

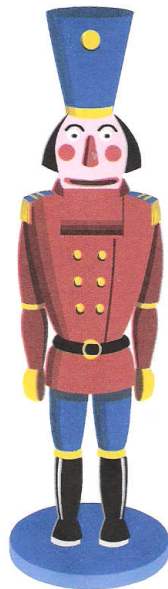


Playstage

Junior

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THE STORY OF THE NUTCRACKER



A MAGICAL PLAY FOR CHRISTMAS



Written by

LYNN

BRITNEY

THE STORY OF THE NUTCRACKER

CAST LIST

HE KING

THE QUEEN

THE MOUSE KING

MICE (4 speaking parts)

DR. DROSSELMEYER

KARL DROSSELMEYER (his nephew)

MR STAHLBAUM

MRS STAHLBAUM

CLARA (their daughter)

FRITZ (their son)

HEIDI

CHILDREN AT THE PARTY

TOY SOLDIERS

SNOWFLAKES

THE SUGAR PLUM FAIRY

SWEETS

***15 solo speaking parts, (Other Children have unscripted speaking)
unlimited non-speaking, dancing and action parts.***

THE STORY OF THE NUTCRACKER

SCENE 1.

The Palace Throne Room. The night before Christmas Eve. The King and Queen are sitting on their thrones. Dr Drosselmeyer and his nephew Karl are standing before them, holding a tin each. Karl is dressed as a soldier.

KING

The Palace is overrun with mice. They are terrorizing everyone.

QUEEN

We can't sit down to eat, we can't go to bed, we can't take a bath, without these terrible mice appearing and frightening us all.

KING

So we have called you here, Dr Drosselmeyer, as you are a famous magician, to see if you can make these dreadful creatures go away.

DROSSELMAYER

I understand your Majesties and I shall do my best. My nephew Karl and I have brought some magic cheese, which we shall leave out for the mice to eat. It will make them so frightened that they will never come into the Palace again.

KING

Splendid! That sounds perfect.

DROSSELMEYER

If you would like to leave the Throne Room, Your Majesties, Karl and I will put the cheese in place and hide ourselves.

QUEEN

Yes, we shall leave at once. Come, my dear.

(The King and Queen leave. Drosselmeyer and Karl open their tins and take out two plates of cheese, which they place on the two thrones.

They then hide behind the thrones and wait. Some mice come in.)

1st MOUSE

Mmmm! I smell cheese!

2nd MOUSE

So do I. Delicious Edam.

3rd MOUSE

Where is it? Where is it?

4th MOUSE

Over there, on the thrones. Quick!

(The Mice run to the cheese and begin to eat. The Mouse King comes in. He is carrying a long staff.)

MOUSE KING

What are you all eating?

1st MOUSE

Oh your Mouseship, it's some beautiful cheese. It was left here on the thrones.

MOUSE KING

Left on the thrones? How many times have I told you? Humans leave cheese out to try and poison us. You should never eat such things. You should only steal food that you have seen the humans themselves eating.

2nd MOUSE

Oh no, your Mouseship. It's is not poisoned cheese. It's very tasty. Try some.

MOUSE KING

No, I will not. It could be a slow-acting poison. This is foolishness.

3rd MOUSE (*dropping to its knees*)

Suddenly, I am so frightened of this dreadful place! Take us away, Your Mouseship! Take us away!

4th MOUSE

Ooh! I'm shaking like a leaf! I've never been so frightened!

1st MOUSE

Me too! Me too! I want to get out of here!

2nd MOUSE

I never want to live in this Palace again! Let me get out into the fresh air!

(All the Mice start crying loudly and run out.)

MOUSE KING

What on earth is happening? My mice have never been frightened of anything before. This is some terrible magic, I'm sure.

DROSSELMAYER (*Appearing from behind the throne*)

How right you are, Mouse King. This cheese has a spell on it and your mice will never set foot in this Palace again.

MOUSE KING

Drosselmeyer the magician! I might have known!

KARL *(appearing from behind the other throne)*

Yes! Dr Drosselmeyer, the cleverest magician in the kingdom. You have lost this time, Mouse King.

MOUSE KING

Lost, have I? Dr Drosselmeyer is not the only one who can cast spells. I shall have my revenge for this! You shall regret this, Drosselmeyer!

(The Mouse King whirls round and points his staff at Karl. There is a sound effect and Karl staggers backwards, behind the throne, crying out in pain. Drosselmeyer runs to where Karl has fallen and pulls out a nutcracker doll.)

DROSSELMAYER

Karl! Karl! What has he done to you!?!?

MOUSE KING

I have turned your handsome nephew into an ugly nutcracker.

DROSSELMAYER

Turn him back at once, you evil rodent!

MOUSE KING

The spell is cast, I cannot undo it. It can only be broken if you find a girl who will love the nutcracker. But you will never find a girl who will love that ugly thing. Girls like beautiful dolls, not hideous nutcrackers.

(The Mouse King runs off laughing, leaving Drosselmeyer holding the doll.)

DROSSELMEYER

What shall I do? My magic will not work to undo the spell. The Mouse King was right. No little girl is going to love this doll. My poor Karl is doomed.

(Drosselmeyer thinks for a moment.)

No, wait. My goddaughter, Clara, She is a kind-hearted girl. If anyone could love an ugly nutcracker doll, it would be Clara. Tomorrow, her parents are holding their annual Christmas Eve party. I shall take the children some gifts and Clara shall receive one extra gift – my poor Karl. Let us hope that she can undo the spell.

END OF SCENE 1