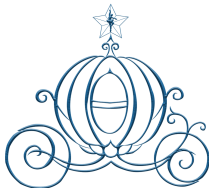




ballet **51**
PHILIPPINES
SEASON



BP TALES, TUTU'S & TOTS



Cinderella

Based on the fairytale by Charles Perrault and the libretto of Nikolai Volkov

Retold by Ballet Philippines

Written by Michelle Tagle

Illustrated By Teresa Robins

There are many ways to tell a story, one of the most special ways is to use costumes,
acting, music and dance to make magic!
This magicis the ballet!





There once was a girl named Cinderella. She was good and gentle to all around her, including the mice! This was in spite of the fact that she was not very nicely treated by her own family. After his beloved first wife died, her father married a woman who was secretly cold, cunning and conniving. Her own daughters were like her in all ways.

How she hated Cinderella and her beauty and kindness, for these qualities highlighted her daughters' rudeness and hard hearts.

Cinderella was forced to do all of the worst chores around the house. The only place she was able to rest was among the cinders on the kitchen.

One day an old beggar woman came to the kitchen window. Cinderella's stepsisters and stepmother made fun of the old woman, refused to give her any food, and left the room to receive an urgent letter. Cinderella decided to share her own breakfast with the stranger and was left with nothing to eat herself.

Moments later, her stepmother and stepsisters burst into the room, excited by the news they had just read: the letter was an invitation to the Prince's Royal Ball!





Cinderella's stepmother and stepsisters rushed off immediately to choose their gowns and jewels for the ball. Although Cinderella was forbidden to go to the ball by her stepmother, she wholeheartedly helped fix her stepsisters' hair and choose the most flattering sashes, for she had fine taste. Cinderella was left all alone in the house and she began to cry. However, her friends the mice had a lovely surprise for her! They made her a dress out of scraps and odds and ends that they gathered from around the house. Her heart was full of gratitude for her friends.

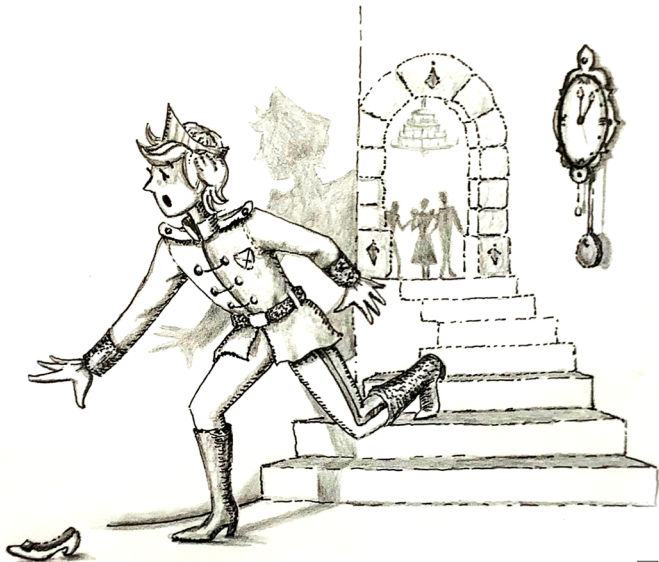
Just then, the old beggar woman appeared once again. This time however, she had transformed into a fairy godmother! She asked Cinderella to gather a pumpkin from the garden. She transformed the mice into horses, a lounge of lizards into footmen, and the pumpkin into a gleaming crystal carriage. Finally, she turned the dress made of rags into a beautiful ballgown. Cinderella looked down at her feet, her fairy godmother had also provided a pair of delicate glass slippers. Brimming with joy Cinderella got into the carriage. Her fairy godmother told her that she had until midnight to enjoy the ball, for the magic would wear off when the clock struck twelve.





As soon as Cinderella stepped into the ballroom, everyone was enchanted. The Prince immediately asked her to dance. As they floated across the dance floor, the crowd wondered who the mysterious lady could be. Most curious were Cinderella's own stepmother and stepsisters. Cinderella was having the time of her life! She almost didn't notice that the clock had already struck midnight!

She rushed away from the dance floor and flew down the stairs of the castle, not realizing that she lost one glass slipper along the way. The Prince chased after her but it was too late. She was gone. He picked up the glass slipper and vowed to find its owner.





The Prince searched the entire kingdom. Finally, he ended up at Cinderella's house. Her stepmother locked her in the attic while her stepsisters struggled with the slipper. Their giant feet were obviously not a match with the tiny shoe. Finally, the evil stepmother forced her own foot into the slipper and the Prince reluctantly agreed to marry her. Just then, Cinderella appeared in the room. Her friends the mice had helped her escape from the attic! Her foot slipped easily into the glass shoe and the Prince whisked her away to the castle.

Cinderella sent for her stepsisters, forgave them for everything that had taken place before, and they all lived happily ever after. Cinderella knew that having an open heart and being quick to forgive were keys to a happy life.

Be kind to people you encounter and forgive those who hurt you. By doing so, you grow happiness and peace within yourself.

