

#20 – Cinderella Coming from the Ball

(BAKER'S WIFE ENTERS UPSTAGE, tugging at MILKY-WHITE. A lantern hangs from MILKY-WHITE'S HORN; HOUSE CUTOUT DESCENDS.

BALL MUSIC in the distance, growing louder.

CINDERELLA dashes ONSTAGE, looking over her shoulder.

SHE falls.

MUSIC stops)

BAKER'S WIFE

(Leaves MILKY-WHITE to help)

Are you all right, miss?

CINDERELLA

(Breathless)

Yes. I just need to catch my breath.

BAKER'S WIFE

What a beautiful gown you're wearing. Were you at the King's Festival?

CINDERELLA*(Preoccupied)*

Yes.

BAKER'S WIFE

Aren't you the lucky one. Why ever are you in the Wood at this hour?

*(BALL MUSIC in the distance, growing louder.**We hear MEN'S VOICES OFFSTAGE. CINDERELLA signals to BAKER'S WIFE to keep quiet, then ducks behind a tree.**FANFARE. CINDERELLA'S PRINCE runs ONSTAGE, followed by his STEWARD. THEY look about for a moment, notice BAKER'S WIFE, who is curtsying deeply)***CINDERELLA'S PRINCE**

Have you seen a beautiful young woman in a ball gown pass through?

BAKER'S WIFE*(Breathless)*

I don't think so, sir.

STEWARD

I think I see her over there.

*(CINDERELLA'S PRINCE signals STEWARD off in that direction, then takes another look at BAKER'S WIFE before following.**MUSIC continues under)***BAKER'S WIFE**I've never lied to royalty before. I've never *anything* to royalty before!**CINDERELLA***(Comes out)*

Thank you.

BAKER'S WIFE

If a Prince were looking for me, I certainly wouldn't hide.

CINDERELLA*(Defensive)*

Well, what brings you here — and with a cow?

BAKER'S WIFE

Oh, my husband's somewhere in the Woods.

(Proud)

He's undoing a spell.

CINDERELLA

(Impressed)

Oh?

BAKER'S WIFE

Oh, yes. Now, the Prince, what was he like?

#21 – A Very Nice Prince