

# Cinderella by Tom Hitchcock

## SAMPLE SCRIPT

### Cast List

James Pond – A secret agent. Think 007.

Prompt – The prompt of the show.

Buttons – Head servant of King Boundup

Zip – Button's cousin; also a servant, but at another castle. Here to help with the ball.

King Boundup – The king, an older man, with a few marbles, but not many. A bit behind everyone else.

Duchess – Married to King Boundup. An evil woman, actually an alien being from planet Notwen

Malicious – An ugly sister. Daughter of the Duchess, and also an alien being.

Depravity – The other ugly sister. Daughter of the Duchess and also an Alien being.

Cinderella – Daughter of king Boundup. Beautiful inside and out, very kind and happy go lucky. Not a feeble girl.

Prince Charming – The Prince. A little dim.

Dan Deaniedo – The Prince's right hand man.

Fairy Godmother - A fairy. Good fun, bubbly personality and wise.

French Maid – A French maid

Pretty girl one – A walk on/off part

Pretty girl Two – A walk on/off part.

Echo – A voice over.

Royal ball Dancers – Dancers at the Royal ball.

### Scenes

#### Act one –

1. Prelude
2. Scene 1 – Palace
3. Scene Two – Front of Tabs
4. Scene Three – Kitchen
5. Scene Four – Front of Tabs
6. Scene Five – Tower room
7. Scene Six – Front of Tabs
8. Scene Seven – Dungeon. (Can double as Tower room)

#### Act Two

1. Scene one – Ball room
2. Scene Two – Front of Tabs
3. Scene Three – Dungeon
4. Scene Four – Front of Tabs into the Palace
5. Scene Five – Palace
6. Scene Six – Front of Tabs
7. Scene Seven - Palace

Prelude - The palace of King Boundup.

*The curtains open to reveal a black stage with two white cloths hanging up either side, leaving a gap in the middle. A light illuminates the cloths and a silhouette of a woman begins to dance in each one and the JAMES BOND theme tune starts to play. The lights dim on the cloths so their silhouettes are just visible. A man walks on to the stage and is picked up by a spot light, he turns and fires his gun. Two pyrotechnics go off - one either side of the stage. (This mimics the start of the Bond films.)*

Pond: The names Pond, James Pond. License to Thrill!

Prompt: (*Off stage*) Psst, that's meant to be 'Kill', not thrill, typo in the script.

Pond: What? You're joking aren't you?

Prompt: (*Walking on stage*) Afraid not, look. (*Shows him the script*) Didn't the director give you the revised script?

Pond: No, he didn't! Now I look like a right idiot in front of the boys and girls here!

Prompt: Well, by the end of the show they would have forgotten about your dramatic entrance, so don't worry. (*Dramatically*) Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, lend me your ears.

Pond: What are you doing?

Prompt: What the script says!

Pond: But it's my moment to shine, I've been waiting ages to show everyone what I can do.

Prompt: Just wait a minute. I'll do this and then you can carry on. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, lend me your.... oh forget it now! Look, I am the prompt, and it appears we are going to have a few problems with this year's script. You see the writer was so eager to get the script out on time he made some silly mistakes and as such, not all the cast have received the revised script. So if you spot a mistake, and I am sure you will, please call for me; I am the prompt. So I need you to shout "Prompt" as loud as you can. Will you do that for me? ... Marvellous. Now let's give it a go. I shall give you a line with the mistake and you shall call for me; ok?..... My friend Jack had to chop down the beanstalk with a fish! (*Audience shout "Prompt"*) Well done, you've got the hang of it. Shall we try another?

Pond: (*Interrupting*) Umm. Excuse me, are you done?

Prompt: Oh, sorry, just got a little carried away. Bye boys and girls, and don't forget, any mistakes and you call for me - the prompt. Now don't forget Mr Pond, it's a license to kill, not thrill.

*Prompt exits stage left.*

Pond: Umm, Mr sound guy, are you ready to redo my entrance music?

*The theme tune to "Live and let die" is played instead*

Pond: No, No, that's the wrong theme tune. Oh forget it. *(He composes himself, and strikes a James Bond pose)* The Names Pond, James Pond: licence to kill. You may have heard of me, I'm agent Seven Double O. *(or 'Ooooo', up to you Mr Director)* 'M' has sent me here on a secret mission. You see, all is not what it appears here in the palace of ..... *(Enter name of village)*. Some jewels have gone missing from the kingdom of ..... *(Enter the name of another local Village)*. M.I.6 has traced their location to here. I must recover the jewels and stop the evil tyranny known as 'HighLighter', before they take over the world. All seems rather farfetched for a small village in Suffolk, but believe you me, this is not a drill. I've told you, because you're the only ones here whom I can trust. So don't break my trust by telling anyone of my presence. Now I must go. Time for my first disguise! Bye boys and girls and remember, do not tell anyone about me. I must move silently and swiftly, like a ghost.

*Pond exits stage right.*

*SFX: Clattering of pots and pans.*

Scene One - The Palace of King Boundup.

*Buttons and his cousin Zip appear on stage with dusters. They are cleaning.*

Zip: That's twenty rooms cleaned already, now for the next twenty. I'm not looking forward to washing the windows either. I've never seen such tall windows.

Buttons: Quit your moaning. The quicker we work, the quicker it's done. It's all in a good cause you know, we have got the royal ball happening.

Zip: Yeah, yeah. I know, but these royal balls are all the same, bunch of big wigs running amuck, drinking too much and eating loads. Beautiful women in gorgeous ball gowns everywhere you look and I can't chat any of them up! It's just not fair. I mean I have to wait on them hand and foot all damn night!

Buttons: You're not the only one. I have to do it to.

Zip: Yeah, but your boss likes you, he treats you properly, mines just a huge balding great oaf with as much sense as a bucket of.....

*Zip turns around and spots the audience and jumps in shock.*

Zip: There's someone here!

Buttons: Course there is; I'm here.

Zip: No, No, there look *(Pointing towards the audience)*

Buttons: Oh, hello boys and girls. I'm afraid the balls not for another few hours. You'll have to wait in the west wing. We'll show you how to get there. Allow me to introduce myself. My name

is Buttons and I am the head footman here at the Palace; home of the royal family - Boundup. This is my cousin Zip. He's here to help me get the palace ready for the royal ball. His sister Lace and brother Buckle are preparing the food. Zip works over at ..... (*Enter the name of another Local Village*) Palace. Oh they've fallen on some troubled times up there. They've had their family jewels stolen. Terrible!

Zip: Yep, the king awoke one morning, left his bed chamber to pick his crown up, and they were gone. We started our search high and low, far and wide but no sign of the family jewels. His wife was so disappointed that morning! We searched every inch of the castle and found nothing! Then we searched every foot of the castle and found nothing! We searched every metre of the castle and found...

Buttons: Nothing! Just like what's inside your head.

Zip: Hey, that's not very nice, is it boys and girls? No, nasty Buttons. He sometimes gets grumpy because he's in love, yet she doesn't love him.

Buttons: I am not in love

Zip: Oh yes you are!

Buttons: Oh no I'm not.

Zip: Oh yes you are!

Buttons: Oh no I'm not.

Zip: Oh no you're not!

Buttons: Oh yes I am. I am in love with Cinderella. (*Then realises his mistake and clamps his hands in front of his mouth*)

Zip: See, I told you!

Buttons: Ok, ok, I'll admit it. I do have a crush on Cinderella; but only a little one.

Zip: A little one?

Buttons: Don't be smutty! Yes, a little crush on Cinderella. She is beautiful though. The way she walks, the way she talks. Oh it drives my heart. Umm... sorry... did I say that out loud? Look, let me explain. Five years ago, King Boundup, lost his wife.

Zip: You mean he couldn't find her?

Buttons: No, no, I mean she died. Nobody knows why she died so suddenly. It's all a bug mystery.

Zip: Excuse me? Did you just say a 'Bug' mystery?

Buttons: Yeah, it's a bug mystery.

Zip: That doesn't sound right to me; does it you boys and girls? I think we had better call the Prompt! Prompt, Prompt

Prompt: What is it? What's wrong?

Zip: It's him, he reckons there's a 'bug' mystery about Queen Boundup's death. I'm pretty sure he means 'big'.

Prompt: Let me check.....Ah yes, Page four, it is meant to be 'big' not 'bug'.

Buttons: Didn't think it sounded quite right when we first read it.

Prompt: Remember, 'big' not 'bug'. Sorry everybody for that. Carry on guys, you're doing really well; even the directors happy. Say's you're finally acting! (*Prompt exits stage left*)

Buttons: Where was I.... Oh yes. So there's a 'big' mystery surrounding her death. Shortly after the state funeral, this lady appeared and was flirting with King Boundup. It wasn't long before they struck up a relationship. Within two months, she had moved in to the palace bringing her revolting twin daughters with her. Meanwhile, poor old Cinderella, the king's daughter, had been left to fend for herself. That's where I come in. I was her aid, her confident. I helped her through the bad times. Unfortunately, her bad times have got a lot worse. You see when her father married this woman; she became a Duchess and had power over Cinderella. The Duchess makes her life hell. Cinderella isn't treated like a daughter, more like a slave. It's very sad.... (Audience react with aww) Sadder than that boys and girls.

Zip: Ah, Buttons nightingale ha ha ha.

Buttons: Oi, stop it. Cinderella and I would be very happy together and one day she will marry me! If only she would notice me. By the way boys and girls, if you see Cinderella, don't tell her that I love her. I'll tell her myself..... one day

Duchess: (*Calling from off stage*) Buttons! Buttons! Where are you? The toilet needs unblocking again.

Buttons: Oh, no! I told her to double flush! That's the third time today! Look before I go, I'd best warn you. The Duchess is a nasty, horrible woman. So when you see her be wary of her – perhaps even a 'boo' or a 'hiss' wouldn't go a miss. Her twin daughters 'Malicious' and 'Depravity' are just the worst people ever to grace the palace; they are dirty mares! Malicious would beat you up willingly and Depravity is immoral; she would steal anything! Mind you Depravity would make a great burglar; her bottom is so big that it wipes the footprints away! Oh well, boys and girls. I had best go and sort the toilet. See you all soon. Zip, you had head over to the ball room and check it's all sorted. Bye everyone.

Zip: Ok Buttons. Bye. See you later. Poor Buttons, he's got the love bug bad!

Duchess: (*Offstage*) Buttons, hurry, hurry!

Zip: I'm off before she collars me for a job too.

Scene Two - *Front of tabs.*

*Prince Charming and his trusty man servant Dan Deaniedo are walking through the woods.*

*SFX: Fanfare*

Prince Charming: Dan Deaniedo, are we nearly there yet?

Dan Deaniedo: Yes sir: ..... (*Name of local village*) is just around the corner.

Prince Charming: Good, my feet are killing me, I don't see why we couldn't have ridden the horses here.

Dan Deaniedo: We did, but you got hungry your highness, and we had run out of supplies. Now sire, remember when we get to the ball tonight, you need to find your wife here, or else you'll have to abdicate from the throne.

Prince Charming: Just you wait to see what I've packed to wear for the ball. No woman in the kingdom will be able to resist me! If my outfit doesn't turn them on, then they must be dead!

Dan Deaniedo: That may not be a good thing sire.

Prince Charming: Why not?

Dan Deaniedo: Have you not heard about the Duchess's twin daughters? Apparently they are so ugly that the government changed the date of Halloween for their birthday! Rumour has it they have faces like the back of a horse, and twice as filthy!

Prince Charming: Umm, perhaps I had best avoid them.

Dan Deaniedo: Would be a wise decision sire. Ah, here we are.....(*Enter the name of the village*) Now to find the palace. Does anybody here know where the palace is?

*A sign is stuck out through the curtain with 'Palace this way' written on it.*

Dan Deaniedo: Which way is it? There must be a sign post around here somewhere?

Prince Charming: Dan Deaniedo, I do believe the palace is this way! Now, I've been thinking, it's about these twin daughters of the Duchess. Now the way I see it, they are liable to ravish me as soon as they see me, so perhaps, we could change clothes, so they think you are me, and I am you. That way I am free to chat to any of the crumpet, whilst you get stuck with the old trollops, I mean Duchess's daughters. (*He laughs his error off*)

Dan Deaniedo: But sire, if I am you, and you are me, it means you have to do what I want to make everyone believe you are me and I am you. I wouldn't be too comfortable in ordering you around. Plus, I don't really want to tackle the Duchess's daughters.

Prince Charming: I'm not asking you to play football with them! I want you to distract them from me by any means possible!

Dan Deanedo: But sire.....

Prince Charming: Who's your boss?

Dan Deanedo: Okay, you win my Lord. Let's change costumes.

*They swap their coats.*

Prince Charming: There all done. Now, onwards we go.

Dan Deanedo: Sire, I must go first!

Prince Charming: How dare you, I am Prince Arming!

Dan Deanedo: No sire, you mean Prince Charming.

Prince Charming: No, No, Prince Arming!

Dan Deanedo: Oh dear, another mistake I fear boys and girls. (*Calling*) Prompt, Prompt.

Prompt: A prompt's work is never done! What is it now?

Prince Charming: This idiot thinks my name is Prince Charming and not Prince Arming, like it says in the script.

Prompt: Ah, now let me see. I'll have a look at the up to date version..... Yes... yes... Ah, here we are, Prince Charming and Dan Deanedo swap their coats. Yes it's definitely 'Charming' not 'Arming'.

Prince Charming: Why can't these writers get things sorted before we learn the lines; always making changes at the last minute!

Prompt: Amateur dramatics for you! Sorry Boys and girls, I do hope this won't happen again. But if it does, make sure you let me know. Keep up the good work - everyone back stage thinks you're nailing it - the audience are still awake!

*Prompt exits stage left.*

Prince Charming: Now where were we? Ah yes, Dan Deanedo or should I say: your highness! Lead on to the Palace. Perhaps we may find a suitor for you at the King's ball. I suppose really, it should have been me holding the ball.

Dan Deanedo: Yes, I've been meaning to ask you about that. For centuries, generations of Prince's have held balls to find their future wives. So how come you're breaking tradition and going in search of love yourself?

Prince Charming: Have you seen the potential candidates from ..... (*Enter name of a local village/town*)? Ghastly creatures: mostly feral. So father thought it was a better idea to look further afield to find a wife, one which can bring back a bit of class to our kingdom and help shape the riff raff.

Dan Deanedo: Hope we've come far enough! Look, I can see the castle from here, just up the hill. Follow me sire.

Scene Three - *The kitchen.*

*Cinderella is sat in the middle of the floor, surrounded by pots and pans.*

Cinderella: I can't believe this is what my life has turned out to be - a little scrubber. Oh I had high hopes when I was younger. I was going to become an astronaut, or even an actress on Broadway. Oh well; only another few pots to clean. Oh hello there, who let you in? The ball isn't for another few hours yet. But you do look smart in your evening gowns. My name is Cinderella, and I am king Boundup's only daughter. Trouble is he's been acting strange ever since he married my wicked stepmother. He's not like a father any more, more a distant relative. Well, my wicked stepmother, the Duchess, makes me work my fingers to the bone, all day and all night. I have to be up at five o'clock in the morning to sweep the palace chimneys and then go back around and light them all, so it's nice and warm for when they all awake. I don't get to bed till gone eleven at night. Oh it's a horrid life I lead, it's very sad..... (*Audience react with Awww*) sadder than that! I don't have any friends, except those four white mice and Buttons. Have you met Buttons? He's a lovely man; so kind and caring. A great listener, just what every woman could ever need in a man. He's a real man, a man who knows how to sow on a button. hee hee.

*SFX: a door being unlocked.*

Cinderella: Oh no, it's my wicked stepmother - the Duchess. Quick hide if she sees you she'll call the exterminators! I must carry on with the pots and pans.

Duchess: Ah Cinderella (*She spits as she says her name*) Who were you talking to?

Cinderella: Talking to? No-one mother.

Duchess: How many times do I have to tell you? Don't call me mother! Call me Duchess, or ma'am, but never mother! I don't want people thinking we are part of the same gene pool! How are your jobs coming along? You have a lot to do before the ball tonight.

Cinderella: So far, I have cleaned the downstairs toilets, repainted the living room, dusted and hovered all twenty bedrooms, the library, study, utility room. Polished the cat, Changed the water in the fish pond, cleaned the sinks, de-haired the plug holes, cleaned out the pigs, swept out the hamster cage and I am now cleaning the pots and pans.



Duchess: Thought you might have done more than that, considering it's the afternoon. Don't forget you'll have to eat down here tonight, alone! We shall be dining at the ball.

Cinderella: But Ma'am, you said that if I did all my jobs, then I would be allowed to come to the ball as well.

Duchess: Did I? I suppose I might have said that by mistake. Well, have you finished your list of jobs? No, I didn't think so. Besides, I have added a few other jobs to your list - here! They need to be finished before you may join us at the ball. She hands Cinderella a piece of paper, which unfolds revealing a huge list.

Cinderella: But, this will take me a year to complete!

Duchess: What a pity we aren't having a ball next year! Oh well never mind. I must go make myself look even more beautiful than I already am!

*She exits with a horrid cackle.*

Cinderella: How am I ever to finish these jobs in time for tonight? Just listen to this boys and girls: Redecorate and run the greyhound pub - harder than it looks! Polish the Co-op sign, move the doctor's cabin five yards to the left. Clean out the bus stop, replace the light bulbs at the hotel for energy efficient ones and that's just to start with! The list goes on and on. Could my day get any worse?

Malicious: (*Off stage*) Cinderella, are you down here?

Cinderella: It just did!

Depravity: (*Off stage*) Yes, she must be I can smell her awful cheap perfume!

*Malicious and Depravity enter from the back of the hall to the song: More than a woman. They are both drags, one with a huge bottom and one with a huge belly.*

Cinderella: Ah, my two sisters, Malicious and Depravity. How are you both?

Depravity: Cinderella (*She spits*) don't stand so close to me, you filthy urchin!

Malicious: And don't call us your sisters, we don't want any potential husbands to think we are related to you!

Depravity: Have you finished making our dresses for tonight?

Malicious: Have you done my tiara?

Depravity: What about my corset? Is it mended after you broke it when washing it?

Cinderella: If I remember correctly, it was damaged when you attacked that farm hand; you know the one you said seduced you behind the hay stacks at Manor Farm!

Malicious: She means Des?

Cinderella: Yes that's the chap.

Depravity: Oh I'm finished with him!

Cinderella: Or was it the man who works behind the bar at the Hungry Horse? No, wait a minute, it was the man who runs the premier inn or was it the owner of the Sorrell Horse?

Malicious: Too many men to pin point the exact date and time, good job you're not pregnant!

Depravity: I cannot help it if I am a magnet for men!

Malicious: More like a ten tonne weight!

Depravity: You can't talk; the amount of men who have ended up in hospital because they dumped you! It's no wonder hospitals are running out of beds!

Cinderella: Oh my sisters, you are funny.

Malicious/Depravity: Shut up Cinderella! (*They spit*)

Malicious: Now, have you finished our dresses and bits for tonight?

Cinderella: Yes, here they are. I worked through the night to make sure they were done in time. Oh I am so looking forward to the ball tonight. The Duchess says if I get all my jobs done then I can come. So I'm going to work my socks off to get it all done, then I'll come to the ball with my ticket and dance the night away with a handsome prince. We shall fall in love and I shall marry him and live happily ever after!

*Malicious and Depravity both laugh*

Malicious: Oh Cinderella (*Spits*) You do make me laugh. Happily ever after, there is no such thing for you.

Cinderella: What do you mean?

Depravity: Pass me your ticket!

Cinderella: Why?

Depravity: Just give me your ticket!

*Cinderella passes her the ticket, Depravity passes it to Malicious. Malicious rips the ticket up. Both Malicious and Depravity laugh.*

Malicious: You will never get to marry a handsome prince. You shall never ever go to the ball.

Depravity: You shall stay here forever and be our slave!

Malicious: Mother would never allow such a feral creature as you to mix with high society like us!

Depravity: Now finish you jobs Cinder blooming rella!

*Malicious and Depravity exit. Cinderella bursts into tears.*

*Curtains close.*

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