

**A Trail of
Breadcrumbs**

By
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A Trail of Breadcrumbs
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A Trail of Breadcrumbs

Hansel, a boy who gets lost in the woods

Gretel, Hansel's sister who gets caught up in a fairy tale of her own

Stepmother, your typical evil stepmother

Father, a greedy woodsman

The Birds, flying animals that eat breadcrumbs

Frog Prince, a prince trapped in a frog's body

Rapunzel, a blond living in a tower

Witch, Rapunzel's guardian who has a fear of rats

Wolf, Little Red Riding Hood's nemesis

Little Red Riding Hood, a sarcastic brunette who befriends Hansel

Jack, a young boy who's a friend of Little Red Riding Hood

13 Wise Women, 12 nice women, and one evil

Prince Charming, a typical suave love-stuck prince

King, a fashion-mad king with an image problem

The King's Page, "Kingdom assistant technician engineer"

The King's Train, a group of people who follow the King around with the Page

Rumpelstiltskin, a short little man who won't share his name

Servant 1, part of the King's Train

Servant 2, part of the King's Train

Hunter 1, a hunter with an odd sense of humor

Hunter 2, Hunter 1's companion

The Pied Piper of Hamelin, a musician with leadership qualities

The Rats, vermin that love music

Act I, Scene I

Hansel and Gretel's room.

{HANSEL and GRETEL are lying down. HANSEL is asleep, while GRETEL is awake. FATHER enters stage left into their room to check on them. GRETEL pretends to be asleep until he exits stage left. He and STEPMOTHER then speak from off stage.}

Stepmother: Are the children asleep?

Father: I believe so. Why?

Stepmother: I need to talk to you.

Father: About what?

Stepmother: About money.

Father: Dear, I know that we aren't that well off, but we get by, and-

Stepmother: We're broke.

Father: I know that at times it may seem like were broke, but-

Stepmother: We don't have any money.

Father: Now dear, tomorrow I'll go to the market, and-

Stepmother: We don't have any food.

Father: And with the firewood I sell, I can buy some food, and-

Stepmother: You're not listening to me! I said we're broke. As in, we have no money. As in, we don't have food. As in, we're all going to die!

Father: We're not going to die, dear. I have plenty of firewood that I can sell at the market tomorrow, and-

Stepmother: It's the middle of summer! How many people do you think are going to buy firewood?

Father: Well, ah...

Stepmother: We are down to our last loaf of bread. That's it. After that's gone, we're going to starve to death.

Father: Can't you make any more?

Stepmother: There isn't anything to make bread out of! Besides, I don't bake... It's those children of yours. It's-

Father: Now don't blame our children for this.

Stepmother: *Our* children? Oh no, I don't think so. Those are *your* children, given to you by your first dearly departed wife. They're not mine.

Father: But when you married me-

Stepmother: When I married you, I lost everything. It was the worst mistake of my life! I used to have a lovely life, but now... But now I live in a two-room cottage. I have to work. There's never enough food to go around, and just last Tuesday... I, I broke a nail!

Father: Now dear, you know that's not true.

Stepmother: Yes it is, just look at it! It's shorter than the others! I can't believe it.

Father: That's not what I meant.

Stepmother: It's those children. Those rotten children! They eat everything, and they never help with the work. Did you know that last week I did the dishes all by myself? Look at these hands. These hands weren't made for doing dishes! Those children are just two lazy freeloaders!

Father: They help with the chores around the house.

Stepmother: We have to get rid of them.

Father: What?

Stepmother: Yes, we can dispose of them in the forest. Then we'll never have to worry about them again!

Father: We can't leave them in the woods!

Stepmother: What? Can you think of an easier way to get rid of them?

Father: Why do we have to get rid of the children?

Stepmother: They're going to eat us out of house and home. We don't have anyway to support them! If there isn't any food, you and I will certainly starve to death.

Father: But-

Stepmother: I'm just keeping our best interests in mind dear. You know, we can always have more children.

Father: But what about the children we have now?

Stepmother: They're lazy! Keeping them around will only bring our deaths. You might as well just start chopping bigger pieces of wood the next time you go into the forest so you can make our coffins because we'll have no way to buy any.

Father: So we're really going to have to get rid of the children?

Stepmother: Yes.

Father: But what if someone gets suspicious and begins to ask questions?

Stepmother: If we abandon them in the woods, we can just tell everyone that the children ran away.

Father: What if they find their way home?

Stepmother: We'll just have to lead them deep enough in the woods so that they won't be able to find their way home again. And besides, they'll probably get eaten by wolves before they even have the chance to look for their way home.

Father: Well, if it's for the best.

Stepmother: Good night, dear.

Father: Good night.

Gretel: *{After a long pause.}* Hansel? Hansel? Hansel wake up!

Hansel: What? What is it?

Gretel: Did you hear that?

Hansel: Hear what?

Gretel: Mother and Father were just arguing.

Hansel: When don't they argue? All right Gretel, what were they arguing about this time?

Gretel: We don't have any money.

Hansel: I'm going back to sleep.

Gretel: But don't you know what this means?

Hansel: No more family outings at the park?

Gretel: Hansel, I'm serious.

Hansel: So am I. I really loved those outings.

Gretel: We've never gone on an outing like that before.

Hansel: Oh.

Gretel: And tomorrow, they're going to abandon us in the woods.

Hansel: *What?*

Gretel: Shh!

Hansel: What? They can't do that! There has to be some law against that.

Gretel: They just said that they're going to.

Hansel: Did they just say that? *{GRETEL nods.}* Oh... Well don't worry Gretel. We'll find our way back home. I know the woods like the back of my hand.

Gretel: Oh, that's comforting. You don't even know what side of your hand is the back of your hand.

Hansel: Well, um... I've got it! I'll leave a trail in the woods, and then we can follow it back home. Hey, in the morning I can pick up some of those white pebbles that sit outside, and then I can make a trail with them.

Gretel: No Hansel, you can't do that. If you do do that, our parents will know that we know what they're up to.

Hansel: Then I'll go get them now. *{He goes to open the door, but finds it locked.}*

Gretel: What's wrong?

Hansel: The door's locked.

Gretel: Well just unlock it.

Hansel: I can't. The bolt is too noisy. It would wake our parents up.

Gretel: Now what are we going to do?

Hansel: Don't worry Gretel. I'll think of something.

Gretel: That's what I'm worried about.

Hansel: Just go back to bed. I promise that I'll take care of it. You can trust me. *{He and GRETEL lay back down to sleep.}*

Act I, Scene II

The Woods.

{MOTHER, FATHER, and GRETEL all enter stage left. HANSEL enters behind them making a trail of breadcrumbs.}

Stepmother: Well here we are children. Hansel? Hansel, what are you doing?

Hansel: Oh nothing Mother.

Stepmother: Well, hurry it up. Now children, your father and I are going to go and collect some firewood. You two can go ahead and eat your bread for lunch. But when you're done, you should take a nap. Now don't protest Gretel. We're going to be gone awhile, and there's nothing better for you to do. Now say goodbye to your father.

Gretel: Goodbye Father.

Father: Goodbye Gretel.

Hansel: Goodbye Father.

Father: Goodbye Hansel.

Stepmother: All right. I think that we've had enough sweetness for the day. Come on dear, we really must be going.

Father: Goodbye children.

Stepmother: Now! *{FATHER and STEPMOTHER exits stage left.}*

Gretel: All right Hansel, I can take my bread back now. But I must say that it was very generous of you to carry it for me.

Hansel: Well, about your bread Gretel... I-

Gretel: You didn't eat it, did you Hansel? You know that one of these days you'll get punished for your gluttony.

Hansel: Hey, I didn't eat it.

Gretel: Then what did you do?

Hansel: You know how I said that I would make it possible for us to find our way home?

Gretel: Yes.

Hansel: Well, um... I'll tell you later. *{He lies down.}*

Gretel: You're not going to sleep now are you?

Hansel: You heard what our stepmother said.

Gretel: But I'm hungry.

Hansel: Oh come on Gretel, you could stand to miss a meal every now and then. *{Offended, GRETSEL lies down and falls asleep. After she is asleep, HANSEL takes out the bread and eats all of it. He then lies back down again and falls asleep. The BIRDS then enter from various places and take up the breadcrumbs, and then exit. A WOLF howl is then heard, and HANSEL wakes up.}* Gretel? Hey Gretel? Gretel, please get up!

Gretel: *{Waking.}* What is it Hansel?

Hansel: There, there's a wolf!

Gretel: Where?

Hansel: I don't know. I just heard it.

Gretel: Oh you're such a baby.

Hansel: Am not!

Gretel: So Hansel, where's my bread?

Hansel: I, I uh ate it.

Gretel: But you said that you didn't!

Hansel: At the time I said that, I hadn't.

Gretel: What do you mean?

Hansel: I ate it after you fell asleep.

Gretel: Hansel!

Hansel: What? I was hungry.

Gretel: Why didn't you eat your own?

Hansel: Speaking of which, shall we go home now?

Gretel: Go home? Hansel, you're changing the subject.

Hansel: No I'm not. Now if you want to talk about people changing the subject- Hey, is that a house made entirely out of completely edible materials over there?

Gretel: Hansel!

Hansel: All right. But don't you want to know what clever idea I had so we can find our way home?

Gretel: You drew a map?

Hansel: Hey, that's a pretty good idea. I wish I would have thought of that. But no, I made a trail for us to follow.

Gretel: Well where is it Hansel? I don't see one.

Hansel: What do you mean you don't see one? It should be- hey! Where's the trail?

Gretel: You lost the trail?

Hansel: No I didn't. Someone must have moved it.

Gretel: Who would move your trail?

Hansel: I don't know Gretel! But I swear it was right here!

Gretel: What did you make the trail out of?

Hansel: Breadcrumbs.

Gretel: Breadcrumbs? You made a trail out of breadcrumbs? I must say that that is the stupidest thing you've ever done!

Hansel: Well there was that one time I got my tongue stuck on a metal pole last winter...

Gretel: *Breadcrumbs?* How could you?

Hansel: Oh, it was simple. All I did was take the piece of bread Father gave me, and I broke off little pieces every so often, and-

Gretel: You idiot! There are birds in the forest!

Hansel: We'll be fine. We're not statues or anything. So what if there are birds here?

Gretel: *So what if there are birds here?* Birds eat breadcrumbs, Hansel!

Hansel: So you think the birds ate our trail?

Gretel: No, little dwarfs came along and picked up each and every crumb for their dinner. Of course I think birds ate it!

Hansel: You don't have to be sarcastic.

Gretel: You don't have to be stupid! I can't believe you! Not only was that a waste of good food, but now we're not going to be able to find our way home. You told me that I could trust you!

Hansel: Well I didn't know that this would happen. Hey! Where are you going?

Gretel: Home.

Hansel: But you can't, you don't know the way.

Gretel: Nor do you.

Hansel: Well I-

Gretel: Hansel, we're lost. I know that because you're male, you won't be able to admit it, but I can.

Hansel: We're-

Gretel: Goodbye Hansel. *{Exits stage right.}*

Hansel: Fine! Go. I don't need your help. I'll find my own way home... Stupid birds! *{The WOLF howls.}* Ah, Gretel... *{WOLF howls again.}* Um, Gretel? Gretel! Hey wait for me! *{He exits stage right. The FROG PRINCE enters stage left.}*

Gretel: *{Enters stage right,}* Hansel? Hansel, where are you? I should have never left him by himself. He won't be able to survive in the woods alone.

Frog Prince: Did you know that talking to yourself is the first sign of insanity? *{GRETEL screams.}* I'm sorry if I startled you.

Gretel: You're a frog!

Frog Prince: Actually-

Gretel: A talking frog.

Frog Prince: Actually no, I'm not a frog.

Gretel: I'm sorry. You're a talking toad then?

Frog Prince: I most certainly am not!

Gretel: Then what are you? A mutated salamander?

Frog Prince: Actually no, I'm a human, a prince to be precise.

Gretel: What happened to you?

Frog Prince: You see, this witch turned me into a frog. It's a long story really, but I- Say, are you a princess?

Gretel: No, I- What do you think you're doing?

Frog Prince: I want you to kiss me. Actually, I need you to kiss me.

Gretel: I don't even know you.

Frog Prince: Please. You see, the only way I can break the spell and return to my prince form is if I can get a kiss.

Gretel: How long have you been a frog?

Frog Prince: Quite some time. You wouldn't believe how hard it is to get a girl to talk to you. Let alone kiss you, when you look like this. So what do you say?

Gretel: You wouldn't happen to have anything to eat, would you?

Frog Prince: I only have this one apple.

Gretel: If I can have the apple, I'll give you a kiss... *{FROG PRINCE shakes his head every*

time GRETEL asks.} How about half? A forth? What about one bite?

Frog Prince: All right, but just one bite.

Gretel: Thank you, you're a prince.

Frog Prince: I know. *{GRETEL takes a bite of the apple and faints.}* Oh, this couldn't be good. Ah, um... It's time to wake up. Come on. Wakey, wakey. Oh no. You know, you can keep the rest of the apple. Oh my, look at the time. I better go. *{Exits stage left.}*

Act I, Scene III

Another section of the Woods, with Rapunzel's tower at stage left.

{HANSEL enters stage right looking lost.}

Hansel: Gretel? Hey, I'm really sorry about eating your bread! I promise I'll make it up to you. Gretel? Come on, it's not funny any more. *{He sits down. RAPUNZEL emerges from her tower, standing high above the ground. She begins to sing.}* What's that? *{RAPUNZEL continues to sing, overlapping HANSEL's lines.}* Why it's beautiful. I wonder who could be singing. *{He sees RAPUNZEL, who is still singing.}* I think I'm in love.

Witch: Rapunzel? *{HANSEL hides, and the WITCH enters stage left.}* Oh you wouldn't believe the day I've had! It was just awful! At least I didn't see any rats today. But it was just horrid anyway... Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me! *{RAPUNZEL's hair falls down to the ground, and the WITCH climbs up it.}* Rapunzel, my day was just awful. You should be thankful that I keep you in the tower, that way you don't have to endure the horrors of the outside world. It's just wretched out there, nothing but sadness and misery... And rats! Ugh. You should consider yourself lucky because I saved you from it. But we're happy here, right Rapunzel? Now have you been practicing your scales today? Well let's go inside. It looks as though the weather will turn bad. *{She and RAPUNZEL exit within the tower.}*

Hansel: *{Emerges,}* What a beauty, with a voice to match... But she is held captive by a wicked Witch! Ah Rapunzel, Rapunzel, someday I will find a way to rescue you. *{The WOLF howls.}* But that's not going to be today. Gretel! *{Exits stage left.}*

Act I, Scene IV

Same as scene three.

{The WOLF is on stage, and LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD enters stage right with her basket.}

Wolf: Little girls shouldn't be out in the woods all by themselves... Now you wouldn't happen to have anything in that basket for me, would you?

Little Red Riding Hood: For the millionth time: *no*.

Wolf: Nothing at all?

Little Red Riding Hood: Nothing, now leave me alone. *{WOLF takes her basket.}* Hey! Give that back!

Wolf: It's empty!

Little Red Riding Hood: *{Taking the basket back,}* I already told you that. With what big ears you have, I'd imagine that you would be a better listener.

Wolf: You must have just returned from your granny's house then. *{HANSEL enters stage left.}*

Little Red Riding Hood: No, I'm going *to* her house. I always bring my grandmother an empty basket every time I go visit her. And with what a big head you have, I'd imagine that you be a bit smarter.

Wolf: One of these days I'll find out where your granny lives, and I'll get you when you come.

Little Red Riding Hood: In your dreams.

Wolf: Every night.

Hansel: *{Speaking boldly to the WOLF, but his confidence quickly diminishes.}* Hey! Yeah you. You, ah, you ah better leave um, leave her alone.

Wolf: And why should I?

Hansel: Because, I um... Because I, uh, said so.

Wolf: Ooh, I'm scared.

Hansel: You, you should be. *{WOLF rolls his eyes exits stage right, and HANSEL joins LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.}* Are you all right?

Little Red Riding Hood: Oh, my hero!

Hansel: Don't be sarcastic. I just saved you.

Little Red Riding Hood: Sure.

Hansel: I just did. Didn't you see the wolf leave?

Little Red Riding Hood: I was standing right here.

Hansel: Well I didn't know if you are able to concentrate or not when you're frozen with fear. *{Offering his hand.}* I'm Hansel.

Little Red Riding Hood: Good for you.

Hansel: And you would be?

Little Red Riding Hood: Leaving.

Hansel: Hey wait. Ah, what was your name again?

Little Red Riding Hood: Again? I never gave it to you in the first place.

Hansel: You know, little girls shouldn't be out alone in the woods.

Little Red Riding Hood: Like I haven't heard that before.

Hansel: So what's your name?

Little Red Riding Hood: I'm not supposed to talk to strangers.

Hansel: But I saved your life.

Little Red Riding Hood: Please.

Hansel: So what are you doing out here anyway?

Little Red Riding Hood: I'm going home.

Hansel: Don't you want to know why I'm out here?

Little Red Riding Hood: Not in particular.

Hansel: Well you see, my parents ran out of money and decided to abandon my sister and me in the woods.

Little Red Riding Hood: Wolf!

Hansel: Where?

Little Red Riding Hood: Wolf!

Hansel: What are you doing? The wolf isn't anywhere around here.

Little Red Riding Hood: Wolf!

Hansel: Hey! Will you stop that? He might hear you!

Little Red Riding Hood: Precisely, I'm calling him.

Hansel: Why?

Little Red Riding Hood: I like his company over yours.

Hansel: But if you call him over here, I won't be company anymore: I'll be lunch! Now will you please stop calling him?

Little Red Riding Hood: Fine.

Hansel: Hey, do you think you could help me?

Little Red Riding Hood: I believe that there is a psychiatrist in town that-

Hansel: Seriously.

Little Red Riding Hood: All right, what do you need help with?

Hansel: You see, there is this beautiful girl who a Witch keep locked up in a tower, and I want to talk to her. But she's so high up, and the only one who can get to her is the Witch.

Little Red Riding Hood: If I help you, will you leave me alone? *{HANSEL nods.}* Well just go up the same way the Witch does. Now how does the Witch do that?

Hansel: You see, everyday the Witch comes right below this tower and says *{in the Witch's voice}* "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me." *{RAPUNZEL emerges, and drops her hair.}* What? She must think I'm the Witch.

Little Red Riding Hood: Yes, you do have a certain old lady with warts appeal about you. Besides, judging by her hair, she looks like the easily confused type. Now it looks like you solved your problem. I should be going now.

Hansel: No, wait, please stay and keep watch just in case the Witch comes back.

Little Red Riding Hood: Why should I?

Hansel: Please? Please, please, please, please?

Little Red Riding Hood: Fine, fine. I'll do it. Just stop whining.

Hansel: Thank you so much. *{He climbs RAPUNZEL's hair.}*

Rapunzel: You're not the Witch!

Hansel: Are you disappointed?

Rapunzel: No, it's just that I wasn't expecting anyone else. Who are you?

Hansel: Your prince charming. *{JACK enters stage right with a golden egg.}*

Little Red Riding Hood: Jack? Is that you? *{HANSEL and RAPUNZEL exit.}*

Jack: Oh, hi Red.

Little Red Riding Hood: Why are you in such a hurry?

Jack: It's kind of a long story.

Little Red Riding Hood: *{She looks up at the tower, and sighs}* I have the time.

Jack: Remember when you met me?

Little Red Riding Hood: Yes, it was at the market place. You were trying to sell that sad excuse of a cow.

Jack: Hey! That was my favorite cow!

Little Red Riding Hood: Sorry. So Jack, did you ever sell your cow?

Jack: Yeah, I did Red, for three magical beans.

Little Red Riding Hood: It sounds like you got the better end of the deal.

Jack: That's what I thought. But my Mom didn't seem to think so. She got so mad that she threw the beans out the window. And you wouldn't believe it Red, but the beans grew into a giant beanstalk.

Little Red Riding Hood: Beans typically grow into beanstalks, Jack.

Jack: But this one grew over night, and it's huge! It reaches up to the sky. I'm not kidding. I even climbed up it too. And you wouldn't believe it Red, but up in the clouds there is this huge castle. And there are giants that live there!

Little Red Riding Hood: *{Taking notice of what JACK's holding behind his back.}* What's that?

Jack: What?

Little Red Riding Hood: What you've got behind your back.

Jack: Oh, nothing...

Little Red Riding Hood: If it were nothing, you wouldn't be hiding it. *{Taking the egg.}* It's a golden egg! Where did you get this? And don't tell me the Easter Bunny left it.

Jack: I, ah-

Little Red Riding Hood: You didn't steal this from the giants, did you? *{RAPUNZEL and HANSEL come into view.}*

Jack: How did you know? *{HANSEL climbs down and RAPUNZEL exits.}*

Little Red Riding Hood: You just told me. Now Jack, you know you shouldn't steal. Hansel? What took you so long? *{HANSEL tries to think of an excuse, but can't.}* Oh never mind.

Hansel: Who's this?

Little Red Riding Hood: Oh that's right Hansel. You don't know Jack, do you? Well... This is Jack.

Jack: Hi.

Little Red Riding Hood: And Jack, this is Hansel.

Jack: Well Red, I better go. My Mom is probably wondering where I am. See you later.

Little Red Riding Hood: Bye. *{JACK exits stage left.}*

Hansel: Your name's Red?

Little Red Riding Hood: Little Red Riding Hood, to be exact.

Hansel: So that explains your cloak.

Little Red Riding Hood: My grandmother made this cloak.

Hansel: Sorry.

Little Red Riding Hood: Well it's getting late; I had better go, like I was planning on doing earlier. *{Crosses to stage right.}* Why are you following me?

Hansel: I was hoping that you could lead me out of the woods.

Little Red Riding Hood: Sorry, but my house is located within. *{She walks a few more steps}* Now what?

Hansel: Do you think that I could come over to your house?

Little Red Riding Hood: Why don't you just stay with your beloved Tower Girl?

Hansel: I'd love to, but she said that the Witch would be coming back soon. So please Red? Can't I just come over for dinner at least? Can I? Please?

Little Red Riding Hood: Fine. *{LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD and HANSEL exit stage right.}*

Act I, Scene V

The same as scene two.

{GRETEL is sleeping on the stage in the same place where she was in ACT I, SCENE II. The 12 WISE WOMEN enter not seeing her. They are deep in

conversation and react to each other accordingly.}

Wise Woman 1: Now are all 12 of us here?

Wise Woman 2: I believe so.

Wise Woman 3: Oh this is so exciting. The King always has the best banquets.

Wise Woman 2: Too bad he lives so far away.

Wise Woman 4: Too bad we live so far away!

Wise Woman 3: Well I still think it was nice of him to invite us, considering that we don't even live within his kingdom.

Wise Woman 5: He only invited us so we could bestow wonderful blessings upon his baby daughter.

Wise Woman 3: Nonetheless, I'd have to say that he is much nicer than the man who rules this kingdom.

Wise Woman 6: I'd have to agree.

Wise Woman 7: Same here.

Wise Woman 8: So what blessing are you going to give to the young Princess?

Wise Woman 9: Oh you know, the usual: beauty, or riches, or something else. Whatever is left once everyone else is through. How about you?

Wise Woman 8: I don't know. I want to find out what everyone else is giving first.

Wise Woman 10: Well I'll give the Princess good musical talents.

Wise Woman 8: Vocal, or instrumental?

Wise Woman 10: Why not both?

Wise Woman 2: Does anyone remember what the Princess' name is? I just can't remember.

Wise Woman 4: It's Rose-something...

Wise Woman 1: It's Briar-rose

Wise Woman 8: So what is everyone else going to give the Princess?

Wise Woman 11: Well I know what I'm going to give her.

Wise Woman 8: What?

Wise Woman 11: It's very original, and you'll never guess what it is.

Wise Woman 8: Well what is it?

Wise Woman 11: Aren't you going to guess?

Wise Woman 9: You just said that we'd never guess, so why should we bother?

Wise Woman 11: Well I'm going to give her good spinning skills.

Wise Woman 12: Does anyone know how long the banquet is going to last?

Wise Woman 1: It should be over by midnight.

Wise Woman 12: Oh good.

Wise Woman 4: So what time is it now?

Wise Woman 1: It's almost noon.

Wise Woman 5: What time are we supposed to be there?

Wise Woman 1: Noon! *{All of the WISE WOMEN exits stage right.}*

Wise Woman 13: *{Enters stage left,}* Oh my, my. So I wasn't invited to the King's Banquet! The social event of the year. Oh how dreadfully awful. I'm just simply crushed. I don't see how I'll ever go on. Well, it's a good thing that the other Wise Women can't keep quiet about anything, otherwise I would have never found out about this banquet. Now I wonder how I can get my revenge on the King... *{Exits stage right.}*

Prince Charming: *{Enters stage left carrying a glass slipper and goes to GRETEL.}* Ah, what is this? A sleeping beauty? So it is. This can wait. *{Drops the shoe,}* Now what would possess such a beauty to sleep so deep within the woods? The woods are undeserving of her beauty. This is no place for her, but she should sleep upon a hundred mattresses. That would be more comfortable. Ah, wake up my beauty and let me learn to know the one behind the beauty.

Father: *{Calling from off stage,}* Gretel! Gretel, where are you?

Prince Charming: Alas, someone is calling for you my beauty. That is if you are Gretel. Ah Gretel, what a beautiful name.

Father: Gretel?

Prince Charming: How I long for you to wake my beauty. Perchance a kiss will waken you. *{He kisses GRETEL.}*

Father: Gretel? It's me, your Father!

Prince Charming: Your father? Ah, ah, well I best be gone. *{He picks up the shoe and exits stage left. GRETEL then wakes up.}*

Father: Gretel, where are you?

Gretel: What? Oh Father, I'm over here!

Father: *{Enters stage right,}* It's good to see you Gretel! Do you know where your brother is?

Gretel: No.

Father: Well that's for the best.

Gretel: What are you doing here?

Father: Well after your Stepmother died, I found a way to make us some money.

Gretel: Mother's dead?

Father: Yes, I buried her under the juniper tree. But Gretel, I've come up with a way to make us rich.

Gretel: But what about Hansel?

Father: What about him? We'd just have to share the money with him if he were around.

Gretel: Father! How can you say such a thing?

King: *{He enters stage left with the PAGE and his TRAIN.}* Is this the man that we are looking for?

Page: Yes, my King.

Gretel: I must ask how are you planning on making this money Father?

Father: Well Gretel, I told the King that-

King: You there!

Father: Me?

King: Yes you sir. Is this your daughter?

Father: Yes, this is my daughter Gretel.

King: Gretel? Hmm... I'll have to remember that. Now tell me sir, why does she dress like this when she has such talents as you have explained? I mean, the colour scheme is all wrong. And the textures of the fabric don't go well together at all. Anyone with a bit a fashion taste knows that this is a definite no-no.

Father: She doesn't like to flaunt her talents your majesty.

Gretel: *What?*

Father: Now your majesty, when will I be receiving the dowry?

Gretel: *Dowry?*

King: After the wedding.

Gretel: *Wedding?*

Father: Shh!

Gretel: Now Father, exactly what did you tell the King?

King: I'll have my Page bring it to you after the wedding. Does that sound reasonable?

Father: Very reasonable your majesty.

King: Come on Gretta- was it? Let us go. *{KING, PAGE, GRETTEL, and TRAIN exit stage left.}*

To read the rest, please purchase the script.