Buttons, tell me about this girlfriend of yours.

**Trinny & Susannah enter – big entrance – pose**

*Short excerpt of "Don't Cha Wish Your Girlfriend was Hot Like Me"*

*which is quickly cut short by Buttons, unbeknownst to the sisters, popping into the wings and coming back with a plug on a flex, as if he has unplugged all the band's equipment.*

**Trinny**

*(glaring at musicians)* How terribly, terribly rude! There's little enough talent on this stage, without cutting me off in my prime!

**Susannah**

Talent? You?? Trinny, I'm the one who got through the Pop Idol audition

**Trinny**

They put you in the "weirdo's and misfits section" – with the toothless granny from Jarrow and that guy who worked in the chicken factory

**Susannah**

Hmph! You're just jealous! Everyone is always jealous of me! That's the price one has to pay for being talented and gorgeous! (*strikes a pose*)

**Trinny**

Soooo, Buttons! Tell us about your **girlfriend!**

**Susannah**

When did you meet her? During a power cut?

**Trinny**

Yeah! Cos it'd be dark and she wouldn't be able to see how ugly you are.

**Susannah**

Yeah!

**Trinny**

Wait! I can smell chocolate – Cinderella, have you been stealing chocolate from my secret chocolate supply?

**Cinderella**

No, of course not. I don't know where your secret chocolate supply is

**Susannah**

It's in her bedroom, third wardrobe along, underneath a pile of dirty socks and underwear .... whoops!

**Trinny**

So **you've** been stealing my chocolate! No wonder you've put on so much weight

**Susannah**

You're so rude! No manners whatsoever! .... Belch!!

**Trinny**

That's disgusting! You should be more like me – well-mannered and cultured

**Susannah**

Cultured?! I've seen more culture in a Muller yoghurt!

**Trinny**

Oooh!!

**Susannah**

(*to Cinderella*) Right, where's this chocolate?

**Cinderella**

We haven't got any left. Buttons was just throwing some chocolate buttons to the boys and girls.

**Susannah**

Chocolate! I knew it! Grab him! Search him!

*Trinny grabs Buttons and the Sisters start to search his pockets. Susannah finds the bag of spare buttons and starts cramming them into her mouth. Meanwhile, Trinny sneers at the audience*

**Buttons**

*(to Susannah)* No!

**Cinderella**

*(to Buttons)* Shush!

**Trinny**

You wasted chocolate on smelly boys and girls?! They're so smelly, I can smell them from here.

**Susannah**

*(talking about "chocolate" buttons)* I think they're Swiss.

**Trinny**

*(looking around the audience)* Really? How can you tell?

**Susannah**

They're a bit too crunchy. And they taste funny.

**Trinny**

What? *(realisation)* I'm talking about the boys and girls, stupid!

**Susannah**

Don't call me stupid. You're the stupid one!

**Trinny**

Am not! Stupid!

**Susannah**

Stupid!

**Trinny**

Stupid!

**Susannah**

Stupid!

*They start fisticuffs. Buttons moves in to separate them*

**Buttons**

Girls! Girls! Can't you just accept that you're both stupid and move on?

*Sisters nod ... then realise .... & start on Buttons*

**T & S**

What??!!

**Trinny**

Well **you're** really,

**Susannah**

Really,

**Trinny**

Really,

**Susannah**

Really

**T & S**

Stupid!!

**Susannah**

And don't touch us! You're so ugly, it might be catching.

**Buttons**

So, **this** is what they taught you at that posh finishing school in Switzerland?

**Susannah**

It wasn't Switzerland, it was Norway

**Buttons**

Oh yes, because you look like a Norse (*to audience*) an 'orse, get it .... it doesn't get any better, folks!!

*Susannah goes for Buttons, but he quickly speaks...*

**Buttons**

That's not very ladylike behaviour!

**Trinny**

I can't abide that sort of behaviour ..... because I'm a lady!

**Susannah**

*(recovering her dignity)* Yes, dear, of course you are, dear ..... And I'm a lady too *(to audience)* I really am

**Buttons**

Cinderella is more of a lady than you'll ever be ...

*T & S handbags up*

**Susannah**

Oooh! And who rattled your cage, Zippy?

**Buttons**

It's Buttons *(quite hurt. Indicates buttons on costume)* buttons, not zips.

*T & S start doing "Zippy" impressions, mocking Buttons*

**Trinny**

Oh, hello, my name's Zippy.

**Susannah**

Yes, Zippy - a sad little man who collects buttons.

**Cinderella**

Leave him alone!

*It's all getting a bit noisy, then Step-Mother enters. Everyone shrinks back, with fright*

**Step-Mother**

What on earth is going on? What is all this racket?

*T & S are suddenly all coy and goody-goody*

**Trinny**

Oh, Mummy, Mummy, Cinderella is being horrible to us

**Susannah**

Yes, Mummy, she was calling us all sorts of nasty names

**SM**

Oh my poor cherubs

**Cinderella**

I was not!

**SM**

Quiet! Wicked child!

**Trinny**

And she's invited lots of friends round without permission. Look!

*T & S point at audience in a tell-tale way. SM surveys scene with an evil glare*

**SM**

Friends? Cinderella doesn't have any friends

**Buttons**

Oh yes she does!

**SM**

Oh no she doesn't

**Buttons & Audience**

Oh yes she does

**SM**

Oh no she doesn't

**Buttons & Audience**

Oh yes she does

**Buttons**

.... and I'm definitely Cinderella's friend!

**Trinny**

Well, maybe it was **Buttons** who invited them – I know for a fact that he's been giving them chocolate – he probably stole it from my secret chocolate supply

**SM**

Have you been stealing chocolate from my darling Trinny, and feeding it to these repulsive children?

**Buttons**

I wouldn't ever give my friends chocolate that has been hidden under her dirty laundry .... disgusting!

**SM**

Disgusting, eh? You, Buttons, are the **disgusting** one – feeding these ... **disgusting** little boys and girls. Look at them! Namby pamby little children (*mimics Child Catcher's scary sing-song voice*) Chil-dren! lock them up in a cage! Hide their repellent forms from view!

*T & S look worried*

**T & S**

*(pathetically)* M-mummy?

**SM**

Oh, no, not you, my angels. *(To audience)* Just all of the other nasty little people!

**T & S**

Ha!

*T & S pull faces at audience. Baron Hardup enters*

**Baron**

Ah, here you all are, hiding in the kitchen

*T & S stop pulling faces at audience and roll their eyes when Baron enters*

**Cinderella**

Daddy!

*Cinderella rushes over to hug her father. Sisters – fingers down throats, indicating nausea*

**SM**

Oh, you're back. Did you sell them, dear?

**Baron**

*(embarrassed)* Oh, er, yes.

**Cinderella**

*(suspicious)* What have you had to sell now, daddy?

**Baron**

Oh, we really did need to raise some more money, your Step-Mother suggested ...

**SM**

Where's the money, dear?

*Baron holds up bag of money. SM grabs it*

**SM**

Mine, I think.

*Sisters look on greedily*

**Baron**

*(gingerly)* By rights, the money should be Cinderella's.

**Cinderella**

Daddy? Why is it my money? Oh, Daddy, what did you sell?

**SM**

Just some old trinkets.

**Cinderella**

Daddy? Oh no, not Mother's jewellery?

*Baron drops his head, ashamed*

**SM**

*(fakes nicety)* Oh, my dears, we can't dwell in the past. We must look to the future!

**Trinny**

Yes, future designer dresses...

**Susannah**

And future designer shoes...

**Cinderella**

Oh, Daddy, how could you?

**SM**

Sentimental hogwash!

**Baron**

Lucretia! Please! .... Cinderella ... I'm sorry ... I've let you down .... I've let your mother down ...

**SM**

Horace, **we're** your family now ....

*Baron exits*

**SM**

Horace, please.....(*fake niceness quickly disappears*) What a poor excuse for a man ... I don't know why I married him.

**Cinderella**

You married him for his money! And now you've spent most of it! You really are a wicked step-mother, aren't you? (*she drops onto a chair, crying into her hands*)

**SM**

(*nicey-nicey*) Oh Cinderella .... don't be like that. You know that I care about you ..... as much as my own two daughters

*T & S look at each other*

.... and I hate to see you upset

*Cinderella raises her head*

**Cinderella**

Do...do you really mean that?

**SM**

My dear, of course ..... (*wicked*) NOT!!! I can't stand your pretty little face! And I **hate** to see you upset, but **only** because you're wasting time that could be spent working! Here's my shopping list – now, stop feeling sorry for yourself! (*to sisters*) Come along, darlings, (*shakes money bag*) we have our own shopping to do

*SM, T & S exit ... sisters pushing each other...*

**Trinny**

Oh, mummy, I need a new dress!

**Susannah**

New shoes!.... I need new shoes!

*Cinderella starts to cry again*

**Buttons**

Don't cry, Cinders

**Cinderella**

But, my father – how could he sell my mother’s things?

**Buttons**

Cinderella, your father doesn’t realise what a sly, manipulative woman your step-mother really is ..... and if he knew how she treats you, he’d...

**Cinderella**

...he’d be devastated ..... he’s tried to do his best for me, and .....(shrug) No, Buttons, I don’t want him to know (*brightens*) And we’re not going to be beaten by that wicked woman and her nasty daughters! Let’s get out of here – where’s that shopping list?

*Buttons picks up list and it unrolls and the bottom hits the floor*

**Buttons**

Are you sure about this!

**Cinderella**

Gosh! What’s on it?

**Buttons**

Oh, just the usual stuff for your step-sisters, by the looks of things (*reads from list*) Cheese and onion crisps, Mars bars, Turkey Twizzlers, Spicy wedges, pork pie, chocolate cake, sponge cake, cream cake, cheese cake, cherry cake, fruit cake, carrot cake.... Oh, and two cans of Diet Coke

**Cinderella**

Diet Coke eh? They’re obviously cutting down! Tell you what – add eggs and mushrooms to the list – and I’ll make us a nice omelette when we get back

**Buttons**

(*writing on list*) Eggs .... there’s not mush – room on this list! Mush – room! Ha ha!

**Cinderella**

Very funny, Buttons! Oh well, at least you’ve cheered me up!

**Buttons**

That’s what friends are for!

**Song -****Cinderella**

Come on ... we’d better get on with this shopping!