



A Fairy's Fairy Tale

By Mike Steele

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For my brother, Matt Steele.

**...Because it would just be weird to not see his name
printed somewhere in this script.**



I WISH...

A Fairy's Fairy Tale

By MIKE STEELE

CAST OF CHARACTERS (In Order of Appearance)

	<i># of lines</i>
CAROL.....sassy fairy who is fond of glass	155
FAIRY KINGsupervisor of the fairies	17
CINDERELLAclassic storybook heroine	29
MOUSE ONEmischievous rodent, leader	9
MOUSE TWOmischievous rodent	5
MOUSE THREEmischievous rodent	7
GEORGElovesick single dad	23
GEORGINAprecocious little girl	56
GEORGIEquiet little boy	1
DANpizza delivery boy	47
FRAN.....repairwoman	40
STAN.....vacuum cleaner salesman	31
OPTIONAL EXTRA MICEmischievous rodents	

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Scene One: Fairy Headquarters.

Scene Two: The living room of Cinderella's cottage, the day before.

Scene Three: Fairy Headquarters.

SETTING

Time: Once upon a not so long ago...

Place: In a not so faraway land...

The stage is set for the living room of Cinderella's cottage. There's a door UP CENTER that leads to outside, a doorway DOWN RIGHT that leads to the kitchen, and a window UP RIGHT with shutters that can open and close. A couch and coffee table are positioned CENTER. The cottage can be further decorated as desired.

Scenes taking place in Fairy Headquarters can be performed before the curtain. All that is needed is a high throne.

I WISH...

Scene One

1 AT RISE: Fairy Headquarters, played before the curtain. FAIRY KING sits upon a great throne.

CAROL: (*ENTERS hurriedly, disheveled. She has no wand, her glass tiara is crooked, and she only wears one glass slipper.*) I'm here.

5 I'm here.

FAIRY KING: You're late, Carol.

CAROL: I overslept. I was out well past midnight and didn't get to bed until—

10 **FAIRY KING:** I can see from your attendance record that tardiness is not typical behavior. Pity it happened today. The day of your performance review.

CAROL: Sorry, Mr. Fairy King... Your Highness... Boss...

FAIRY KING: I understand you're hoping to receive a bonus in your fairy pay.

15 **CAROL:** I've worked my tuchis off this year. Granted a lot of wishes.

FAIRY KING: I can see that. Your Wish Score is well above the median success rate for fairies across the land.

CAROL: Not to toot my own horn, but I figured.

20 **FAIRY KING:** So I can't help but question why a fairy who's so eager to earn a bonus would be out gallivanting the night before an important meeting with her supervisor.

CAROL: I wasn't gallivanting. I was working.

25 **FAIRY KING:** Past midnight? You're not an on-call fairy. You have a private practice. You can't honestly expect me to believe you had work to do in the middle of the night.

CAROL: More than you can imagine. Things got a little hectic when I visited my goddaughter, Cinderella. You know of her, I'm sure. It's actually an interesting story, if you'd like to hear it.

FAIRY KING: Go on.

30 **CAROL:** Okay. Once upon a time—

FAIRY KING: I thought you were going to tell me what you were doing last night.

CAROL: I am. You know I like to give things dramatic effect. So... Once upon a time, yesterday... (*BLACKOUT.*)

End of Scene One

Scene Two

1 LIGHTS UP on the living room of Cinderella's cottage. CINDERELLA sits on the couch, dressed in dirty, raggedy clothing.

CINDERELLA: (*Cries.*) Clean, clean, clean! All night long! I've finally finished, but now my clothes are a mess. I couldn't possibly go
5 out looking like this. I wish... Oh, I wish... (*There is a KNOCK on the door.*) Who is it?

CAROL: (*From OFF.*) It's your old bag of a godmother.

CINDERELLA: (*Opens the door.*) Godmother Carol!

CAROL: (*ENTERS UP CENTER, carrying a glass wand and wearing a
10 glass tiara and glass slippers. Hurried and totally self-absorbed.*)
Hi, Cind, I just popped over to borrow a cup of flour. I'm about to
bake something tasty. Tomorrow's the yearly performance review
for the fairies all across the land, and I get a bonus in my pay
if my review is sparkling. Every year, the Fairy King finds some
15 excuse not to give me a bonus. My spells were sloppy, or I didn't
grant enough wishes, or whatever. Well, I've been working hard,
and there's no way the Fairy King can deny me this year, but I figure
it can never hurt my chances to appeal to his sweet tooth and
bring a tray of mouth-watering brownies to the review. So you got
20 any flour? Gluten-free. The Fairy King only eats— (*Finally notices
CINDERELLA is crying.*) My child, what's the matter?

CINDERELLA: Oh... nothing.

CAROL: Can't fool me. Tell Godmother Carol what's up.

CINDERELLA: You know the big ball Prince Hector is throwing tonight?

25 **CAROL:** You mean the one at the palace?

CINDERELLA: That's the one.

CAROL: Oh, that's tonight, isn't it? Cind, why aren't you there? Prince
Hector's going to choose a bride from the guest list. He invited all
the fair young maidens in the land. You're a fair young maiden.

30 **CINDERELLA:** That's why I'm crying. Stepmother made me stay home.
She said, "Someone has to clean this pig sty, so don't even think
of going anywhere until this place is spick-and-span." And then she
left for the ball with my stepsisters.

CAROL: You mean to tell me your stepmother brought those scallop-
35 faced stepsisters of yours to a fancy shindig and left you at home?

CINDERELLA: She did.

CAROL: Prince Hector's never going to choose one of your stepsisters
to marry. Even if he doesn't mind his bride looking like a kneecap,
surely he wants a gal with a big heart. Your stepsisters are nasty
40 witches. And that's an offense to witches.

- 1 **CINDERELLA:** I've been scrubbing the floors all night. (*Indicates her clothes.*) Look how filthy I am now. If only I had a beautiful gown, I could go to the ball and enjoy myself a little.
- CAROL:** Have you forgotten who I am?
- 5 **CINDERELLA:** My Godmother Carol.
- CAROL:** (*Indicates the glass wand.*) Your "Fairy" Godmother Carol. My child, if you want something beautiful to wear to the ball, all you have to do is wish it.
- CINDERELLA:** Of course! And a fairy must always try her hardest to
- 10 grant every wish she hears.
- CAROL:** It's a job requirement. A fairy may not always succeed in granting a wish, but she must try. And I haven't missed a wish this entire fiscal year. I can smell that bonus coming. So... What are the magic words?
- 15 **CINDERELLA:** I wish I had something beautiful to wear to the ball tonight.
- CAROL:** Cinderella, your wish shall be granted.
- CINDERELLA:** But how would I even get to the ball? It's a far walk across the land to the palace.
- 20 **CAROL:** Wish a means of transportation.
- CINDERELLA:** I wish I had something to wear to the ball tonight, and I wish I had some way to get there.
- CAROL:** You're about to. (*Waves the glass wand in the air.*) With a wave of my magic wand— (*Shows the glass wand to CINDERELLA.*) —
- 25 made entirely of glass. They say glass is the new black.
- CINDERELLA:** Trendy!
- CAROL:** (*Indicates her glass tiara and glass slippers.*) I have a matching tiara and pair of slippers.
- CINDERELLA:** Transparent accessories are totally in this fall.
- 30 **CAROL:** I'm a sassy lass, and I'm fond of glass.
- CINDERELLA:** (*Laughs.*) Now... my wish?
- CAROL:** Right. To get you to the ball, I can conjure up a bicycle. Let's see... I'll need a spell. (*Waves the glass wand.*) Seeds of brown, and goo of yellow—
- 35 **CINDERELLA:** I wish...
- CAROL:** Don't interrupt the spell. I get overwhelmed when I've got too many wishes at one time. (*Waves the glass wand.*) Seeds of brown, and goo of yellow— (*MICE ENTER DOWN RIGHT, hurriedly.*)
- MOUSE THREE:** Excuse us.
- 40 **MOUSE TWO:** Passing through.

1 **MOUSE ONE:** *(To CAROL.)* Nice tiara... not! *(MOUSE TWO and MOUSE THREE EXIT UP CENTER. MOUSE ONE moves UP CENTER, turns, sticks his tongue out at CAROL, blows a raspberry, then EXITS.)*

CAROL: Well, he certainly has poor manners.

5 **CINDERELLA:** There are a bunch of stray mice running loose through the cottage. Stepmother says it's because I don't clean properly, but I know it's because she sleeps with her feet sticking out the window. When your toes smell like cheese, you're going to attract rodents.

10 **CAROL:** *(Looks out the window.)* Yes, I see some of them skipping around the garden of pumpkins out front. I'll fix those rude rodents and get you to the ball. New spell... *(Waves the glass wand at the window.)* All the gourds sit in a row, but make one pumpkin grow and grow. *(SPECIAL EFFECT: FLASH OF LIGHT outside the window.)*

15 **CINDERELLA:** *(Looks out window.)* Godmother Carol, one of those pumpkins is changing. It's turning into a...

CAROL: Carriage! You'll arrive at the ball with class. And that driver up front is a little mouse changed into a coachman. *(Indicates CINDERELLA'S clothing.)* Now, to get you out of those rags. *(Waves the glass wand at the window.)* Cinderella needs a dress that's certain to impress. *(SPECIAL EFFECT: FLASH OF LIGHT outside the window. A fancy gown appears in the window. [See PRODUCTION NOTES.]*)

25 **CINDERELLA:** *(Takes the fancy gown and closes the window shutters.)* Prince Hector will want to dance with me all night long once I put this on.

CAROL: You're going to knock his socks off.

CINDERELLA: Speaking of socks, I've got nothing to wear on my feet. Like I was about to say, I wish I had a beautiful pair of glass
30 slippers to wear to the ball.

CAROL: I don't even need to wave my wand for this wish. *(Slips off the glass slippers and hands them to CINDERELLA.)* Borrow mine. You're a size 11, too, right?

CINDERELLA: Thank you so much, Godmother Carol.

35 **CAROL:** All in a day's work, my child. Now, get a move on. *(CINDERELLA moves to the door.)* One quick thing, Cind. There's a slight glitch with spells when you turn produce into moving vehicles. The magic only lasts for one day. We're working on it at Fairy Headquarters, but be home by midnight because that's when your carriage will
40 turn back into a pumpkin.

CINDERELLA: I'll be home by midnight. I promise. *(Turns to leave.)*

CAROL: Wait! My brownies! The gluten-free flour!

- 1 **CINDERELLA:** In the cupboard above the sink. Help yourself. (*EXITS UP CENTER.*)
- CAROL:** (*To herself.*) I've granted every wish I've heard this year. The bonus will be mine! But just in case the Fairy King's not thoroughly
5 impressed... time to bake. (*EXITS DOWN RIGHT. MOUSE ONE ENTERS UP CENTER, slams the door behind him, and hides behind the couch. CAROL ENTERS DOWN RIGHT, carrying a bag of flour.*) Who was that? (*EXITS DOWN RIGHT. MOUSE TWO ENTERS UP CENTER, slams the door behind him, and hides behind the couch.*
10 *CAROL ENTERS DOWN RIGHT, carrying an electric egg beater. To herself.*) I must be hearing things. (*EXITS DOWN RIGHT. MOUSE THREE ENTERS UP CENTER, slams the door behind him, and hides behind the couch. CAROL ENTERS DOWN RIGHT, carrying a tray of brownie batter.*) Okay, what's going on in here?
- 15 **MOUSE ONE:** (*From behind the couch.*) Nothing.
- CAROL:** Oh. Nothing. (*Begins to leave. Realizes.*) Wait a minute. If there's nothing going on here, who's answering me?
- MOUSE ONE:** (*Rises from behind the couch.*) We're back! (*MOUSE TWO and MOUSE THREE also rise up.*)
- 20 **CAROL:** (*Places the tray of brownie mix on the coffee table.*) Rotten little creatures! Get out of here! Shoo! Shoo! (*Chases MICE around the couch. As each MOUSE passes the coffee table, he dips a finger into the brownie batter and tastes it.*)
- MOUSE THREE:** Scrumptious!
- 25 **MOUSE TWO:** (*Tastes.*) Delicious!
- MOUSE ONE:** (*Tastes.*) Blah! Needs more gluten.
- CAROL:** Keep your paws out of my batter! (*MOUSE TWO and MOUSE THREE EXIT DOWN RIGHT. MOUSE ONE moves DOWN RIGHT, turns and sticks his tongue out at CAROL, blows a raspberry, then EXITS.*)
30 I'm making a wish of my own. I wish I could get rid of those mice. There's now one wish on my wish list. Shoo the mice! (*Moves DOWN RIGHT.*) I'm going to put a spell on you all that'll have you moonwalking right on out of here. (*Waves the glass wand.*) Precious goblets, magic noodles, make those vermin— (*There's a KNOCK on the door.*) Who is it?
- 35 **GEORGE:** (*From OFF.*) It's Neighbor George.
- CAROL:** Neighbor who? (*Opens the UP CENTER door. GEORGE ENTERS.*) Can I help you?
- GEORGE:** You're not Cinderella.
- 40 **CAROL:** Nope, and never have been. Cinderella's out trying to snag a prince. I'm her Fairy Godmother, Carol.
- GEORGE:** I'm Cinderella's neighbor, George.

1 **CAROL:** That much I got already. Can I help you with something?

GEORGE: I was hoping Cinderella would be here. She's my go-to babysitter. I need someone to look after my kids while I go to the ball. (*GEORGINA and GEORGIE ENTER UP CENTER.*) This is
5 Georgina, and that's Georgie.

CAROL: Cute.

GEORGE: Say, maybe you could look after them? It would give me a chance to get to the ball.

CAROL: Prince Hector's looking for a princess. You've got real cute
10 eyelashes, George, but I don't think you fit the bill.

GEORGE: I'm a single dad looking for love myself. Or at least looking for a gal to go on a date with. What better place to meet a fair young maiden than at a ball attended by a whole handful of fair young maidens?

15 **CAROL:** Makes sense.

GEORGE: You wouldn't want to do me a little favor, would you?

CAROL: No can do, George. I've got a whole mess of things to get done around here.

GEORGE: Georgina is very helpful, and Georgie is as quiet as a cotton
20 ball.

GEORGINA: (*To CAROL.*) Your tiara is pretty. Ain't that right, Georgie?
(*GEORGIE nods.*)

CAROL: Thanks. I'm a sassy lass, and I'm fond of glass. Look, you kids seem nice and all, but it's a busy night for me.

25 **GEORGE:** Darn! I wish I could find someone to watch the kids while I go to the ball.

CAROL: Crud.

GEORGE: Crud?

CAROL: You wished. A fairy must always try her hardest to grant every
30 wish she hears. It's a job requirement.

GEORGE: Then you can help me out?

CAROL: There's no one else around to babysit, so...

GEORGE: Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

CAROL: But you better be back as soon as that ball is over.

35 **GEORGE:** Agreed. And the kids will bring about no trouble. (*SOUND EFFECT: LOUD SNEEZE and RUMBLE. ALL stagger for a moment as if the ground is shaking. SPECIAL EFFECT: WINDOW SHUTTERS BLOW OPEN.*)

CAROL: What was that hot gust of wind? (*Looks out the window. Then, shocked.*) There's a dragon in the front yard!
40

- 1 **GEORGINA:** A fire-breathing dragon. Her name is Chloe. (*CAROL closes the window shutters.*)
- GEORGE:** (*To CAROL.*) Georgina and Georgie won't go anywhere without their pet dragon. Chloe must have the sniffles today.
- 5 **GEORGINA:** She's allergic to pumpkins. Maybe she should come inside.
- CAROL:** (*Indicates GEORGINA and GEORGIE. To GEORGE.*) No trouble, huh? (*To GEORGINA.*) Chloe and her fiery allergic reactions can stay outside. (*To GEORGE.*) And, George, be back by midnight, or
- 10 I'm charging you time-and-a-half for this babysitting gig.
- GEORGE:** (*To GEORGINA and GEORGE.*) Bye, kids.
- GEORGINA:** Have fun at the ball, Daddy! (*GEORGIE waves. GEORGE EXITS.*)
- CAROL:** Well, I'm not much of a caretaker. There's the couch. Make
- 15 yourselves at home.
- GEORGINA:** But you're our babysitter. Aren't you going to sit with us?
- CAROL:** I've got work to do. I hope you brought some video games to keep yourselves occupied.
- GEORGINA:** I want you to tell me a story. (*GEORGIE rubs his stomach.*)
- 20 And Georgie wants a snack. Ain't that right, Georgie? (*GEORGIE nods.*)
- CAROL:** (*To GEORGIE.*) Do you like brownies? (*GEORGIE nods. Indicates the tray of brownie batter on the coffee table.*) I'm about to bake some. And the faster you let me, the faster you get something to
- 25 eat.
- GEORGINA:** If you're a fairy, why don't you just say some kind of spell and make the brownies appear out of thin air?
- CAROL:** Everyone knows brownies taste better when they're homemade. Now, let me get that batter into the oven. And then
- 30 I have to attend to the one item on my wish list—shoo the mice. (*GEORGIE rubs his stomach.*)
- GEORGINA:** Georgie wishes he could have a snack right now. Ain't that right, Georgie? (*GEORGIE nods.*)
- CAROL:** A wish! Now there are two items on my wish list. Shoo the
- 35 mice. And make a snack. Okay. I'll generate a quick bite to eat. (*To GEORGIE.*) Do you like Danish? (*GEORGIE nods. Waves the glass wand.*) Tooth of stone and hair of mud, bring young Georgie—
- (*SOUND EFFECT: LOUD SNEEZE and RUMBLE. ALL stagger for a moment as if the ground is shaking. SPECIAL EFFECT: SHUTTERS OPEN. CAROL stumbles behind the couch and drops the glass wand.*)
- 40 (*SOUND EFFECT: GLASS BREAKING.*) My wand! Shattered to bits!

- 1 **GEORGINA:** Poor Chloe. Her sinuses are full of pumpkin dust.
- CAROL:** Poor Chloe? What about poor me?! My wand is ruined.
- GEORGINA:** That's what happens when you drop a glass wand.
- CAROL:** I'm a sassy lass, and I'm fond of glass.
- 5 **GEORGINA:** You know, you could have gotten a wand made out of brass, and it still would have fit into your rhyme. It's hard to break a brass wand.
- CAROL:** That's beside the point. (*Picks up broken pieces of the glass wand.*) I won't be able to perform any magic until I can get these
- 10 pieces to the magic shop for a tune up. How will I ever shoo the mice that are running around the cottage without the help of magic? (*Closes the shutters.*)
- GEORGINA:** Me and Georgie can help you catch the mice. Ain't that right, Georgie? (*GEORGIE nods.*)
- 15 **CAROL:** I was chasing them earlier. They're too fast to catch.
- GEORGINA:** Well... we can spread out. If the mice come in here, I can stand at one end of the room, and Georgie can stand at the other. Then, no matter which way the mice run, one of us will be nearby to snatch them up.
- 20 **CAROL:** It could work.
- GEORGINA:** While we wait, you should tell me a story.
- CAROL:** Maybe later, if there's time.
- GEORGINA:** But I want you to tell me a story now.
- CAROL:** And I want to bake my brownies now. (*Looks around.*) Who's
- 25 in charge? Oh! Me! I win!
- GEORGINA:** I wish you'd tell me a story right now.
- CAROL:** You sure know how to play your wishes. Three items on my wish list. Shoo the mice. Make a snack. And tell a story.
- GEORGINA:** Right now.
- 30 **CAROL:** Right now. (*Sits on the couch. GEORGINA and GEORGIE follow.*) Let's see... What kind of story do you want to hear?
- GEORGINA:** You're a fairy. How about a fairy tale?
- CAROL:** A fairy tale? A fairy tale... Once upon a time, there was a beautiful fairy who peeked in on a woodcarver as he sat lonely and
- 35 depressed in his cottage. The woodcarver got on his knees and wished for a son and—
- GEORGINA:** *Pinocchio*. We already know the ending. Ain't that right, Georgie? (*GEORGIE nods.*)
- CAROL:** Okay. Hmm... Once upon a time, there was a nasty, evil
- 40 fairy. She was so nasty and evil that no one in the land liked her

PRODUCTION NOTES

PROPERTIES ON STAGE

Fairy Headquarters: High throne.

Cinderella's Living Room: Couch, coffee table, other home furnishings as needed. Hidden behind the couch are broken pieces of a glass wand and a tray of brownies.

PROPERTIES BROUGHT ON

Scene Two:

Bag of flour, electric egg beater, tray of brownie batter, money
(CAROL)

Pizza in a pizza box (DAN)

Cell phone (GEORGIE)

Wire (MOUSE TWO, MOUSE THREE)

Wrench, new wire (FRAN)

Vacuum cleaner (STAN)

Tool belt (MOUSE ONE)

SOUND EFFECTS

Loud dragon sneezes, rumblings, crash, glass breaking.

LIGHTING EFFECTS

Spotlight, special lighting for magic outside window (dress appearing, dragon sneeze).

COSTUME SUGGESTIONS

FAIRY KING wears a crown and royal robes.

CAROL might wear a flashy outfit in Scene Two with a coat over the top in Scenes One and Three. Her costume includes a glass tiara, glass slippers, and a glass wand.

CINDERELLA begins in dirty, raggedy clothing, then appears at the end of Scene Two in a fancy gown and one of Carol's glass slippers.

MICE can be done minimally, with actors in grey t-shirts and jeans or sweatpants with a tail pinned on, mouse ears on a headband, and whiskers drawn on. Of course, they can be in a full mouse costume if desired.

GEORGE wears a tuxedo. GEORGINA wears a jumper and blouse. GEORGIE wears shorts and a t-shirt.

DAN wears a food service uniform of khakis, a polo shirt, and a baseball cap. FRAN wears coveralls with a tool belt. STAN wears a suit.

FLEXIBLE CASTING

All characters other than CAROL, CINDERELLA, and GEORGE can be changed to the opposite gender to meet individual production needs with simple changes in name and use of pronouns.

SPECIAL EFFECTS

This play calls for a few minor illusions that are easily staged on any budget.

Toward the beginning of Scene Two, CAROL makes a fancy gown appear in a window. Once CAROL waves her wand and casts a spell, someone backstage can dangle the gown in the window's opening or toss the gown onto the windowsill.

Multiple times throughout Scene Two, a never-seen fire-breathing dragon named Chloe sneezes and blows the window shutters open. Someone backstage can simply push the shutters open. Optionally, the use of a fog machine will give the illusion that Chloe has created some hot air.

Toward the end of Scene Two, multiple mice are scorched by Chloe's fire-breath. The dialogue alerts the audience that the mice have felt the flames, and no visible sign of fire is necessary. However, if an interesting lighting cue takes place, the actors can quickly brush their faces with charcoal-colored powdered makeup (kept hidden in their pockets until this moment). When the lights return to normal, their faces will appear scorched.

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