

PRINCE CHARMING

SCENE 1

We find PRINCE CHARMING alone in the palace ballroom. He is in a ballroom hold and practicing his moves.

CHARMING: And a one two three, one two three...

He trips over his own feet. He tries again

A one two three, one two three, one two three...

He trips again

Oh this is utterly hopeless.

Enter DANDINI

DANDINI: Good morning sir.

CHARMING: I'm glad you're here Dandini. I'm cancelling the ball!

DANDINI: Are you having a laugh? I spent all evening last night dishing out those invitations. You want to see the size of my blisters.

CHARMING: I know Dandini, but I'm having serious second thoughts.

DANDINI: Why? I thought you wanted to find the girl from the woods?

CHARMING: I do, I really do, but what will happen if I do?

DANDINI: You chat, you shmooze, you dance the night away?

CHARMING: Ah but that's the problem, I've been trying all morning. I can't do it. I can't dance! That girl is going to take one look at my two left feet and she'll be out that door laughing!

DANDINI: Didn't you ever take lessons?

CHARMING: Of course not! Did you?

DANDINI: No me neither.

CHARMING: Oh well a fat lot of use you are!

DANDINI: I'm a bodyguard, not a ballerina! What you need is a proper dance instructor!

CHARMING: The ball is tonight Dandini, wherever am I going to find a dance teacher on such short notice?

We hear a grand doorbell

DANDINI: That's the door sir?

CHARMING: Oh go and see who it is? Tell them in not taking visitors today.

SCENE 2

CHARMING: Right at the river crossing and left at the big stump? Or was it left at the river and right at the stump. Oh this is hopeless Dandini was right, I'm lost. What was I thinking, nothing good can come from this night!

CINDERELLA, who has been listening to all of this from across the clearing slowly approaches and taps him on the shoulder.

CINDERS: Excuse me sir

Startles, CHARMING jumps backwards putting some distance between himself and CINDERELLA

CHARMING: Who goes there?

Realising there is no threat.

Oh, im sorry. I thought I was alone.

CINDERS: I'm sorry if I startled you.

CHARMING: It's quite alright, it's just these woods are so big that you don't often run into anyone else while you're out here. Especially not at night.

CINDERS: I've known these woods all my life and it's true, I don't think I have ever bumped into anyone else. It's strange though, tonight, you're the second person I've seen. Did I hear you saying that you we're lost. If you'd like I can walk you back into the village?

CHARMING: You know the way?

CINDERS: Of course! Are you new to the village? I can't say I recognise your face?

CHARMING: I don't often get into the village, you see I live quite far from here, on the other side of the woods.

CINDERS: The other side of the woods? Why the only thing on the other side of the woods is the palace

CHARMING: That's right.

CINDERS: You live at the Palace then? Wait? You're not? The Prince? Oh my, I should even be talking to you, I'm so sorry your highness I never should have...

She curtseys and bows her head before him. CHARMING, thinking quickly has an idea.

CHARMING: The Prince? Me? Goodness no, my name is Dandini, The Princes Royal bodyguard. Please there really is no need to bow.

She approaches her and takes her by the hands to help her up from her deep curtsey. As they stand up straight, the two get a good look at each other for the first time,. They fall instantly in love. They are still holding hands

A maiden as fair as you should bow to nobody.

CINDERS: You flatter me sir.

CHARMING: Surely, you've heard that before. A girl as beautiful as you must here it a thousand times a day?

CINDERS: I don't believe I have ever heard it, and especially from a gentleman as handsome as you are.

CHARMING: I think you may be the most beautiful girl who I have ever seen. If you would show me the way back to the village I would love to repay the favour by taking you to supper.

CINDERS: Supper time? Oh my is it that late already, I have been here too long, I must get home at once. My sisters will be expecting me. I'm sorry sir, I must go.

CHARMING: No please, I insist, it's only...

They both makes to leave in different directions but they remain holding hands, they are pulled back towards each other and quite by accident as they collide, share a small kiss.

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