

Side One

SCENE 1

STEPMOTHER Cinderella, where are you?

CINDERELLA I'm here, Stepmother

STEPMOTHER Where have you been? We've been calling and calling for you!

ORPHELIA Yes, calling and calling

CINDERELLA I was outside chopping firewood.

BABETTE I bet she was feeding the birds again.

ORPHELIA Feeding those nasty old birds before she feeds us!

CINDERELLA They're not nasty birds, they're beautiful.

STEPMOTHER Cinderella, in the future, I'd suggest that you finish all of your chores before you encourage some loathsome creatures to live on our property. Is that quite clear?

CINDERELLA Yes, ma'am.

STEPMOTHER Now then, since you are so late with breakfast, we'll go into town and eat.

BABETTE Oh, mother! (*happy*)

ORPHELIA Can we go to the inn? They have such large helpings.

STEPMOTHER You girls go and get ready.

ORPHELIA AND BABETTE EXIT

CINDERELLA Shall I get ready too?

STEPMOTHER Have you finished your chores this morning?

CINDERELLA Most of them.

STEPMOTHER ALL of them?

CINDERELLA No, ma'am.

STEPMOTHER Well, Cinderella, how could I possibly let you go then?

CINDERELLA Can't I finish them when we get home?

STEPMOTHER Then it would be time for your afternoon chores and you'll only get further behind. I think it would be best if you stayed home.

CINDERELLA Yes, ma'am

STEPMOTHER And don't pout, Cinderella, you know how I hate that.

CINDERELLA Yes, ma'am

STEPMOTHER If you had gotten up earlier and finished your chores you'd be able to go.

CINDERELLA I got up at 5:00

STEPMOTHER 'I got up at 5:00.' Don't whine. I hate that more than pouting.

CINDERELLA Yes, ma'am

STEPMOTHER If you got up at 5:00 and aren't done then you must be wasting your time and not really working. I'd suggest you think about that.
(Calls offstage) Girls, are you ready to go?

BABETTE (entering) Yes, mother, dear, I'm ready. But I had a terrible time finding my shoes. Cinderella was hiding them again.

CINDERELLA I put them in the closet after I finished polishing them.

BABETTE Well, they weren't there.

CINDERELLA I can't help that.

STEPMOTHER Oh, but you can, and you will! I want you to gather all the shoes in the house, polish them and put them back in the closet in an orderly fashion. Is that clear?

ORPHELIA (entering) Mother, are we going soon? I'm hungry!

STEPMOTHER Yes, dear. We're leaving right now. Come along girls.

ORPHELIA/BAB Good-bye Cinderella (laughing)

STEPMOTHER, ORPHELIA, BABETTE EXIT

SOME MOMENTS LATER A KNOCK AT THE DOOR