



West Bay Opera Association
The Holt Building
221 Lambert Avenue
Palo Alto, Ca. 94306



Cinderella

By Gioachino Rossini

(Story to be read by Primary Readers)

Cinderella is a young girl who lives with her father and two stepsisters. She is very kind to her sisters, but they are mean to her. They treat her like a servant and make her do all the work in the house.

A messenger comes to their house to say that the Prince is coming soon. The prince will take the daughters of the house to a fancy ball. He will choose his bride at the ball. Each stepsister is sure that she will win, and they act very silly. Their father thinks he will become very rich if the Prince marries one of his daughters.

The Prince arrives, dressed as a servant. He wants to see what the girls are truly like without knowing that he is a Prince. Cinderella is nice to him, but the stepsisters are not. They think that he is only a servant. Cinderella's father says that Cinderella is not his daughter and tells her that she must stay home and cannot go to the ball. She is very unhappy.

After they leave, Alidoro, the Prince's teacher, comes to tell Cinderella that she will go the ball in a beautiful dress. He warns her that she must leave the ball by midnight. When she arrives at the Palace, everyone is amazed to see this beautiful girl and wonders who she is. Even her stepsisters don't know her. The Prince dances with Cinderella and falls in love with her.

When she hears the bells ring at midnight, she runs from the Palace, and one of her slippers falls off. The Prince knows that he must find the owner of this slipper so that he can marry her.

The next day the Prince and his servant go to every house in the village to find the owner of the slipper. The two stepsisters try so very hard to fit into the slipper but their feet are too big! The Prince sees Cinderella and recognizes her AND the slipper fits her foot! The Prince takes Cinderella to his Palace to marry her. After the wedding, Cinderella is very kind to her father and her stepsisters. She asks them to love her, and forgives them for being so mean to her.