STEPMOTHER

(sidling up)

In BLOOD.

BETANY & BELINDA SCENE

NARRATOR

START The children… how could she do this to them?!? Cinderella was our most popular tale!

BETANY

It was?!?

BELINDA

Go us!

STEPMOTHER

You just need another girl to play her.

NARRATOR

But there *are* no other girls! She's taken ALL of them!

STEPMOTHER

Well not ALL of them.

BETANY

Gosh, she really has…

BELINDA

What a tragedy.

STEPMOTHER

Girls.

BELINDA

Can we get her back?

BETANY

Ooh great idea! What if we sent—

ost popular tale!

STEPMOTHER

(cutting her off)

The Huntsman!

BETANY

Why would we send him? Given his track record.

STEPMOTHER

WE DO NOT WANT CINDERELLA BACK THAT IS WHY WE ARE SUGGESTING HIM.

BETANY

Ah, clever, mother!

STEPMOTHER

We just don't want him to send—

BELINDA

CHARMING!

NARRATOR

(taking her idea)

I've got it! Charming! (skip to pg 86)

(then)

I shall send Prince Charming! He probably already has a plan! After all, this is a prince who knows how to perform under pressure!

Lights on PRINCE CHARMING, PRINCE ERUDITE rubbing his shoulders.

PRINCE CHARMING

That's too much pressure. Ugh, and now it's not enough. How could Cin do this? I mean, how selfish can a princess be?! Who am I supposed to kiss now?!? Who's going to tuck me in? Who is going to scratch the very middle of my back?!?!?

PRINCE ERUDITE

Your highness... I too have a problem. It's a matter of the heart. You know the speech you give, at the ball, about love at first sight?

(off PRINCE CHARMING's "bleck")

Well, I believe it may have happened to me.

PRINCE CHARMING

You sly dog! What's her name?

PRINCE ERUDITE

… his.

PRINCE CHARMING

Oh… my friend. I can't say that I blame you, nor am I surprised, but sadly my beanstalk—which is giant—is not for—I can cut

PRINCE ERUDITE

It isn't you.

PRINCE CHARMING

Of course it is.

PRINCE ERUDITE

It isn't.

PRINCE CHARMING

But it is.

PRINCE ERUDITE

(realizing)

I have to go find him.

PRINCE CHARMING

Wait, what? No! You can't leave too!

NARRATOR enters, with STEPMOTHER and STEPSISTERS in tow.

Re-start →

NARRATOR

Charming! We need you to save the day, and get back Cinderella.

PRINCE CHARMING

(jumping up)

On it!

(then)

How.

adly my

STEPMOTHER

Exactly. It's useless. We'll have to find a replacement girl, go to Plan B. B... hmm, what girl names start with B?

BELINDA

Belle!

NARRATOR

(considering)

Possibly.

BETANY

Beauty?

NARRATOR

Interesting...

BELINDA

Baba Yaga?

STEPMOTHER

GIRLS.

NARRATOR

(deciding)

No, we stick with Plan A. A as in "AS IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN." We're not *changing* things.

PRINCE CHARMING

Here for that. In Plan A, I save the day by giving Cin her slipper back. But she has them both already. What else could I give her?

BETANY

An ultimatum?!?

NARRATOR

A piece of MY mind?!?

STEPMOTHER

A lobotomy?

BELINDA

(stepping up)

Your full attention. Just listen to her. Show her that you care what SHE has to say.

EVERYBODY stares. Huh.

BETANY

That was, wow, B. Oh! Belinda starts with B, mom!

STEPMOTHER

So does "boiled her daughters alive." END

NARRATOR

(re: BELINDA)

Do… what she said. Go.

PRINCE CHARMING

At your wish! And with that, I am off to bring back Cinderella's heart…

EVERYBODY leaves except STEPMOTHER, who stops PRINCE CHARMING as he's exiting.

STEPMOTHER

Oh Charming! You're so brave. To even attempt this! What's the plan? Just out of curiosity! I want to help you! If I can!

PRINCE CHARMING considers, then repeats what Belinda said, verbatim.

PRINCE CHARMING

I'm going to give Cin my full attention. Listen to her. Show her that I care what *she* has to say.

STEPMOTHER

(recoiling)

Oof.

PRINCE CHARMING

What? Not good?

Charmi
Rejectec
cruel. W
gain. Ha

(hmn

I wonde

No no nc

If you co

(lightb

Together!

YES! Oh,
I honestly

Really?

Would I lie

#15 – 3

I just put tw

And got?

THREE!