



BEAUTY & THE BEAST  
BY  
RICHARD HILLS

Extract

A SMITH SCRIPT

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# BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

A Pantomime

By

RICHARD HILLS

## CHARACTERS

<b>FAIRY BLOSSOM</b>	The good Fairy
<b>EVIL EDWINA</b>	A nasty Governess
<b>QUEEN MATILDA</b>	Queen of Mauritania
<b>KING HUMPHREY</b>	King of Mauritania
<b>PRINCESS BEAUTY</b>	Their daughter
<b>DAME CAMILLIA CATCHIT</b>	Dame
<b>BARON ARCHIBALD HADIT</b>	The nasty
<b>WILLIE CATCHIT</b>	Dame's big fat son
<b>MARY</b>	Maid to Princess Beauty
<b>TOM MEREDREW</b>	A young traveller
<b>PIP</b>	Works for the Baron
<b>SQUEAK</b>	Works for the Baron
<b>MOP</b>	Palace servant
<b>BRUSH</b>	Palace servant
<b>BEAST</b>	Bewitched Prince Charles of Carpathia

**CHORUS as:** Villagers, servants, guests, and courtiers at the Palace, slaves and servants to Edwina.

## DANCERS

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

### ACT 1

- Scene 1.** The village Square in Mauritania
- Scene 2.** Outside King Humphrey's Castle
- Scene 3.** Princess Beauty's Bedroom
- Scene 4.** Outside Baron Hadit Mansion
- Scene 5.** Princess Beauty's Birthday Ball

### ACT 2

- Scene 1.** The Enchanted Wood
- Scene 2.** On the way to the Castle of Evil
- Scene 3.** The Great Hall in the Castle of Evil
- Scene 4.** Outside King Humphrey's Castle
- Scene 5.** The Royal Wedding

## NOTES ON THE CHARACTERS

**Fairy Blossom.** Princess Beauty's Fairy Godmother, good, kind, but spends most of her time asleep, and relies on the children in the audience to help her.

**Edwina.** Evil Governess to Princess Beauty, She is jealous of her beauty and wants Prince Charles for herself. If she cannot have him, no one can.

**Queen Matilda.** A small regal part, every inch a Queen, she wants the best for her daughter.

**King Humphrey.** Pompous, robust, also wants the best for his daughter.

**Princess Beauty.** Principal girl who gradually falls for the Beast's kind heart.

**Camellia Catchit.** The Dame, played by a man, she is dying to meet Prince Charles, but ends up with making do with Baron Hadit.

**Baron Archibald Hadit.** The scheming Baron out for all he can get, ending up getting the Dame and not her rent money.

**Willie Catchit.** He is described by his mother as her poor little boy Willie. He is completely the opposite, big, fat, awkward and Mummy's little cry baby.

**Mary.** Princess Beauty's maid and a friend of the children she falls in love with Tom Meredew.

**Tom Meredew.** A young traveller meets Mary and falls in love with her and helps to search for the kidnapped Princess.

**Pip and Squeak.** The Baron's right hand Brokers men. They cannot get anything right.

**Mop and Brush.** Cleaners at the Palace, who flirt with and tease Willie.

**Beast.** Large cumbersome beast, with slow drawling speech, later becomes the young handsome Prince Charles of Carpathia.

## ACT 1

## Prologue

*(House lights fade out. White spotlight appears DR front of tabs as FAIRY BLOSSOM enters.)*

**FAIRY:** Hello, girls and boys! My name is Fairy Blossom. I have come to tell you the story of Princess Beauty. At least I was hoping to, unfortunately everything has gone wrong. Many years ago in the land of Mauritania, the clock in the tower stopped at five to twelve. No one since has been able to find the key to the clock tower. The time is still five to twelve and I haven't the power to change the time until the key is found. So our story has ended before it begins.

*(She exits DR. A green spotlight appears DL as EVIL EDWINA enters.)*

**EDWINA:** Hello everyone! I am Evil Edwina! I stopped the clock, shall I tell you why?

**AUDIENCE:** Yes!

**EDWINA:** Because I was nurse to Princess Beauty. I hated her being beautiful. Why should she be beautiful and happy when I had nothing? At midday Prince Charles of Carpathia was coming to ask her to be his bride. They didn't know he arrived early. I asked him to marry me, but he wouldn't, so I showed him the clock tower. When he was inside I locked the door. The clock stopped and the Princess never met her Prince. She never will.

**FAIRY:** *(Entering DR.)* So you are the one who stopped the clock!

**EDWINA:** Aren't I clever!

**FAIRY:** You may have stopped us going forward, but we can at least go back to the time the clock stopped.

**EDWINA:** What good will that do?

**FAIRY:** I might be able to save the day.

**EDWINA:** Not if I can help it.

**FAIRY:** We shall see! Shall we give it a try, girls and boys?

**AUDIENCE:** Yes!

**FAIRY:** Let us go back to the day the clock stopped. *(She waves her wand.)* Back to five to twelve! *(She exits DR.)*

**EDWINA:** You will regret this, all of you! *(She exits DL.)*

## ACT 1

### Scene 1

*(The curtains open on the Village Square. UR is the large clock tower, with a door and a clock above it showing five to twelve. UL is DAME CAMELLIA CATCHIT'S house.)*

*When the scene opens The KING and QUEEN are centre stage in all their pomp and glory. PRINCESS BEAUTY is DR and the CHORUS are positioned around them in their Sunday best clothes. They are singing "THE PARTY'S OVER". PRINCESS BEAUTY sings the solo part. At the end of the song, PRINCESS BEAUTY bursts into tears and runs off UR.)*

**QUEEN:** Oh, dear! What are we going to do?

**KING:** Go and console her, my dear.

**QUEEN:** It is too bad, that is all I can say! Too bad! (*She hurries off UR.*)

**KING:** My dear people! What can I say? Princess Beauty was looking forward to meeting her Prince. Such a mess! Such an upset!

**CAMELLIA:** (*Coming out of her house.*) Your Majesty! I hope I am in time?

**KING:** In time for what?

**CAMELLIA:** To meet the Prince.

**KING:** He hasn't turned up.

**CAMELLIA:** Well, it is only five to twelve.

**KING:** It has been five to twelve for the last six hours.

**CAMELLIA:** How time flies when you are getting made up. I must look my best for Prince Charles.

**KING:** What makes you think he would look at a face like yours?

**CAMELLIA:** If he likes the Mona Lisa, he is bound to like me.

**KING:** You are no oil painting. More like an old canvas cracked all over.

**CAMELLIA:** Thanks for nothing.

**KING:** If the Prince turns up, let me know. I will give him a piece of my mind, treading my daughter like this. (*He exits UR.*)

**CAMELLIA:** I didn't know he had a piece of his mind to give away. He was in a proper state.

**1<sup>st</sup> GIRL:** The Prince didn't arrive.

**CAMELLIA:** Perhaps he will turn up later.

**2<sup>nd</sup> GIRL:** Poor Princess Beauty.

**1<sup>st</sup> MAN:** Let's look for the key to unlock the clock tower and start the clock.

**2<sup>nd</sup> MAN:** Whoever finds it is bound to get a reward.

(*The CHORUS exit in all directions.*)

**CAMELLIA:** Find the key for the clock tower? I didn't know it was lost. (*She looks around and finds that they have all gone.*) Talking to myself? Anyone would think I am not all here. (*She sees the AUDIENCE.*) Oh look, a lot of little Cherubs! What are you all doing here?

**AUDIENCE:** Come to see the show.

**CAMELLIA:** So have I. Princess Beauty was to have become engaged to Prince Charles of Carpathia. By the time I arrived the party was over. I was hoping the Prince would call and see me. Be nice to have a man around.

**BARON:** (*Entering DR.*) Just the one I want to see!

**CAMELLIA:** You are the last one I want to see.

**BARON:** Dame Camellia Catchit, I have caught you just in time.

**CAMELLIA:** In time for what?

**BARON:** You owe me three year's rent. Pay up now or Pip and Squeak will throw you out.

**CAMELLIA:** Baron Archibald Hadit, shall I tell you something?

**BARON:** Tell me what?

**CAMELLIA:** You have had it!

**BARON:** That is what you have been saying for the last three years. This time it is too late. If you haven't paid by the time the clock strikes twelve, you are out.

**CAMELLIA:** That is a deal!

**BARON:** In five minutes then?

**CAMELLIA:** When the clock strikes twelve.

**BARON:** I will be back. (*He exits DR.*)

**CAMELLIA:** I must make sure that clock doesn't strike. (*She goes to the door of her house and shouts.*) Willie! Willie, come out here! (*She moves DS to the AUDIENCE.*) Willie is my little boy. Nice little chap, he wouldn't hurt a fly.

(*Willie comes out of the house, tucking his shirt into his trousers. He is tall and fat.*)

**WILLIE:** Did you call?

**CAMELLIA:** You have been in bed all morning. (*To AUDIENCE.*) Poor little chap, not very strong. The least little thing he catches.

**WILLIE:** What do you want?

**CAMELLIA:** See that clock, it has stopped.

**WILLIE:** (*Looking at the clock.*) Good, then I can go back to bed.

**CAMELLIA:** It is daytime not night. People are looking for the key to the tower.

**WILLIE:** They have been looking for three years.

**CAMELLIA:** If you find it, give it to me.

**WILLIE:** Why?

**CAMELLIA:** Because if the clock doesn't strike twelve we will not get thrown out. Go and look for it.

**WILLIE:** Oh, Mum! I have come over all poorly.

**CAMELLIA:** You will feel my hand on your bottom if you don't start looking.

**WILLIE:** Oh, Mum! (*He exits DL.*)

**MARY:** (*Entering UL.*) Hello, Dame Camellia! Have you seen Prince Charles?

**CAMELLIA:** No I haven't. I have been waiting three years to meet him.

**MARY:** Poor Princess Beauty is so disappointed. She has asked me to try and find him.

**CAMELLIA:** Perhaps he wasn't interested in her and went home.

**MARY:** Don't say that! They would have made a lovely couple.

**CAMELLIA:** If you find him, tell him I am going spare. (*She exits into her house.*)

**MARY:** (*To AUDIENCE.*) What can I do? I am only her maid. Surely he wouldn't desert her. They said he arrived early but no one has seen him for three years. What would I say if I met him?

## Song No 2

(*The music plays and she sings, "HEY THERE, YOU WITH THE STARS IN YOUR EYES". As she sings, TOM MEREDREW enters DL. He stands watching her and then joins in with the song. At the end of the song MARY turns to him.*)

**MARY:** Are you Prince Charles?

**TOM:** I am Tom Meredew. Who were you singing about?

**MARY:** Prince Charles of Carpathia.

**TOM:** Are you the Princess?

**MARY:** I am only her maid.

**TOM:** I thought you were the Princess. You look like a Princess.

**MARY:** Don't be silly. The Princess is beautiful.

**TOM:** So are you.

**MARY:** I can't stand talking to you. I have got work to do.

**TOM:** Let me help you.

**MARY:** I don't even know you.

**TOM:** I am just passing this way looking for work.

**MARY:** You can help look for the Prince.

**TOM:** He cannot be far away.

*(They exit DR. Edwina enters DL.)*

**EDWINA:** No one has a clue. The Prince is locked in the tower, and it is doing strange things to his shape. What was the most handsome man now looks ugly. No one can tell if he would come out man or Beast. *(She sweeps out DL.)*

*(The BARON enters DR, followed by PIP and SQUEAK.)*

**BARON:** Come along you couple of idiots.

**PIP:** Who are you calling idiots?

**BARON:** I am standing next to one. What did I say?

**PIP:** *(Looking at the BARON.)* I am standing next to one.

**BARON:** Throw that Catchit woman out on the street.

**PIP:** Not me! She threw me out last time.

**BARON:** Your turn, Squeak.

**SQUEAK:** Why do I get the dirty jobs?

**BARON:** Because you are always the last one on. Knock on her door!

**SQUEAK:** *(He knocks on her door, then runs and hides behind the others.)* I think she is coming out.

**CAMELLIA:** Who was knocking on my door?

*(The BARON and PIP point at SQUEAK.)*

**CAMELLIA:** So what have we here?

**BARON:** Time is up! It has gone twelve o'clock!

**CAMELLIA:** No it hasn't! It is still five to twelve!

**BARON:** My watch says ten past.

**CAMELLIA:** Your watch is wrong. We agreed that I would pay you when the clock strikes twelve.

**SQUEAK:** *(Looking at the clock.)* The clock is only five to twelve.

**CAMELLIA:** Ever been had? *(She exits into house.)*

**SQUEAK:** Ha! Ha! Ever been had?

**BARON:** What is the matter with him?

**SQUEAK:** Baron Hadit has HADIT!

**BARON:** I had it the day you two started working for me. We will go to see if the King can get it working. The sooner the clock is working, the sooner I get my money.

*(The BARON, PIP and SQUEAK exit DL. PRINCESS BEAUTY enters UL to DC.)*

**PRINCESS:** What has happened to my Prince? Three years gone by and no one has seen him. *(She looks at the clock.)* The clock stopped three years ago and it has never worked since. *(She tries to open the door of the tower.)* I wonder who has the key.