

Beauty and the Beast

LEVEL e



A PLAY

Characters

Storyteller 1
Storyteller 2
Beauty's father
Beauty
Beauty's older sister
Beauty's oldest sister
The beast
The postman
Stagehands

Props

A letter in an envelope
A small suitcase or bag
Coconut shells to make the sound of horse's hooves
Long dresses
A model castle or a big picture of a castle
A mask for the beast
A hand mirror
Cymbals
Confetti

Scene 1

The two storytellers enter and stand on either side of the stage.

Storyteller 1 Hello, ladies and gentleman. This is the story of Beauty and the beast.

Beauty's father enters, then Beauty and her two sisters.

Storyteller 2 A man lived in a big house. He had three daughters.

Storyteller 1 The two older daughters were beautiful. But they weren't kind.

Older sister I'm beautiful. Very beautiful. I'm more beautiful than you.

Oldest sister No, you aren't. I'm more beautiful than you.

Storyteller 2 The youngest daughter was beautiful and kind. Her name was Beauty.

Beauty touches her father's arm and smiles at him.

Beauty I love you, father

Father I love you, too, Beauty.

Scene 2

Storyteller 1 One day, there was a knock on the door.

*Sound effect: knocking
The postman enters with a letter.*

Storyteller 1 It was the postman.

Postman This is for Beauty's father. It's very important.

*The postman gives the letter to Beauty's father, then goes off.
Beauty's father opens the letter and reads it.*

Father I've got to go to the city. Would you like some presents?

Older sister I want a new dress.

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Oldest sister I want two new dresses.
Older sister All right. I want three new dresses.
Oldest sister Four new dresses!
Older sister Five!
Oldest sister Six!
Older sister Seven!
Oldest sister Eight!
Father Please be quiet, you two ...What would you like, Beauty?
Beauty I'd like a rose.
Father Is that all?
Beauty Yes, father. That's all.

Everyone goes off, leaving the storytellers.

Scene 3

Storyteller 1 In the city, Beauty's father bought dresses for his older daughters.
But he didn't find a rose for Beauty.

*Beauty's father enters, pretending to ride a horse. He is carrying a small bag.
Sound effect: horse's hooves. (Use two coconut shells.)*

Storyteller 2 On the way home, Beauty's father rode through a forest.
Father I don't like this forest. It's dark and it's cold.

A stagehand comes on and holds up a model castle or a picture of a castle.

Father Look over there! It's a castle.

The stagehand goes off. Beauty's father mimes opening a big door.

Storyteller 1 The door of the castle was open. Beauty's father went in.

Storyteller 2 In the dining room, there was a table with lots of food.

Father Look at this nice food. I'm hungry. Yum!

Beauty's father mimes eating food. Then he sits on a chair by a pretend fire.

Father It's nice and warm by the fire. I'm going to sleep.

Scene 4

Storyteller 1 In the morning, it was sunny. Beauty's father went in the garden.

Beauty's father mimes walking in a garden.

Storyteller 2 The garden was beautiful. There were lots flowers.

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A stagehand comes on with a pot of pink roses, puts it on the ground, then goes off.

Father

I must find a rose for Beauty ... Look!

Pink roses! Pink is Beauty's favourite colour. I'm going to pick a pink rose for her.

Beauty's father picks a rose from the pot.

The beast comes on behind Beauty's father.

Beast

Why are you picking my rose?

Father

Oh no! It's a present for my daughter. I'm sorry.

Beast

All right. You can give the rose to your daughter. But she must come here and live with me.

The father goes off on one side of the stage. The beast picks up the pot of roses and goes off on the other side.

Scene 5

Beauty's father comes on carrying his bag and the pink rose.

Beauty and her sisters come on from the other side.

Storyteller 1

At home, Beauty's father gave his daughters their presents.

Beauty's father takes dresses from his bag and gives them to the older sisters.

Older sister

Thank you, father.

Oldest sister

Let's go and try our dresses on.

The two sisters run off with their new dresses.

Beauty's father gives Beauty the rose.

Father

This is for you.

Beauty

A pink rose! Pink is my favourite colour. Thank you, father. I love you.

Beauty kisses her father.

Father

I love you too, Beauty.

(to the audience)

Beauty mustn't go and live with the beast. She must stay here.

Storyteller 2

Beauty's father didn't talk about the beast. But he was sad.

Beauty

What's wrong, father? Why are you sad?

Father

I found the rose in a garden. But the garden belongs to an ugly beast. He was angry because I took the rose. He said you must go to his castle and live with him. And I said yes.

Beauty

I must go and live with the beast, father. You gave him your word.

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Scene 6

Storyteller 1

Beauty and her father rode to the castle.

Beauty and her father go round the stage, pretending to ride horses.

Sound effect: horse's hooves

The beast enters.

Father

This is my daughter. Her name is Beauty.

Beast

(he bows) How do you do, Beauty.

Beauty

(she curtseys) How do you do, sir.

Father

Goodbye, Beauty.

Beauty

Goodbye, father.

The father and the beast go off on either side of the stage. Beauty is alone.

Scene 7

Storyteller 1

Beauty was happy in the castle.

Beauty mimes walking in the garden.

Beauty

I like this garden. There are lots of roses. And I like the beast. He's very kind.

The beast comes on carrying a dress.

Beast

Do you like this dress, Beauty?

Beauty

Yes, I do. It's beautiful.

The beast gives Beauty the dress.

Beast

It's for you.

Beauty

Thank you.

Beauty puts on the dress. Then she and the beast sit down and mime eating dinner. They look happy.

Storyteller 2

Every evening, Beauty had dinner with the Beast. They talked and told stories.

Storyteller 1

But one evening, Beauty was sad.

Beast

What's wrong, Beauty? What are you thinking about?

Beauty

I'm thinking about my father and my sisters. I would like to see them.

The beast clicks his fingers. A stagehand comes on with a small mirror, gives it to the beast, then goes off.

Beast

Take this mirror. It's magic. You can look in the mirror and see you father and your sisters.

Beauty

Thank you.

The beast goes off. Beauty is alone on stage with the mirror.

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Scene 8

Storyteller 1

One evening, Beauty looked in the mirror.

Beauty

Oh no! It's my father. He is ill. I must help him.

he beast returns. He and Beauty sit down to eat again. Beauty begins to cry.

Storyteller 2

That evening, Beauty was sad.

Beast

What's wrong, Beauty? Why are you crying?

Beauty

My father is ill. Please can I go home?

Beast

You can go home for one week. Then you must come back. Take the magic mirror so you can see me sometimes.

Beauty and the beast go off on either side of the stage.

Scene 9

Sound effect: horse's hooves

Storyteller 1

Beauty went home to her father.

Beauty's father comes on and sits down. He seems weak and ill.

Beauty runs on stage from the other side.

Beauty

What's wrong, father?

Father

I am ill, Beauty. But I am happy because you are here.

Beauty

Don't worry. I'm going to help you.

Beauty mimes putting a blanket over her father's knees.

Storyteller 2

Beauty's sisters didn't help their father. They just watched.

Older sister

Beauty is good at helping father, isn't she?

Oldest sister

Yes, she is. I like watching her.

Older sister

So do I.

Scene 10

Storyteller 1

After a week, Beauty's father was better.

Storyteller 2

Beauty liked being at home. She stayed for one week, two week, three weeks ...

Beauty's father goes off, looking much better. Beauty is left with her sisters.

Oldest sister

Can I ask you a question, Beauty?

Beauty

Yes, of course.

Oldest sister

Is the beast ugly?

Beauty

Yes, he is.



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- Older sister** Do you like living with him?
- Beauty** Yes, I do. The beast is kind. He gives me beautiful dresses. Like this one.
- Older sister** It's very nice. (quietly, to the oldest sister) Beauty's dresses are nicer than our dresses.
- Oldest sister** I know. It makes me really angry.
- Older sister** Me, too. Grrr!
- Beauty's sisters go off, looking angry.
Beauty sits on a chair. She looks sad. Beauty's father enters.*
- Storyteller 2** One night, Beauty was sad.
- Father** What's wrong, Beauty? What are you thinking about?
- Beauty** I am thinking about the beast. I would like to see him again.
- Beauty's father beckons to someone offstage. A stagehand comes on with the mirror, gives it to Beauty's father, then goes off.*
- Father** Look in the magic mirror.
- Beauty** That's a good idea. (She looks in the mirror.) Oh no!
- Father** Can you see the beast?
- Beauty** Yes, I can. He is ill. I must go to him now.
- Beauty runs off. Her father goes off on the other side.*

Scene 11

*The beast comes on slowly and lies on the ground.
Sound effect: horse's hooves, very quick*

- Storyteller 1** Beauty took her father's horse and rode to the castle.
- Storyteller 2** She found the beast in the garden.
- Beauty runs on. She kneels by the beast and takes his hand.*
- Beauty** Oh, beast! What's wrong? Please tell me.
- Beast** I waited for three weeks, but you didn't come. You don't like me.
- Beauty** Yes, I do. I love you.
- Sound effect: cymbal clash.
The beast quickly takes off his mask and stands.*
- Beauty** Oh! Where's the beast?
- Beast** He's here. I am the beast.
- Beauty** But you're a handsome prince! I don't understand. What happened?
- Beast** A bad fairy used her magic on me. Then I was an ugly beast. But you gave me your love, so now I am better. Please marry me, Beauty.
- Beauty** Yes. Of course!

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The beast takes Beauty's hands and kisses them. They turn and face the audience, linking arms like a bride and groom.

Scene 12

Stagehands come on and throw confetti.

- Storyteller 1** The prince and Beauty got married. Beauty's father and her sisters came to the wedding.
- Storyteller 2** It was a sunny day. Everyone was happy.
- Older sister** Excuse me, Prince. Can we ask you a question?
- Beast** Yes. Of course.
- Oldest sister** Have you got any friends who are beasts?
- Older sister** We mean, beasts who are really handsome princes ...
- Beast** No. I don't think so.
- Oldest sister** If you find any, please tell us.
- Beast** Yes. Of course.
- Storyteller 1** And that's the end of the story.
- Storyteller 2** Goodbye, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for listening.
- All** Goodbye.

All face the audience and wave, then run off.

THE END