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Product Code Y607-FC

**“The Positively True and Factual Events of
the Real Live Girl Who Would Come to be
Known as Sleeping Beauty”**

Or...

SLEEPING BEAUTY

**A contemporary interpretation filled with theatre games, songs
& audience participation**

**Written and Developed by
Cavan Hallman**

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...Sleeping Beauty

by Cavan Hallman

CHARACTERS

Originally written for 3 Actors for optional touring.
Please feel free to expand the cast as needed.

ONE – *A male actor portraying the roles of Prince, Old King, and Prince Phil*

TWO – *A female actor portraying the role of Princess Pearl (The Sleeping Beauty)*

THREE – *A female actor portraying the role of Witch*

TIME

Fairy Tale Time:

That anachronistic place where people both watch Netflix and also talk in old-timey speak.

SETTING

A castle.

The woods on the outskirts of the castle.

PRODUCTION NOTES

See notes at end of script that explain and provide instructions for games, songs and audience participation included in the script

ETC

This script is intended to be flexible for many different audiences. If something is in brackets [__] then that is alternative text. Please make adjustments that are right for your audience.

...Sleeping Beauty by Cavan Hallman

AT RISE: *The stage is meant to be fluid. It is the Princess' chamber, a throne room, the woods, and of course just a simple stage where our actors tell the story. Note: On tour, this was produced with two chairs and two backdrops on opposite sides of the stage. One backdrop showed the woods, with the castle in the distance, and one showed the interior of the empty castle.*

ONE

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen—

TWO

[Students and teachers] [Parents and grandparents]—

THREE

And everyone else.

THREE

My name's (*The actor's real name*) _____.

TWO

I'm _____ (*Also real name*).

ONE

(*Same*)

And I'm _____.

TWO

And today, we are happy to bring you the story of—

ONE AND TWO

"Sleeping Beauty."

TWO

Thank you, and please enjoy the show.

ONE, TWO and THREE bow and exit.

THREE sneaks back out onto the stage.

THREE

I just can't. I can't do it anymore. I can't be party to these... LIES! They're gonna tell a story that has a girl in it. And they're gonna call her "Sleeping Beauty," and yeah, she'll be asleep. And yeah, she'll be beautiful, but it ain't the real thing. And I don't mean because she's an actor. I mean it's not real because of the story. And the one you've seen in movies, that isn't the real story either – I'm talking about the movie by a man whose name rhymes with Schmalt Kisney. You know the one! LIES! All of them. And it's not just "Sleeping Beauty." In Cinderella, she never would've travelled to the ball in that coach. The real Cinderella was desperately allergic to pumpkins. Bet you didn't know that! One seed gets left behind and you're trying on glass slippers at a funeral. Cinderella was smarter than that. And don't even get me started on Snow White. "The fairest in the land," pssh... "Fairest" means most beautiful. It doesn't mean that she has fair skin. How could she, spending all that time out in the sun with animals and dwarves? Back then all the suntan lotion was SPF Zero. The list of lies goes on and on. I know because I have one and a half doctoral degrees in "Fairy Tales and Cultural Studies." Why one and a half? Well, turns out professors don't appreciate it when you jump up in the middle of class and shout "LIES!" Every day. That's a lesson you only have to learn ten or fifteen times.

TWO

(Sticks head in)

Are you planning on coming back here? So we can start the show?

THREE

I've already started the show!

TWO

That's not possible. I start the show.

THREE

You start the parade of lies we call "The Show."

TWO

(Entering)

Oh, with the lies, again. If Harvard could kick you out for this kind of nonsense, I certainly don't have a problem with it either.

THREE

Why doesn't anyone have any imagination?

TWO

I've got plenty. In fact, right now I'm imagining the day we hire a different actor for your role.

THREE

I have to do it. Just let me tell the true story once, and then you'll never hear about it again. Unless, of course, you realize that my version, the true version, is better.

TWO

We'll do it once!

THREE

Unless it's—

TWO

Once!

THREE

Once. Once.

TWO exits. THREE does an exuberant celebratory dance.

ONE (*Off*)

And no dancing! This is a serious show!

THREE

They didn't like my dancing at Harvard either. (*Beat*) Now, before we can get into the story, it's important to know that I don't think anyone did anything wrong when they told you the Schmalt Kisney version of this tale. We're all friends here. And a story can change naturally over the course of time. I'll show you an example. I am going to give the exact same phrase to two people and have them whisper it to the person next to them.

THREE goes into the AUDIENCE. "THE TELEPHONE GAME." THREE gets the responses from both ends then repeats aloud what one end has resulted in.

THREE (*Cont.*)

This other one I'm not sure I can repeat out loud. But there you have it. Through no fault of anyone's at all, in just a few moments we have gotten far, far, far, far, far away from what we began with, which is the title of our show today: "The Positively True and Factual Events of the Real Live Girl Who Would Come to Be Known as Sleeping Beauty."

TWO enters as Sleeping Beauty.

TWO

What if I'm not feeling beautiful today?

THREE

Don't worry, dear. You look lovely.

TWO

It doesn't matter how you think I look. I'm talking about how I feel. Isn't that important too?

THREE

Of course it is.

TWO

And I have a name too—

THREE

We definitely don't have time for that. I think right now, we can at least agree on the fact that you were asleep.

TWO instantly falls asleep standing up. She teeters from side to side and is eventually caught by THREE and placed in a chair.

THREE (*Cont.*)

Always asleep.

ONE (*Off*)

(*Singing*)

Heidy-Ho!

THREE

It looks like someone's coming now!

ONE enters singing.

ONE (*Sings*)

HEIDY-HO!

THREE exits.

ONE (*Cont.*)

(*Singing*)

HEIDY-HO! HEIDY-HO! HEIDY-HO!

IT'S TO MY JOB I GO

(*Whistles*)

HEIDY-HO, HEIDY-HO, HEIDY-HO.

(*Spoken*) Let's see the lawyers complain about that one.

A bell rings offstage. An ADULT VOLUNTEER comes out of the AUDIENCE with a letter. The ADULT VOLUNTEER has been given instructions before the start of the show not to speak.

ONE (Cont.)

That was fast. *(Beat)* Who are you? *(Beat)* A lawyer, huh?

The Actor ad-libs to try and make the ADULT VOLUNTEER break his/her silence.

ONE (Cont.)

I suppose that letter's for me. Have an opener? *(Opens the letter with his finger)* Oh, man, a paper-cut. That's gonna ruin my day.

ONE reads the letter to self.

ONE (Cont.)

Well... that's definitely worse than a paper-cut. We have right here a cease-and-desist letter. From the Schmalt Kisney Corporation. They're going to sue us for three hundred million bucks! I can't stand Kisney. *(Beat)* Wait, there's more. *(Beat)* No way. *(Beat)* The name? They think the name's too close? *(Beat)* I take it back then. I hate Schmooley Frisbee. The Schmooley Frisbee Corporation can take a long walk off a short pier. Better?

ONE leads the ADULT VOLUNTEER back to his seat.

ONE (Cont.)

(To AUDIENCE, back in character)

I am but a poor wandering Prince! Scratch that – I am but a rich wandering Prince, looking for my destiny in life. I've scrambled through the woods.

ONE scurries through a section of the AUDIENCE.

ONE (Cont.)

I swam through the roughest seas.

ONE gets the AUDIENCE to do "the wave," like at a baseball game, as he "swims."

ONE ad-libs appropriate to the venue.

ONE (*Cont.*)

(*Ad-lib*)

[I even did a costume change in the back of this cafe-torium.] But nowhere in the world have I found my destiny. I am a Prince in need of a Princess. A head in need of a heart. A... steak in need... of potatoes. A—

TWO

A person who should just get it over with.

ONE

Is it a Princess I see? There? Her skin so smooth, no doubt from years spent hidden from the harsh light of the sun. Kept safe under lock and key, like a prized jewel. Yet, I, the chosen one, shall lead her to the light. As my bride and future Queen. Yes. She is my chosen for now I choose her. But is she asleep?

TWO

If she wasn't before then she is now.

ONE

Oh no... Tis the "Sleeping Beauty".

TWO

I have a name.

ONE

I shall not let the legend of the Sleeping Beauty deter me. She is a prize that I shall claim.

TWO

A prize? I'm a person.

ONE

But however shall I wake her?

ONE solicits suggestions from the audience. Ad-lib...

ONE

Yes, I shall kiss the Princess.

ONE approaches TWO.

THREE

(*Entering*)

Hold it!

ONE and TWO freeze.

THREE (*Cont.*)

I think now is a good time to let you all know that your typical fairy tale is full of things that you should in no way ever repeat. Bad behavior. For instance, this Princess is about to get a kiss from this Prince while she's asleep. No one wants that. Not in a million years. Never kiss a girl while she's asleep; never make a bet with a lion; never nap during a foot race; never take an apple from a stranger; never challenge a fox to an archery contest; never sing for an octopus; never put on shoes that don't fit; never tell a snake he has bad breath; never give a heart-felt speech; never dance on the first date; never feed a Mogwai after midnight; and never, never, NEVER throw a witch in an oven. I'm sure there are others. I consider myself a life-long learner. Unfortunately, the lessons have not filtered their way down yet to this Prince.

THREE re-positions the frozen Prince and takes off ONE's shoe, placing it right in line to be kissed.

THREE

There you go.

THREE exits. The action resumes and ONE kisses his shoe. His eyes remain closed.

ONE

Awake, my sweet and be my bride. The world shall be yours – or at least my beach condo. We have to wait for the King to croak before we get all the good stuff. Mmm...while your skin looked so smooth from afar, I do think thou hast suffered mightily of sun damage. But perhaps my lips, quite unlike your hips, do lie. I shall try again.

ONE kisses the shoe again and then realizes the ruse.

ONE (*Cont.*)

Ack! The third time this week I have planted mine mouth upon blasted shoe leather. (*Aside*) Don't ask. Long story. (*Crossing to Sleeping Beauty*) My aim is true.

ONE kisses TWO. She wakes.

TWO

Did you just kiss me?

ONE

Yes, my dear.

TWO

Not cool, bro. Not cool.

ONE

Ah, but, how else was I to wake you?

TWO

I don't want to be awake. I was having a fantastic dream where I was the conductor of a great big orchestra, and not only that, but I was playing all of the instruments, and not only that, but I was all of the thousands of people in the audience, and we were all clapping for me.

ONE

I shall clap for you, darling.

ONE claps.

TWO

I did it better. I can't believe you kissed me.

ONE

How else was I to make you mine?

TWO

Who says I want to be yours?

ONE

I'm here to save you.

TWO

And who's going to save me from you? Even in my sleep I could hear your terrible speeches, like a second-grade version of Shakespeare. (*Aside*) No offense, second-graders: we all grow out of it.

ONE

This isn't what I imagined at all.

TWO

Me either. Finally, we have something in common.

ONE

Something upon which a relationship may be forged? A foundation? A bedrock!

TWO

Your kingdom must not be too nice if you're offering a bed made of rocks.

ONE

Ha! A wit to match my own.

TWO

More like a wit to light a match to.

ONE

Shall... we away?

TWO

That sounds right. Get down on your knees.

ONE

The proposal!

TWO

First make yourself small... Lower... lower... Good. Now you are as wee as possible. As you said, "Wee, away!" That means go!

TWO falls asleep again in an instant.

THREE (*Off*)

Princess! Oh, Princess!

ONE hides. TWO remains asleep.

THREE

(*Enters*)

How's my best friend doing today? (*Beat*) Well, that's just dandy! Tell me all about it... Mmm... Hmmm... Mmm... Hmmm... You don't say?... You don't say?!?... Well that's enough gossip. You know my Daddy always told me: "If you can't say anything nice, then go out and get a job and cook your own dinner." I think we should dance today. Everyone hates my dancing, except for you.

THREE does some ridiculous dancing with TWO's limp body. This is just as awkward a gag as it was in the movie "Weekend at Bernie's." When TWO starts to fall...

THREE

Whoa there!

ONE

(*Leaps from his hiding spot*)

What kind of funny business is going on here?

THREE

OH!!!! You scared me half to death! You're lucky I didn't turn you into a three-eyed newt.

ONE

How could you do that?

THREE

Exactly. How could I do that? Three-eyed newt: that's ridiculous. I'm definitely not a witch. Please don't throw me in an oven.

ONE

I was just talking to this Princess a moment ago. I woke her. Now she's asleep again.

THREE

I know. It's a tragic tale. One hundred years ago a gorgeous, highly educated, fun-to-hang-out-with-at-parties witch enchanted this castle. And I do mean enchanted. Even though she was great to hang out with at parties, like the absolute best at a party, people never invited the witch over. Never. So the witch cast a spell so that the entire castle would be asleep until a kiss from someone with pure intentions would wake up the Princess and everyone else with her.

ONE

But she awoke. It was so.

THREE

Your intentions must not have been one hundred percent pure. Believe me. You did better than most. Nine times out of ten some Prince-whozits-whatzits-name-or-whatever waltzes in here, plants one on the Princess, and it doesn't even register a snore. You did good, kid. Just not good enough.

ONE takes a knee, like a knight going on a quest.

ONE

My heart is pure. My mind is pure. And I shall make the Princess mine. And once she is mine we will wait for my very old father to leave the throne and ALL shall be mine. Everything. Yes, mine it shall be.

(Sung solemnly)

OH, I JUST CAN'T WAIT TO BE KING.

THREE leans in and whispers to ONE.

ONE *(Cont.)*

I mean... *(Singing again)*

OH, IT WILL BE SO GREAT WHEN I'M KING.

ONE (*Cont.*)

(*Spoken*)
Better?

THREE

Better.

ONE rises and goes to kiss TWO.

THREE (*Cont.*)

What do you think you're doing?

ONE

I hath doth purified mine soul. I shall attempt to rouse the Princess once more.

THREE

No. No rousing. You had your chance and you have to go. Besides, it's almost time for the two o'clock.

ONE

Two o'—

THREE

You didn't think you'd be the only one to try waking the Princess today, did you?

ONE

I suppose I did. My quest is singular.

THREE

And it looks like you'll be staying singular for a very long time. Hit the road, buddy. Try Match.com. (*To AUDIENCE*) I think, in order to tell you "The Positively True and Factual Events of the Real Live Girl Sleeping Beauty" we're going to need a flashback. We're going back to a simpler time, over one hundred years ago, when our Sleeping Beauty was a just a regular young Princess, resting at intervals that would be approved by the American Medical Association. And everyone else in the castle was awake too. Things were almost kind of normal—at least normal for a fairy tale. You know—a talking animal here or there, occasionally a pop-in from a very cool witch, that kind of stuff. For a flashback we do this...

THREE ad-libs, instructing the AUDIENCE to help her make the flashback "doodly-doo" sound and gesture that older members of the AUDIENCE might recall from the movie "Wayne's World." ONE enters as the old King from long ago as THREE exits.

ONE

Are you napping on my throne, dear?

TWO

(Awakens)

Sorry, Dad.

ONE

All these late nights out, you're not getting enough sleep.

TWO

I'll sleep when I'm old.

ONE

If you say so.

TWO

Can I have some more gold, Dad? Last night got a little more spendy than I expected.

ONE

I hope you behaved yourself.

TWO

Always, like, the most behaved ever. Like if you looked up the word "behaved" in the dictionary... it would tell you about all the stuff I'm doing.

ONE

I wish you'd stay home with me more often. We can Netflix whatever you want.

TWO

Dad, you're embarrassing me.

ONE

What is out there that's so important? I'm the King. Whatever you need I can have brought to the castle.

TWO

I'm young, Dad. I need to have fun.

ONE

One day soon, you will have to lead our people.

TWO

If I'm leading the people, then what would you be doing?

ONE

Nothing.

TWO

That doesn't sound like you. You work every day. There isn't a lazy bone in your body.

ONE

I'll be doing nothing, because I will be gone.

TWO

Where could you possibly go? No one loves the Kingdom more than you. You're like the guy from Hair Club for Men. "I'm not just the King; I'm a member."

ONE

My hair is looking fuller.

TWO

There's a shine to it.

ONE

I will be gone, because I'll be... gone. I'm getting old. And one day the Kingdom will be yours.

TWO

You're going to live forever. *(To AUDIENCE)* Does anyone here know Miss Mary Mack?

TWO ad-libs to find a partner in the AUDIENCE. Hopefully a child will lead the MISS MARY MACK GAME. Otherwise, TWO teaches the game to the child. After an appropriate time, ONE interrupts.

ONE

You can't distract yourself with games and parties and whatever else you're doing out at all hours of the night.

TWO

Looking at cat pictures on my phone.

ONE

Distractions. All of them. And the longer you wait to deal with your real feelings, the more it will hurt in the end.

TWO

Dad, I'm totally in touch with my feelings. *(Pinches herself)*

TWO

Ow, that hurt. See? Feelings.

TWO starts to play MISS MARY MACK.

ONE

Please, stop that! And I'm sorry to be bringing your friend into this.

TWO

It's all right; we're not even that good of friends. She doesn't even know my name. (*Beat; to GAME PARTNER*) What's my name? (*Response; doesn't know*) See?

Note: If the response is "Sleeping Beauty." TWO will respond "We're not even at that part of the story yet. Remember the flashback?" TWO will then do the flashback sound.

ONE

This kind of behavior all started when your mother died. Not only do you refuse to deal with your feelings from your mother's death, you refuse to accept the reality of the future. I'm worried for you.

TWO

There's nothing to worry about.

ONE

Spend time with me. While we have it.

TWO

You'll be here forever.

ONE

I won't. Talk to me, my dear daughter.

ONE (*Sings*)

(Sings to the tune "You've Got a Friend in Me")

COME BE A PAL WITH ME.

COME BE A PAL WITH ME.

YOU GOT PROBLEMS

THEN I HAVE SOME TOO.

THERE SURE IS NOTHING

I WOULDN'T DO FOR YOU.

WE TEAM TOGETHER, WE CAN WORK IT THROUGH.

SO COME BE A PAL WITH ME.

YOU'VE GOT A PAL IN ME. *A bell rings. A YOUNG VOLUNTEER,*

with pre-arranged instructions not to speak, comes up on the stage with a letter.

ONE (*Cont.*)

Is that for us? (*Beat*) You look different. Did you change shampoo? You're conditioning? Exfoliating? Tanning? Mani-pedi? (*Beat*) You got married!?! Congratulations! (*Beat; opens letter*) The song!?! I thought it was a very sweet song. (*Beat*) In fact, looked like you were tearing up a little back there. (*Beat*) What do you have to say for yourself? (*Beat*) Made of stone. Absolutely cold-hearted. (*Seating VOLUNTEER; muttering*) Schmooley Frisbee.

TWO

(*Back to scene*)
I'm sorry, Dad.

ONE

Sorry, sorry... For what, kiddo?

TWO

Not being better.

ONE

You're just fine, just fine.

TWO

I'm a disappointment.

ONE

Don't talk like that.

TWO

I'm sorry.

ONE

I love you. I love you.

ONE and TWO exit. THREE enters as Witch.

THREE

And that's when Real Live Girl Who Would Come to Be Known as Sleeping Beauty ran away from home. I forgot to add that to the list of things from fairy tales you should never do: never touch a bear's porridge; never buy beans outside of a market; and never ever ever – not ever – never – don't even think about running away from home. Just don't do it. However, today we are telling a story that is Positively True and Factual. And this Princess did run away. She

THREE, (*Cont.*)

went to the woods. And that is where she met a genius, vibrant young woman, with troubles

of her own.

THREE sits by herself and plays *MISS MARY MACK GAME*. *TWO* enters.

TWO

Someone who knows about Miss Mary Mack? (*To PERSON IN AUDIENCE*) You didn't show her did you? (*Back to scene*) Hey, you! That's my favorite game!

THREE

Mine too, but it's hard to find people to play with.

TWO

Tell me about it. It's like pulling teeth out there. Can we play together?

THREE

For sure.

TWO

What's your name?

THREE

Miss Mary Mack, Mack, Mack—

TWO

Before we play, I'd like to know your name.

THREE

Miss Mary Mack, Mack, Mack—

TWO

Your name's not Mary Mack!?! (*Beat*) Tell me what it is. Unless you have something to hide...

THREE

Nothing to hide here. You tell me your name.

TWO

I don't have to tell you a thing.

THREE

Unless you have something to hide. Maybe you're running away.

TWO

How did you know that?

THREE

You're the Princess. Everyone knows who you are.

TWO

Yeah. I am pretty popular.

THREE

You could've at least tried to put on a hat or something – sunglasses – to disguise yourself.

TWO

You really think that works?

THREE

It's what celebrities do.

TWO

I'll have to try next time. *(Beat)* What are you running away from?

THREE

Screaming villagers. Pitchforks. You know, usual witch stuff.

TWO

Huh?

THREE

Nothing! I'm running away from... my feelings.

TWO

Me too!

THREE

You want to talk about it?

TWO

If I wanted to talk about my feelings do you think I'd have spent the last month by myself in the woods?

THREE

I get you.

TWO

How long have you been out on your own?

THREE

I've been wandering these woods for the last twenty years.

TWO

Whoa! That's as long as I've been alive.

THREE

Almost. You weren't even one year old yet when I left for the woods. I remember. It was the day of your naming ceremony.

TWO

Were you there? At my naming ceremony?

THREE

I... can't remember.

TWO

Why are you here?

THREE

I had some anger issues! *(Beat)* But I'm getting into yoga. I'm working on it. Do you know the story of your name day ceremony?

TWO

No. No one back home will ever even mention it.

THREE

Because that's the day you were cursed.

TWO

So you were there? Wait... what? *(Beat)* Cursed what? *(Beat)* What?

THREE

You were cursed. By a fantastically beautiful but painfully shy witch. Don't worry. Since then, she's really grown into her personality, developed a lot of confidence, worked on her self-esteem – she's great, ready for friendships, maybe a relationship one day too, who knows? But on the day of your naming ceremony, she had great difficulty around other people, even though she wanted very much to have friends and fun like all the normal folks around her.

TWO

Was it a big ceremony?

THREE

Of course. Huge! Everyone was invited. Well, almost everyone. No one invited the Witch.

But the day before the ceremony, the Witch and the King ran into each other at the convenience store—

TWO

Awkward.

THREE

Totally. So the King tried to, like, casually invite the Witch to the ceremony so that he wouldn't look like a bad guy, like he'd left her out on purpose. But she knew, the Witch knew what was up. But she was a lonely witch, so she went to the party.

TWO

I love parties.

THREE

But then the Witch got to the party, and she realized that everyone else had a gift for the young Princess. She was the only one without something to offer.

TWO

You always bring a gift to a party.

THREE

DON'T YOU THINK I KNOW THAT NOW?

TWO

Do you need to do some yoga?

THREE

I'm fine. Serenity. *(Beat)* The Witch, however, was not fine. The entire Kingdom laughed at her. Not just a chuckle either. Like, a really, really big belly laugh. That lasted way too long. It wasn't nice.

TWO

It doesn't sound nice.

THREE

Thank you for saying that.

TWO

You're welcome.

THREE

And in her rage, the Witch decided to place a curse on the baby Princess—

TWO

What did that baby ever do to her?

THREE

I didn't say it was a *good* decision. The Witch said "The Princess and all in her realm shall be given eternal slumber by the gift that keeps on giving, only to be woken by a kiss from one whose intentions are pure."

TWO

"The gift that keeps on giving..." Why haven't I ever been told about this curse?

THREE

I'm guessing your parents didn't want to burden you with a life lived in fear.

TWO

Fear of a curse that'll probably never even come true.

THREE

Oh, it'll come true!

TWO

And this explains why I never get presents at Christmas.

THREE

After she placed the curse, the Witch knew she had gone too far. Filled with shame, she left for the woods and was never seen again.

TWO

That's when you left for the woods too?

THREE

Is it? What a coincidence. Funny I've never run into her.

TWO

Maybe she's invisible.

THREE

A witch can't make herself invisible. What do you think this is: The Wizarding World of Larry Cotter?

TWO

How do you know what a witch can and can't do?

THREE

I do a lot of reading.

TWO

Are we going to play Miss Mary Mack or not?

THREE

No. You need to go home.

TWO

You can't tell me what to do.

THREE

I'm not telling you what to do. But talking about my feelings with you... I want you to have the same relief. It feels so much better. And you can have that. You can go home.

TWO

You didn't talk about your feelings at all. You just told me a story about a witch.

THREE

I am the Witch.

TWO

Oh no you didn't.

THREE

Oh yes, I did.

TWO

Not cool.

THREE

I know. I'm sorry.

TWO

Can't you lift the curse?

THREE

I wish I knew how, but it was a really good one.

TWO

This isn't the time to brag.

THREE

You have to go home. And talk with your father. While you can.

TWO

What do you mean?

THREE

Go.

*TWO runs away. THREE exits as well.
One enters as the old King, somehow
even older.*

ONE
The pain, the pain.

TWO
(Enters)
Father, I've returned.

ONE
Oh, but the joy, the joy...

TWO
Why are you repeating yourself so much?

ONE
Because I'm getting old, old. Will you fetch me something? I'm cold, cold...

TWO
Now rhyming...

ONE
The joy to see your face one more time. Before I must go.

TWO
Is this my fault? The pain of me leaving did this to you. I'm so sorry.

ONE
Don't be silly. This is the natural way. There's no blame. You're my child. Whom I love very much.

TWO
Umm... um, you said you were cold, right? You're cold can I fetch you something? What can I get you? What do you want so that you won't be cold? What can I get you? No. That won't work. THINK! Think... think.

TWO runs out as THREE returns.

THREE
This is where things get weird. Because the Princess goes in the back and knits her Father a

scarf. They didn't have any time to spare, but she decided to knit. He's the King. Why doesn't the Princess just step out the door and demand something off the back of the nearest peasant? Even if you have to drive to an outlet mall, it's faster than trying to make a scarf from scratch. But here's the thing: when people are in a tough situation, they don't always make the smartest decisions. Feelings take over, feelings the Princess had been bottling up for a long time. And the other thing is: sometimes a Positively True and Factual story can be harder to believe than something you make up.

TWO returns with her scarf. She sings to her Father with quiet sincerity and feeling.

TWO (*Sings*)

(*Sings a la Cinderella*)

OH, SING MY MOCKINGJAY.
SING MY SWEET MOCKINGJAY.
OH SING
AH-AH-AH-AH-AH

A bell rings. An even YOUNGER VOLUNTEER comes up with a letter having been instructed not to speak.

ONE

Do they keep getting younger, or am I getting older?

TWO

Both. (*Taking the letter*) I don't suppose you have anything to say for yourself? (*Beat*) Typical. (*Beat*) The songs again? We changed so much. And really, I think we had a very beautiful moment that you interrupted there.

ONE

That level of acting is what I went to school for.

TWO

Not now. (*To VOLUNTEER*) My song was definitely better than the first song. In every way. Right? (*Beat*) Okay. I guess there's no arguing with you. We won't use any more Schmooley Frisbee material. Scout's honor.

THE VOLUNTEER returns to his/her seat.

THREE

And in his final moments, The Princess gave her Father the scarf she knit with her own hands.

That was the moment her fate was sealed, because don't you know that a scarf is the "gift that keeps on giving." (*Like a local cable ad – just sell!*) That's right my friends, don't knock it 'til you tried it. The Scarf. Easy. Fashionable. Reliable. Versatile. Trendy without being pretentious. Sporty without being déclassé. Scarf. Scarf today. Scarf tomorrow. Scarf for dinner. Scarf for lunch. Scarf at the Country Club. Scarfs. Don't forget to pick yours up today at the [Your Production Company] gift shop. Go to the front desk. Take a right. A right. Another right. A left and a right to get your scarf today! (*Beat; now very formal*) With the gift of a scarf, the Princess fell (mostly) asleep for one hundred years.

THE PRINCESS falls asleep.

THREE

And everyone else did too.

THE KING falls asleep. THREE leads him out.

THREE

Everyone fell asleep, that is except for the effervescent, eternally youthful, intelligent and charming witch who cast the spell in the first place. (*Beat*) Wracked with guilt, she moved to the castle so she could protect the Sleeping Beauty until the spell was unlocked. And that's how we get to today. (*To AUDIENCE*) We can do the flashback thing again to return.

*They all do the flashback thing.
THE SLEEPING PRINCESS is repositioned on her chair. ONE enters as a different Prince, checking every corner.*

ONE

Of course this is the last room I check.

THREE

Looks like the two o'clock's here.

ONE shrieks at the sight of THREE.

ONE

Schmooley Frisbee, it lives!

THREE

How dare you call me an "it."

ONE

Sorry, it's... whew! My apologies, it's just you're the first person I've seen in days who isn't

asleep. Trust me, it's as creepy as it sounds.

THREE

Apology accepted. Now, go ahead and do your business.

ONE

Yes. Is that the girl known as Sleeping Beauty?

THREE

To some.

ONE

How do I wake her?

THREE

All the usual stuff.

ONE

What's the usual stuff?

THREE

You know, slaying a dragon—

ONE

Done.

THREE

Traversing a thorny thicket.

ONE

Yep.

THREE

Outfoxing a troll.

ONE

Uh-huh.

THREE

Out-trolling a fox.

ONE

Doi.

THREE

And then there's the thing that you haven't done yet.

ONE
It can't be boxing a bre'er rabbit?

THREE
Nope.

ONE
Or hopping scotch with a humpty-dumpty?

THREE
Nopety-dopety.

ONE
Jumping off a waterfall? Going on a prime-time reality game show?

THREE
It's funny.... You couldn't even get there with five guesses. Maybe your intentions are pure.

ONE
Of course my intentions are pure. I have one purpose in waking the Princess.

THREE
To make her your wife?

ONE
No.

THREE
To obtain a significant financial reward?

ONE
Who needs money?

THREE
To Instagram the best selfie of all time – hashtag: no filter?

ONE
I don't even have the app.

THREE gasps in shock!

ONE
I've come to your kingdom because it is a kingdom under a curse it does not deserve. I'm

Prince Phil, and I do what's right. It's kind of my jam. The land I come from, we had a terrible streak with knights. We didn't win a single quest for 108 straight years. We were the Chicago Cubs of royal adventuring. But then I came along. Dragon: boom. Troll, fox: boom, boom. I'm on a roll. I'm going around doing justice stuff because it feels good. I'm Prince Phil; that's my jam.

THREE

You have to kiss her!

ONE

Really?

THREE

Yeah.

ONE

I'd rather not.

THREE

Why not? They call her *Sleeping Beauty* for a reason.

ONE

But she is asleep. I'm not in the habit of kissing people when they're asleep.

THREE

Hmmm... Honor, integrity...

ONE

Did you say honor and integrity? Those are my jam!

THREE

I'm the Princess' best friend, and I think it's okay to kiss her.

ONE

You can't give me permission for that.

THREE

If she's mad, I'll explain it.

ONE

Of course she's gonna be mad.

THREE

Do it. I'll hold her arms so she can't hurt you.

ONE

This makes it even worse, you know.

THREE

I know.

ONE kisses TWO. TWO wakes up.

TWO

What are you? (*Seeing THREE*) And you...

THREE

Calm down now.

TWO

You're the witch who's been hanging around the castle for one hundred years just pretending to be my friend whenever I wake up for a minute or two at a time.

THREE

That's true. And I protect you.

TWO

From what?

THREE

Good question. Listen, I've had a lot of time to reflect over the last century—

TWO

For me it's been ten minutes.

THREE

I can see how it might feel like that.

TWO

And who is this?

One

Ummm... Hi, I'm Prince Phil. I like to do good things. That's... my jam.

TWO

You kissed me.

ONE

Only because she said I could.

TWO

(To THREE)

You did what?

THREE

I mean... the curse.

TWO

Oh, I know about the curse. I'm familiar with the curse.

ONE

I didn't want to kiss you.

TWO

But you did.

THREE

And look at how long you've been awake.

TWO

I... oh... I have been awake a little longer than usual.

THREE

A lot longer than usual. Maybe this Prince is... the one.

TWO

May be. What's your name?

ONE

I'm Prince Phil. It's a pleasure to meet you, Princess Pearl.

TWO

My... you know my name: Pearl.

ONE

Of course I know your name. I held it sharp in my mind every day as I ventured further on my quest. How can you be the champion of an ideal that has no name? How can you help a person without taking the time to know their name? You deserve that honor and dignity, Princess Pearl.

TWO

(To THREE)

He's got something a little different.

THREE

I agree.

TWO

I'm still mad at you!

THREE

Obviously.

ONE

And of course there is the added bonus of finding that you truly are beautiful.

TWO yawns.

THREE

Uh-oh...

ONE

Perhaps one day we shall marry...

THREE

There it goes.

And THE PRINCESS is asleep.

ONE

What happened?

THREE

The purity of your quest diminished. It's too bad. I really thought you were the one. And I think I have to go.

ONE

Go where?

This is Not the End of the Play
Ending Intentionally Omitted for Security Purposes

Please continue to next page for
PRODUCTION NOTES

PRODUCTION NOTES

Notes correspond to specific games and actions that are included in the script.

“THE TELEPHONE GAME” - PAGE 5

Ideally, your actors will have easy access to the audience. In this variation of the classic “Telephone Game,” the actor will whisper the same phrase to two young audience members, either at the center of a row, or on opposite ends of an aisle. The whispered phrase is the full title of the show – “The Positively True and Factual Events of the Real Live Girl Who Would Come to Be Known as Sleeping Beauty.”

The two young audience members will pass the phrase in opposite directions, whispering it. Once the phrase has been passed to the ends of the row, the actor will check back in, reporting back one of the (probably) mangled phrases.

SONG – PAGE 6

ONE sings a song that is suspiciously similar to, but not exactly like a work song from a famous film featuring Snow White.

As a general note, lines of text indented and presented in ALL CAPS are sung.

ADULT VOLUNTEER– PAGE 6

THE VOLUNTEER is selected from the audience before the show begins, pre-set with a letter, and instructed to not speak, under any circumstances. ACTOR ONE is encouraged to do anything – within reason – to make the Volunteer break his/her silence.

ONE SOLICITS SUGGESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE – PAGE 10

Get creative! Should I play a loud alarm clock? Should I splash her with a bucket of water? Let the audience’s imagination guide you, but keep it light and positive, and never mock a young person for providing a suggestion. It is important they are made to feel comfortable participating.

SONG – PAGE 13

“Oh, I just can’t wait to be king,” and its later variation are suspiciously similar, but not the same, as a song from a famous movie about a Lion who becomes a king.

MISS MARY MACK – PAGE 16

This is one of the most popular hand-clapping games in the English-speaking world. TWO asks the audience if anyone will volunteer to play the game with her. TWO will then leave the playing area so she can do the hand-clapping game with the volunteer. This is meant to be the Princess' way of coping with fear, distracting herself from the subject of her father's imminent demise.

There will almost certainly be a child who knows Miss Mary Mack. You should also familiarize yourself with the game beforehand. This video explains it well:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uX7ixF80Rnk>

“WHAT’S MY NAME?” – PAGE 17

If the volunteer says “Sleeping Beauty,” then proceed to “We’re not even...”

If the volunteer doesn't know, or stays silent, the skip “We’re not even...” and proceed to ONE's line, “This kind of behavior...”

SONG – PAGE 17

ONE sings a song that is suspiciously similar to, but not exactly like, a song about friendship from a famous story about talking toys.

YOUNG VOLUNTEER – PAGE 18

Similar to ADULT VOLUNTEER, pre-selected, and instructed to enter from their seat at the appropriate time.

SONG – PAGE 26

TWO sings a song that is suspiciously similar to, but not exactly like, a song from a famous story about a girl named Cinderella.

YOUNGER VOLUNTEER – PAGE 26

Similar to YOUNG VOLUNTEER, pre-selected, and instructed to enter from their seat at the appropriate time.

SONG – PAGE 35

TWO and THREE sing a song that is suspiciously similar to, but not exactly like a song from a famous movie about a s mermaid.