

PLAYS FOR
NewAudiences

A DIVISION OF CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY

2400 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55404

Ever After

by

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For my mom, who always read me stories, put on shows with me in the living room, loved and believed in me. I love you very much.

Ever After was commissioned by Maor Performing Arts in January, 2020.

The original production premiered in July, 2021, produced by Maor Performing Arts and directed by Rachel Klein.

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Cast List

Snow White – *Governor, Head of Poison Control*
Rose Red – *Deputy Governor, Snow White's sister*
Irene – *Snow White's daughter*
Red Ridinghood - *Sheriff*
Big Bad Wolf – *Deputy*
Rumpelstiltskin – *Secretary of the Treasury*
Cinderella - *Head of FTBI, (Fairy Tale Bureau of Investigation,) department of espionage.*
Aurora - *Head of Social Programming, Diplomacy and Outreach*
Beauty – *Secretary of the Archives and Head Librarian*
Rapunzel – *Head of Security*
Alice in Wonderland
Cheshire Cat
Wendy
Pinocchio
Gretel
Jiminy Cricket - *Teacher*
Evil Queen
Magic Mirror
Raven*

Fairies

Tinkerbell
Thumbelina
Blue Fairy – *Deputy head of the fairy council.*
Lilac Fairy – *Vice deputy head of the fairy council.*
Red Fairy
Rose Fairy
Orange Fairy
Yellow Fairy
Green Fairy
Chartreuse Fairy
Azure Fairy
Indigo Fairy
Golden Fairy
Silver Fairy
Dark Fairy
Fairy Godmother (Glinda)* – *Head of the fairy council and keeper of the magic wand.*

School Teacher
Schoolgirl 1
Schoolgirl 2
Schoolgirl 3
Schoolgirl 4

* *The RAVEN and FAIRY GODMOTHER are played by the same actress.*

NOTE: *All characters can be played by actors of any gender – pronouns can easily be changed. The cast size is meant to be able to expand or contract depending on the needs of the production – each performer can play one role, or roles can be doubled, tripled, etc.*

Scene 1

IRENE *stands center stage looking out towards the audience. She's livid.*

IRENE

Mom, you won't believe what they said about you in school today!

A classroom appears behind her.

SCHOOLGIRL 1

Once upon a time there was a beautiful princess named Snow White. Her stepmother, an Evil Queen, was jealous at how BEAUUUTIFUL she was, so she sent a huntsman to kill her! Then Snow White ran into the forest where she lived with seven little men, then the Queen disguised herself and gave her a poisoned apple, which Snow White was silly enough to eat, even though she KNEW the Queen was trying to KILL her! Then she fell asleep and would have stayed that way forever except for a handsome prince who kissed her and woke her up! The End!

The rest of the class applauds.

IRENE

You take that back!

SCHOOLGIRL 2

What are you talking about?

SCHOOLGIRL 3

That's totes the story.

SCHOOLGIRL 4

And I think she told it REALLY well!

IRENE

You take back those horrible things right now!

SCHOOLGIRL 5

What horrible things?

SCHOOL TEACHER

That's enough, Irene. *(To SCHOOLGIRL 1)* That was a lovely book report. A little sparse -

IRENE

Tell her to take it back! *(To SCHOOLGIRL 1)* I'm warning you!

SCHOOL TEACHER

One more word out of you Irene and I'll have to speak with your mother!

IRENE

I hope you do!

SCHOOLGIRL 1

Would serve you right! I did a lot of research for this.

IRENE

AHHH!

IRENE starts to lunge for SCHOOLGIRL 1. The other GIRLS panic. The tableau freezes.

SNOW

That's how you got a black eye?

IRENE

No, that's how I got the bruises on my arms. The black eye was from when I tripped and hit my face on a locker when the teacher was taking me to the Principal.

SNOW

Irene!

IRENE

But you should see the other girl!

The school scene fades, and we're now in the Storyville City Hall in the Council Room.

SNOW

You're grounded.

IRENE

(Stepping to her) She started it!

RED RIDINGHOOD

You attacked another student?

IRENE

(Joyfully demonstrating) Using that famous Wolf Chop move you taught me Red!

RED RIDINGHOOD

Way to go, girl!

She gets a stern look from SNOW.

RED RIDINGHOOD

I mean...that was very irresponsible, and I hope you've learned your lesson. *(Privately)*
Actually that sounds pretty awesome!

BIG BAD WOLF

Why do you have to call it the Wolf Chop?

RED RIDINGHOOD

Because I invented it on you.

BIG BAD WOLF

But, Sheriff, I'm your deputy now. Can't we let it go?

RED RIDINGHOOD

Never. It's a monument to my glory days. Now come on, I need you to ruff up a witness.

The BIG BAD WOLF howls.

IRENE

I...retaliated...because she told that terrible...you're the Governor of Storyville! You lead the Great Escape! What about those things?

SNOW

I've explained to you...no one outside Storyville can know that.

IRENE

Why not?

SNOW

Because if they knew who we were...it could cause a lot of trouble. You weren't born in the Enchanted Realms; you don't understand the disaster -

IRENE

Well, then, why can't I go to school in Storyville instead of a whole town over with stupid NORMAL girls?!

SNOW

Because sooner or later you're going to have to learn how to live with normal people in the normal world.

IRENE

How come they know the ridiculous parts of the stories?

SNOW

You can't control what gossip gets spread around.

IRENE

But you say stories have power!

SNOW

They do. And because of that, sometimes you have to hold them back, for the good of everyone.

WENDY, ALICE, GRETEL, PINOCCHIO, JIMINY CRICKET *and the CHESHIRE CAT walk by in a group.*

IRENE

Why can't I go to school with them? HERE?

The group stops.

SNOW

Because they have certain...accommodations that need to be taken into account.

IRENE

I'm the daughter of a fairy tale legend in a school where no one believes you're real. I think that counts as needing accommodation.

GRETEL

Are you kidding?

PINOCCHIO

She's gotta be kidding.

WENDY

You really think you have it as hard as we do?

CHESHIRE CAT

She must be mad.

ALICE

I'm a hundred and fifty-five years old, forever trapped in the body of a child.

GRETEL

A hundred and fifty-five? Please. I'm two hundred and eight.

WENDY

I'm only a hundred and sixteen.

PINOCCHIO

And I'm twenty-one!

PINOCCHIO'S *nose grows.*

JIMINY

Pinocchio, when will you learn?

PINOCCHIO

It's not my fault.

Their nose grows more.

PINOCCHIO

You're our teacher, and conscience. Maybe you should be doing a better job.

JIMINY

I try as hard as I can. And that's no way to talk to your friend.

PINOCCHIO

That's how a girl talks to her conscience when it's being annoying!

ALICE

I think a girl and her conscience ought to be best friends.

GRETEL

And how's that worked out for you?

ALICE

Not well. *(She sighs)* I give myself very good advice. But I very seldom follow it.

GRETEL

Sometimes a hungry stomach trumps a conscience.

SNOW

See? Even they have problems.

WENDY

Why do we even have to go to school? No offense, Mr. Cricket.

JIMINY

To keep up appearances. Normal people come to Storyville too. And they can't see what looks like a group of children running around, or going to work

BEAUTY *enters.*

BEAUTY

Besides, you get to have fun, while the rest of us work a 9 to 5. Sometimes longer. Now run along. I need to talk with Ms. White.

CHESHIRE CAT

Come on. It's almost tea-time.

ALICE

It's your turn to pay.

CHESHIRE CAT

Is not.

ALICE

Is so.

PINOCCHIO

Is not!

Their nose grows more.

PINOCCHIO

Darn it!

WENDY, ALICE, GRETTEL, PINOCCHIO, JIMINY *and the CHESHIRE CAT* *exit, bickering.*

SNOW

You too, Irene.

IRENE

But mom!

SNOW

This sounds like official business. *(Handing her some money.)* Go have tea with the others.

IRENE

But all they talk about is the stock market, and the weather and they're always saying "back in the Enchanted Realm..."

RUMPLESTILTSKIN *enters.*

SNOW

And here I thought you wanted to go to school with them.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

In my day we used to eat little girls who didn't listen to their parents. Or leave them alone in a forest. Or sell them to a witch. With an oven.

IRENE

Oh, knock it off Rump.

RUMPLE *moves their hand and magically gives IRENE a little shove from across the room.*

IRENE

Hey!

SNOW

Go on, honey.

IRENE

You never listen.

IRENE *exits.*

Scene 2

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

The rest are on their way.

SNOW

Looks like the cavalry's been called. *(With a sigh.)* All right. Let's make this official.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

(As if performing an official roll call) Rumpelstiltskin, Secretary of the Treasury.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN *sits.*

BEAUTY

Beauty, Secretary of the Archives and Head Librarian.

BEAUTY *sits.*

SNOW

Who are we missing?

RED RIDINGHOOD, BIG BAD WOLF, CINDERELLA, ROSE RED, RAPUNZEL *and AURORA enter.*

ALL (sans SNOW)

The rest of the cabinet.

SNOW

The FULL cabinet? Why not call the whole fairy council as well, while you're at it.

All the FAIRIES enter.

FAIRIES

They did.

SNOW

What on earth is going on?

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

One minute dearie, let's do this officially.

SNOW

Is it that serious?

RUMPLESTILTSKIN *nods "yes."*

RED RIDINGHOOD

Ridinghood, Red. Sheriff, Head of Law Enforcement.

BIG BAD WOLF

Wolf, "Big Bad." Deputy.

CINDERELLA

Cinderella. Head of FTBI, (Fairy Tale Bureau of Investigation,) Department of Espionage.

RAPUNZEL

Rapunzel. Security.

AURORA

Aurora, Head of Social Programming, Diplomacy and Outreach. One of my many fairy gifts. Thanks guys!

FAIRIES

You're welcome!

RED FAIRY

Red Fairy. Passion.

ROSE FAIRY

Rose Fairy. Inspiration.

ORANGE FAIRY

Orange Fairy. Intellect.

YELLOW FAIRY

Yellow Fairy. Whimsy.

GREEN FAIRY

Green Fairy. Flora and Fauna.

CHARTREUSE FAIRY

Chartreuse Fairy. Bravery.

AZURE FAIRY

Azure Fairy. Rhyme.

INDIGO FAIRY

Indigo Fairy. Reason.

GOLDEN FAIRY

Golden Fairy. Prosperity.

SILVER FAIRY

Silver Fairy. The Elements.

TINKERBELL

Tinkerbell. I fix things. Sometimes. When I feel like it. Which I usually don't. But at least I have a name that isn't a color. Oh! And I just got my hair done isn't it darling?!

THUMBELINA

Thumbelina. I married into the family...I can't really do fairy things. But I sing good!

DARK FAIRY

I'm the dark fairy. *(A beat.)* It's not as diabolical as it sounds. I like nighttime. And I have a black cat.

LILAC FAIRY

Lilac Fairy. Kindness. Vice Deputy Head of the Fairy Council.

BLUE FAIRY

Blue Fairy. Dreams. Deputy Head of the Fairy Council.

ROSE RED

Rose Red. Deputy Governor. Take it away, sis.

SNOW

Snow White. Governor of Storyville and Head of Poison Control.

TINKERBELL

A much more necessary department than you would think.

LILAC FAIRY

Do you need us to clap for you again?

TINKERBELL

It might help.

They all give her thunderous applause.

TINKERBELL

Oh stop, stop. You're too kind.

They stop.

TINKERBELL

Ok, maybe just a little more. I'm feeling a bit faint.

They start again. SNOW shuts it down.

SNOW

Where's the head of the Fairy Council? Where's Fairy Godmother?

A long beat.

RED RIDINGHOOD

That's just it.

AURORA

We can't find her.

SNOW

How can you not find her? You can't lose a person. *(Correcting herself)* A fairy.

TINKERBELL

We didn't lose anybody.

BLUE FAIRY

She just...vanished...

Everyone looks at the **DARK FAIRY.**

DARK FAIRY

Don't look at me! I'm the Dark Fairy only out of color necessity. It is no reflection on my character. I'm not the EVIL fairy. How many times do I have to say it? My favorite things are sunshine, unicorns and glitter.

She throws some glitter.

DARK FAIRY

Black comes in sparkle too.

They all look at the **BIG BAD WOLF.**

BIG BAD WOLF

Oh come on! I haven't eaten a fairy in decades.

SNOW

Where were the security forces guarding the fairy chambers?

RAPUNZEL

(Looking at **RED RIDINGHOOD** *and the* **BIG BAD WOLF** *)* Yeah. I'd love to know that too.

RED RIDINGHOOD

Don't look at us! Godmother can take care of herself. She doesn't need us permanently posted outside her door. We got bigger wolves to skin.

The BIG BAD WOLF whimpers.

RED RIDINGHOOD

Sorry.

AURORA

Red's right. If someone kidnapped her they must be very powerful. Godmother was –

CINDERELLA

IS!

AURORA

The keeper of the magic we have left from the Enchanted Realm. She's stronger than any of us.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

Speak for yourself, dearie.

RED RIDINGHOOD

(Flexing her muscles) Yeah, magic ain't everything Sleeping Beauty.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

That wasn't what I was referring to.

SNOW

What exactly happened?

BLUE FAIRY

She went to bed early –

RAPUNZEL

We KNOW she was in her room?

ORANGE FAIRY

She was snoring.

CINDERELLA

Are you sure?

FAIRIES

We all heard it.

BLUE FAIRY

The next day when I went to call her for our morning meeting, the door was off its hinges and she was...gone.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

Her magic wand too?

BLUE FAIRY

Yes.

RAPUNZEL

No one heard anything?

TINKERBELL

Not a tink.

ROSE RED

The whole council could hear her snoring, but not one person could hear someone breaking and entering.

GOLDEN FAIRY

It's odd.

ROSE RED

It's a conspiracy.

AZURE FAIRY

Fairies always tell the truth.

TINKERBELL

Some of you.

INDIGO FAIRY

(To **TINKERBELL**) Your hair looks horrible.

AZURE FAIRY

See?

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

There could have been magic involved?

They all turn and look at her.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

Godmother may have retained the wand and, yes, things are...muted here. But most of us have inherent magic abilities. Some more than others.

GREEN FAIRY

Not enough for something like this.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

Don't be so sure.

CHARTREUSE FAIRY

Is that a confession?!

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

Nothing of the kind. But even a small amount of magic, when paired with the right motive, can cause a lot of trouble. Did anyone look into...HER.

The room grows silent.

RAPUNZEL

She can't get to us. That was the whole point of coming here. The barrier's in place. It's strong.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

And yet we managed to break through it to get here. (*A beat.*) And it's a lot easier to open the barrier from this side than kidnap a Godmother and her wand.

GREEN FAIRY

Who says it's easier from our side?

SILVER FAIRY

Look how many children used to fall into our world.

GOLDEN FAIRY

Point taken.

CINDERELLA

Do I need to go under cover? Do some espionage? Balls are a great way to get people talking...

BEAUTY

Wearing a fancy dress and glass slippers only works to disguise you once. The secret's out. We know it's you.

CINDERELLA

I wasn't wearing a ball gown and glass slippers to the last party.

BEAUTY

What were you then?

CINDERELLA

A candelabra.

BEAUTY

Then that whole conversation I thought I was having with...

CINDERELLA *starts laughing.*

BEAUTY

Ella! That's not funny!

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

I know I just handle the financials...but I think our first question should be, who has a motive to get rid of our dear Fairy Godmother?

They all look at each other.

SNOW

Aurora, Ella, you go around town and see what you can dig up.

Each character exits after they're given their assignment.

SNOW

Ridinghood, Wolf –

BIG BAD WOLF

Couldn't you please call me Big Bad?

RED RIDINGHOOD

How 'bout your full name? B.B. Wolfington the third.

BIG BAD WOLF

Wolf is fine.

SNOW

Set up camp outside the council building and don't let anyone in or out. Rapunzel I want your team checking for breaks in the barrier.

RAPUNZEL

On it!

BEAUTY

I'll go look through the archives. Maybe there's a detail in some story that might help.

RUMPLESTILTSKIN

If this is finished, I do need to get back to the stock market.

SNOW

Fine. Fairies...go...council.

Everyone is gone except for SNOW and ROSE RED.

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