

Shriek, the tale of one, (scratch that) - two wicked witches and their cunning plans

LIGHTING SCRIPT

Act 1 Scene 1 (24 minutes of speaking)(54 minutes with songs not including scene changes)

Creepy sounding fairytale music. **CURTAINS CLOSED LIGHTS DOWN**

Narrator: Once upon a time in a land, far, far away, there lived a beautiful princess. Now, her father, the King, had lost his first wife in childbirth and so, when the beautiful princess was but a few years old, he decided to remarry, in order to provide a mother for the young girl. Now, as the story goes, and as you must already know, the woman he decided to marry had three daughters of her own who were not nearly (and this is only hearsay, you never heard it from me!) as beautiful as the Princess. Now all in the Kingdom of Far, Far away, loved that little girl as if she was one of their own, and she grew up to be even more beautiful. Our story begins on the eve of her sixteenth birthday.

CURTAINS OPEN LIGHTS UP. FULL LIGHTING ON THE PRINCESS, REST STAGE NOT AS BRIGHT

Dressing room Princess. She is wearing a simple under dress but a ball gown hangs up on a coat stand. There is a mirror with a dressing table. A maid fusses about.

Maid: Oh miss, look at you, all grown up.

Princess: Oh, I'm so excited! Do you think I'll get lots of presents?

Maid: Well you're the princess, of course you will!! And it's your big day! The day you come out! The day you become.....a woman *(sighs tearfully)*

Princess: Do you think I'll feel any different?

Maid: Well, when you become a woman, there are certain changes that happen in your body. You may feel moody, you -

Princess: Gross! No I know that! I meant when the kingdom officially recognizes me as a woman?

Maid: Well far as I can tell, the only difference is that you are now seen to be eligible to marry some poor bloke.

Princess: Some poor bloke? What's that supposed to mean?

Maid: Um, nothing Miss, promise, it was just a figure of speech.

Princess: Speaking of figures, don't you think that my figure is just perfect? *(considers her reflection in the mirror)*

Maid: Perfect, Miss.

Princess: And so perfect compared to my sisters.

Maid: Well that Anastasia could lose a bit.

Princess: A bit!! She should stop gorging on cream cakes. I've told her like ten thousand times, but she won't listen!

Maid: Well, Miss, to be tactful, most large folks won't stop eating if you tell them they're obese and to stop "gorging on cream cakes"

Princess: Why ever not? Wouldn't they want a perfect figure like mine?

Maid: Um.

Princess: Wow, I can't believe that I'm actually growing up tonight. And that I could soon be married. Oh, maid, I'm so excited, I could just die!

Maid: Now don't you be doing that, miss, you know your father holds out great hope for you.

Princess: Yes. I KNOW. "To once more unite the kingdoms by marrying a rich prince from a prosperous kingdom, that is mostly peaceful but also well armed in order to deflect any potential attacks" wada wada wada. (*mock yawns*)

Maid: That's what I meant. Oh Miss, I'm so excited for your birthday. Oh there'll be dinner, waltzing, sparkling wine -

Princess: Sparkling wine? Don't you mean champagne?

Maid: Well we ain't allowed to call it that no more since that Frog Prince declared that since they made it first, the name was theirs.

Princess: Ugh. Is he coming tonight?

Maid: Of course he is. Your father invited him personal like.

Princess: Well I won't kiss him!! I won't! He's all wet and cold and slimy and gross. I don't care if I have to drink "sparkling wine" for the rest of our lives, that prince is on the very bottom of my list!

Maid: Very understandable, Miss. But don't let your father hear you talking like that about sparkling wine. You know how posh he is. But I must say, I'm glad I'm not in your shoes, with that prince.

Princess: And there's the contagious warts thing as well. I mean, imagine if I kissed him and I got a wart on my nose? What would I do? I would be marred for life. I would be forced to become a nun, forever hiding behind a veil in order to conceal my ugliness. (*dramatically*)

Maid: Oh Miss, how many time have I told you, it's what's on the inside that counts! For beauty fades. Once you're past thirty, well it's all downhill from there.

Princess Cin: Oh, how old are you then, maid?

Maid: Never you mind! But I can tell you I was something of a looker in my youth. Why the boys w -...

Princess: Maid, there's just a few hours till my ball! MY ball.

Maid: Goodness me, look at me going on about old times! I suppose we'd better be getting you dressed. I'll call the entourage with your clothing and hairpiece! (*She rings a bell and three servants enter carrying various accessories, a hairdryer, straightening iron/curling tongs and a tin of hairspray.*)

Princess: Oh I do love my birthdays!

MAID LAUNCHES INTO "Sixteen candles by the Crests" (2 min 56)

Sixteen candles make a lovely light

But not as bright as your eyes tonight
(as your eyes tonight) (Oh)
Blow out the candles, make your wish come true
For I'll be wishing that you love him, too
(that you love him, too)

You're only sixteen (sixteen)
But you're my teenage queen (you're my queen)
You're the prettiest, loveliest girl I've ever seen
(I've ever seen) (OH!)

Sixteen candles in my heart will glow
For ever and ever for he'll love you so (for he'll love you so)

You're only sixteen (sixteen)
But you're my teenage queen (you're my queen)
Oh, you're the prettiest, loveliest girl I've ever seen
(I've ever seen) (OH!)

Sixteen candles in my heart will glow
For ever and ever for I love you so
(for he'll love you so)
For he'll love you so!!!

SHE IS INTERRUPTED at the repeat BY PRINCESS. Sound of CAR BRAKES

Princess Cin: Yeah, so what presents do you think I'll get?

Maid: ***(Bit put out)*** Well I'm not sure, miss.

Princess Cin: Oh come on, you must have heard something!

Maid: Well I did hear something about your sisters all banding together to get you something.

Princess Cin: Oh them! They couldn't get me something nice if they tried.

Maid: Well maybe give them a chance, miss.

Princess Cin: You forget the rules, maid. In this magical Kingdom of far, far away, things must run according to fairy tales. They are, well to put it mildly, not the beauties of the family.

Maid: No, Miss.

Princess Cin: There is always one beautiful sister.

Maid: Yes, Miss.

Princess Cin: And three ugly ones.

Maid: Naturally. It's been that way since the Kingdom was established.

Princess Cin: Would you say I'm ugly, maid?

Maid: Oh, no Miss.

Princess Cin: Then it's quite simple. They are my ugly sisters. Thus they cannot help but make life a life of drudgery and endless servitude and suffering. ***(dramatic)***

my

Maid: Oh miss! ***(reprimanding tone)***

Princess Cin: I heard that Prince Charming is coming? ***(nonchalantly but twirling hair)***

nervously)

- Maid: Well a great many Princes will be coming from the surrounding Kingdoms to seek your Father's permission to address you and your sisters.
- Princess Cin: Ugh. Well those three are welcome to whoever they please as long as I get my Prince Charming!! He's so hot!! See - I've collected all his pictures from the Far Far Away summer collection. *(Picks album off table and shows nurse)*
- Maid: Well he is nice looking, I reckon. Although I must say I prefer a larger man.
- Princess Cin: Nice looking!! He's the most gorgeous man on the planet! And he'll meet me tonight. Then we'll dance and fall in love and I'll be away from this life of drudgery and servitude forever.
- Maid: Yes, miss. But just remember, don't neglect your duties with the other princes, too.
- Princess Cin: Oh pish, I won't!! Now carry on with dressing me, maid. And this time, not so tight! And then I think you shall do my hair. I would like it up today, perhaps in the new style. And flowers. White flowers will do nicely.

LIGHTS SPOT ONLY ON PRINCESS

Lauches into Queen "Don't stop me now" Servants can do harmony pieces. (3.11)

Tonight I'm gonna have myself a real good time
I feel alive and the world it's turning inside out Yeah!
I'm floating around in ecstasy
So don't stop me now don't stop me
'Cause I'm having a good time having a good time

LIGHTS UP FULL STAGE TO REVEAL DANCERS AND CHOIR

I'm a shooting star leaping through the skies
Like a tiger defying the laws of gravity
I'm a racing car passing by like Lady Godiva
I'm gonna go go go
There's no stopping me

I'm burning through the skies Yeah!
Two hundred degrees
That's why they call me Princess Fahrenheit
I'm trav'ling at the speed of light
I wanna make a supersonic woman of me *(points at herself/reflection)*

Don't stop me now I'm having such a good time
I'm having a ball don't stop me now
If you wanna have a good time just give me a call
Don't stop me now ('Cause I'm having a good time)
Don't stop me now (Yes I'm having a good time)
I don't want to stop at all (1.28)

I'm burning through the skies Yeah! (1.50)
Two hundred degrees
That's why they call me - Princess Fahrenheit
I'm trav'ling at the speed of light
I wanna make a supersonic woman of me

Don't stop me don't stop me don't stop me

Hey hey hey!
Don't stop me don't stop me
Ooh ooh ooh (I like it)
Don't stop me have a good time good time
Don't stop me don't stop me
Ooh ooh Alright

I'm burning through the skies Yeah!
Two hundred degrees
That's why they call me Princess Fahrenheit
I'm trav'ling at the speed of light
I wanna make a supersonic woman of me. (points at herself in the mirror)

LIGHTS DOWN FOR SCENE CHANGE MUSIC
(Phantom of the opera)
THUNDERCLAP SOUND EFFECT
LIGHTS BACK UP SLIGHTLY DIM TO GIVE
MURKY ATMOSPHERE

Scene 2

Wicked witch's quarters. A small table with a picture in it of an old hag surrounded by lit candles stand stage right. The witch holds only a wand. The beast holds a pile of files which are popping and filled with papers which keep falling out and which he keeps on replacing.

Wicked witch: So are we ready for the ball tonight, beast?

Beast: Everything is ready, the way you asked, oh wicked witch. *(drops papers)*

Wicked witch: Good. Because this is one party she'll never forget! mmwahaha *(dramatic pause)*

Beast: Just one thing? Where are the invites? *(stands up with papers)* I've looked everywhere.

Wicked witch: Invites? INVITES??!!! Do you think that one such as I needs an INVITE?

Beast: Well, it's just that I was reading the other day, you know, in the Far away chronicle - lets see... I've got it here somewhere.. *(starts to awkwardly page through everything he is holding and drops stuff again)*

Wicked witch: Yes? *(taps foot impatiently)*

Beast: *(gives up)* Um, that they aren't going to be letting people through the gate without one.

Wicked witch: And do you think that I, THE wicked witch would stand in a queue of menials waiting my turn?

Beast: No your ladyship. But, -

Wicked witch: I didn't think so. Now. We will arrive late in order to make our Grand entrance so to speak.

Beast: How late? *(pulls pen out of pocket with one hand and holds it up to make notes)*

Wicked witch: On the stroke of midnight. We must obtain the blood from the child before she

turns sixteen in order to cast the spell.

Beast: What spell?

Wicked witch: The spell that will bring the whole castle under my rule, mwahahaha (*evil laugh*)

Beast: Yes my ladyship. But may I put it to you that perhaps, just perhaps we should go a little earlier, say ten to twelve or even quarter to?

Wicked witch: Quarter to? Quarter to? What kind of an entrance would I make if we were to arrive at quarter to?

Beast: Well, um, say your plan were to have a flaw in it, which (*hurriedly*) of course it doesn't, but just say something were to happen, would it not be prudent to arrive early in order to ensure that you extract the blood from the girl? (*wicked witches eyebrows raise and she points her staff at him*)

Wicked witch: Are you saying that my evil plan, mwahahaha, is not perfect?

Beast: (*In squeaky voice*) Oh no Wicked witch. (*In normal voice*) No, wicked witch! I was merely suggesting that we arrive a trifle early, that's all, begging your most supreme worships pardon, may the sun continue to shine out of your -

Wicked witch: Nonsense!! The wicked witch always appears at the stroke of midnight. That's what's supposed to happen.

Beast: I thought it was pumpkins that arrived at midnight?

Wicked witch: No you idiot! How many times do I have to tell you, they disappear a midnight, not appear!!!

Beast: But then what appears at midnight?

Wicked witch: I do. It'll be deliciously sinful.

launches into "It's a Sin by the Pet shop Boys" 3.52

When I look back upon my life
It's never with a sense of shame
I've always been the one to blame
For everything I long to do
No matter when or where or who
Has one thing in common, too

It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin
It's a sin
Everything I've ever done
Everything I ever do
Every place I've ever been
Everywhere I'm going to
It's a sin

At school they taught me how to be
So pure in thought and word and deed
They didn't quite succeed
For everything I long to do
No matter when or where or who
Has one thing in common, too

It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin
It's a sin
Everything I've ever done

Everything I ever do
Every place I've ever been
Everywhere I'm going to
It's a sin

Mother, forgive me, I tried not to do it
Turned over a new leaf, then tore right through it
Whatever you taught me, I didn't believe it
Mother, you fought me, 'cause I didn't care
And I still don't understand

So I look back upon my life
Forever with no sense of shame
I've always been the one to blame
For everything I long to do
No matter when or where or who
Has one thing in common, too

It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin
It's a sin
Everything I've ever done
Everything I ever do
Every place I've ever been
Everywhere I'm going to - it's a sin
It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin
It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin

Beast: Once it's all over, Wicked Witch, will you release me from my vows as promised?

Wicked witch: Oh beast, of course I will, Would I lie? *(in very evil cartoon voice)* mwahaha!

THUNDERCLAP. LIGHTS FADE

SCENE CHANGE MUSIC

LIGHTS UP FULL STAGE

Scene 3

Lights up on the three sisters. Anastasia is a rather large girl, Doris is skinny and scrawny with large ears and Drizella is completely average in looks but with the ability to clean up quite nicely if she wants to. Scene: Dressing room. A similar one can be used as in scene 1 with the odd thing changed to indicate a different room.

Anastasia: Do my boobs look too big in this?

Drizella: Don't worry, they won't notice them.

Doris: Compared to your enormous ass!! *(laughs)* *(Anastasia makes a wide "O" with her mouth and then looks furious)*

Anastasia: Well I'll simply hide behind your ears then.

Doris: Oh! *(similar shocked, then angry expression)*

Anastasia: Well at least I fill my dress with my feminine shape. *(puffing up bosoms)*

Doris: Feminine shape? More like pear shaped!!

Anastasia: OH!!!

Drizella: *(trying to divert their attention)* Well, I think you guys both look simply stunning!

Doris: We all know who looks stunning here and whose body can stun a man falling from 5 yards.

Anastasia: At least I don't receive radio signals in my sleep! I know you must, with your enormous ears.

Drizella: You're both so pretty, I really think so! (*running in circles round them*)

Doris: Pretty large!

Anastasia: Pretty music !! Oh listen! I can hear music!! Just turn slightly to the left, Doris!

Doris: OH!!!

Anastasia: Spawn of Dumbo!!

Doris: Beached whale!!

Drizella: GUYS! Prince Charming is coming!!!! (*To no one in particular as it is simply said to stop them fighting*)

Anastasia+Doris:What! (*Rush to window*)

Drizella: Oh yes. (*rolls eyes*)

Doris: I can't see him!

Anastasia: Neither can I.

Drizella: Oh well (*snaps fingers*) Must have just missed him.

Doris: Oh (*disappointed*)

Anastasia: Oh (*sad*) He's so hot.

Doris: I want to bear his children. All of them.

Anastasia: Me too.

Drizella: And maybe you will, later!! But for now, Anastasia I think if you were to wear that shawl I gave you with that it would look lovely and Doris, just wear your hair down! That way no one will notice your ears! Honestly, do I have to sort out everything round here!

Doris: Well I had better stand in front of her then so he can see me.

Anastasia: Oh yes!! That way your EARS will protect me from the breeze!

Drizella: Guys! Would you shut up for just a minute!! You're driving me crazy!

Launches into Stuck in the middle with you

Well I don't know why you wore that tonight
I've got a feeling that it's a bit tight
I;m so scared in case I fall through my chair
And I'm wondering how I'll fit down the stairs

Clowns to the left of me, jokers to the right
Here I am, stuck in the middle with you.

Well, I'm stuck in the middle with you
And I'm wondering what it is I should do

It's so hard to keep this smile off my face
Losing control, yeah I'm all over the place

Clowns to left of me, jokers to the right here I am
Stuck in the middle with you.

Well you make a fuss of nothing
And you put each other down, you do
And you both want your Prince Charming
I could tell you to shut up and say, Please, please!

Trying to find a dress for the ball
But I can't see one that fits you at all
Do you use your ears to cool you down?
At least you've got somewhere to balance your crown!

Clowns to the left of me, jokers to the right
Here I am, stuck in the middle with you.

(ARGUMENT)

Doris: I'm sorry, Drizelda

Anastasia: Forgive me!

LIGHTS FADE, MUSIC FINISHES **MUSIC CHANGE TO PACHELBEL CANON** **LIGHTS UP ON BALLROOM SCENE**

Scene 4

Lights up on the ballroom. A waltz is playing. A man or two men depending on the cast, stands on the stairs stage left to announce the guests

Announcer1: Their Royal Highness's, the Lord and Lady Muck!

MUSIC FADES

2 people enter speak to the Announcer and bow to the audience.

Announcer2: *(makes sniffing motions, drops to the floor near Lord and Lady Muck and then stands up)* Excuse me, my lady but you've got... *(points with finger at her foot.)*

Lady Muck: Pardon? *(loudly, brashly)*

Announcer 2: On your shoe, madam, you've got a little, um.....on your shoe. *(in whisper)*

Lady Muck: You'll have to speak up, I'm deaf! *(shouting)*

Announcer 2: *(louder but still quietly)* On your shoe, madam, you appear to have stood in, um something.

(Lady Muck looks blank and lifts the wrong foot and looks at him as if she doesn't understand)

Lady Muck: Honestly I don't know what you're talking about. *(To her husband)* Can't get good help these days!!

Lord Muck: I quite agree, my dear. Oh, you've got shit on your shoe.

They cross to stage right where they mingle.

Announcer1: Prince Valiant!

CUE PRINCE VALIANT MUSIC. *A sound of a horse galloping then rearing and neighing then the sound of brakes are heard followed by a trumpet blast. Prince Valiant enters, the very essence of masculinity. He carries a rose. He walks up the stairs, pinches the announcer on the bottom and goes across to mingle.*

Prince Valiant: Well, hello!!

Announcer2: And **he's** looking for a wife? I certainly don't believe it. (*rubbing bum cheek*)

Announcer 1: Little red from the Hood!

CUE LITTLE RED MUSIC *Little red enters clad in hip hop/ghetto gear. At least something she wears should be red. She should have lots of bling.*

Announcer2: Welcome Miss Hood

Hood: Yo, wassup?

Announcer2: All good , my dear, all good

Hood: Bitchin'

goes to mingle

Announcer1: Prince Abooboo!

CUE PRINCE ABOOBOO MUSIC *Prince Abooboo is poorly dressed.*

Announcer2: Lost the lamp again eh sir?

Prince Abooboo: I can't believe it either. It was such a sure thing too. Damn horse. Oh well, I'm sure my luck will change!

Announcer2: I'm sure it will, sir. (*shakes head*)

Prince Abooboo: So, um, any tips for tonight? Think I'll get lucky?

Announcer2: Going on your track record, I should say that the possibility is um, remote.

Prince Abooboo: Ah. Ok, any sure things?

Announcer2: Well you might try the Princess Anastasia. I believe she is to be found at the dessert table.

Prince Abooboo: You don't think I'll scare her off?

Announcer2: Not from the dessert table, sir.

Prince Abooboo: Really? Well I'll take a gamble then, shall I?

Announcer2: Take a malva pudding too, sir.

Prince Abooboo: Thanks, I will. (*crosses to the other side of the stage*)

DIM MAIN LIGHTS SLIGHTLY

Announcer1: The Fairy Tinkerbell!

CUE TINKERBELL MUSIC BRIGHT LIGHT TOP STAIRS

Voice: *(high pitched fast talking record slipping noise)*

Announcer2: *(To floor)* Yes I BELIEVE you're there! Now go inside where they can all clap their hands for you!

Voice: *(similar noise)*

Announcer1: The Prince of Darkness!

LIGHTS OFF SUDDENLY

Voice: Hey, who turned the lights off?

general shouting and panic

LIGHTS BACK UP FULL LIGHTING

everyone looks relieved. The Prince of Darkness is revealed

Prince OD: Sorry guys, side effect! When I get excited you know! *(In very proper Eton educated voice)*

Drizella: *(To Doris)* Who is that?

Doris: That, my dear sister, is the Prince of Darkness.

Drizella: Ooh, I love tall, dark, handsome men.

Doris: Although I wouldn't describe him as tall, exactly. *(looks as Prince mingling)*

Drizella: I suppose he's not gigantic.

Doris: Yes, who needs a tall man, when you can have a nice little one to rest your drink on?

Drizella: There is that.

Doris: Come to think of it, describing him as handsome, might be pushing it slightly.

Drizella: He's not that bad looking!

Doris: He's not that good looking either.

Drizella: Well at least he's dark.

Doris: Can't fault you there.

Announcer1: The Frog Prince and Royal Cushion carrier!!

CUE FROG MUSIC

A man enters carrying a red velvet cushion upon which is a plastic frog. It may also be played by someone made up to look like a man sized frog. He whispers to the announcer.

Announcer 2: The Frog prince wishes it to be known that he WILL be checking up on the er, sparkling wine but most importantly, any princess who wishes to kiss him may do so him in the large trout pond in the west courtyard.

King: *(Rushes forward)*. Ah good evening, Prince and welcome to our humble Kingdom.

Frog Prince: Ribbit.

King: Might I suggest that we retire to the smoking lounge and talk some business?

Frog Prince: Ribbit, ribbit.

King: *(walking with him across the stage)* I have a proposal for you, if you have one for one of my daughters, ha ha, regarding the use of the name champagne, a ha ha.

Frog Prince: Ribbit

King: Really? Well sir I must say you drive a hard bargain, but I'm sure we can come to some sort of agreement, eh? Now I have four daughters, each more lovely than the rest, each dying to kiss you!

Frog Prince: Ribbit, ribbit.

King: And while we're at it how about allowing us the real name for Cuisses de Grenouilles, eh? *(The cushion carrier stumbles, nearly dropping the Frog Prince in shock)*

Frog prince: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit!

King: Oh, I do beg your pardon!!!! An unforgivable breach of etiquette on my behalf.

Frog Prince: Ribbit.

King: Perhaps I can sweeten the deal, eh? We're both businessmen...

King, Frog Prince and cushion carrier cross room and exit stage.

Announcer 1: The Little Prince!! *(a small person enters or even a big doll/puppet)*

CUE LITTLE PRINCE MUSIC

Voice: *(should be a deep bass voice that doesn't match the size of the Little Prince at all)* So any tips for tonight regarding the ladies?

Announcer 2: Hmm, Princess Cin's dance card is pretty full and Princess Anastasia, well, I wouldn't risk it, to be frank. You might try Princess Doris.

Voice: I like my women sweet. Like my coffee.

Announcer2: Ah. Okay, moving on. Oh I've got it!! Have you met Tinkerbell?

Voice: No. Who is this Tinkerbell?

Announcer2: I believe a match made in heaven for you, sir. You'll find her with Prince Valiant.

Voice: Do I stand a chance against this Prince Valiant? Does she fancy him?

Announcer2: Prince Valiant? Oh, I would say that, um there's no contest there sir. I'm almost certain he bats for the other team.

Voice: Which team? The Proteas?

Announcer2: How do I put this? He's part of the rainbow nation.

Voice: He's from South Africa?

Announcer2: No, No, no, he, er, has a limp wrist?

Voice: Sports injury from the cricket? Barbaric, simply barbaric, these team sports.

Announcer 1: *(face palm)*

Announcer 2: Just go there sir. You'll get the girl. I can guarantee it.

LIGHTS OFF SUDDENLY

Prince OD: Sorry!! My fault!!

LIGHTS BACK UP TO FULL LIGHTS

Lights back up. The little Prince has already exited

Announcer: The Princess Cinderina having reached her majority is pleased to make her debut at this Royal Ball, held in her favor! All hail!!

All: Hail!!

CUE CINDERINA MUSIC

Enter Princess Cinderina in a ball gown. She must look magnificent. She is on her father's arm

Princess Cin: Greetings all and thank you for coming to my Royal Ball. And now, my Father the King to say a few words!

King: Welcome all, to this auspicious occasion of my young girl's majority. I'm sure you will agree with me, that she has turned out rather well. *(Cin curtsies and gives the royal wave)*

polite clapping

King: We also welcome all the Princes who have come from far away lands, to seek my daughter's hand. We would welcome an union with any of these fine Kingdoms and such a union will ensure another hundred years of peace and prosperity.