

MARIE - Scene A

1-6-27

I AM IN THE ROYAL PALACE, OF ALL PLACES!
WHEN I MEET THE FINEST PRINCE YOU'VE EVER SEEN,
AND THE COLOR ON MY TWO STEPSISTERS' FACES
IS A QUEER SORT OF SOUR-APPLE GREEN.

(Dances with bouquet)

I AM COY AND FLIRTATIOUS
WHEN ALONE WITH THE PRINCE.

(Looks at the flowers; drops them to her side)

I'M THE BELLE OF THE BALL
IN MY OWN LITTLE CORNER
ALL ALONE
IN MY OWN
LITTLE (CHAIR—)

MARIE

(Entering from behind tree, interrupting)

FOL-DE-ROL AND FIDDLEDY DEE,
FIDDLEDY FADDLEDY FODDLE,
ALL THE WISHES IN THE WORLD
ARE POPPYCOCK AND TWADDLE!

ELLA

Oh Crazy Marie. Are you mocking me with your gibberish?

MARIE

Yes.

FOL-DE-ROL AND FIDDLEDY DEE,
FIDDLEDY FADDLEDY FOODLE,
ALL THE DREAMERS IN THE WORLD
ARE DIZZY IN THE NOODLE.

ELLA

So what if I do have a dream to see the Prince again? And tell him what life in his kingdom is really like?
And what it could be.

MARIE

Exactly. And then to have him fall in love with you.

ELLA

No one will fall in love with me. Why do you come to visit me tonight?

MARIE

I JUST KNEW I WOULD FIND YOU
IN THE SAME LITTLE CHAIR
IN THE PALE PINK MIST OF A FOOLISH DREAM.

ELLA

I am being foolish.

START

MARIE

Then be foolish with me. What would you dream of?

ELLA

Why, an invitation to the ball, I guess.

MARIE

(Produces invitation)
Right here. There's an invitation.

ELLA

What? But it's torn.

MARIE

Don't wait for everything to be perfect, just go! Now, what else would you dream of?

ELLA

Oh, a white gown, I imagine. A beautiful white gown sewn up with pearls. And jewels. And a tiara of diamonds.

MARIE

And on your feet?

ELLA

Why, the most beautiful grosgrain pumps, I'd imagine.

MARIE

No. Better. The Venetian glass that your stepmother so loves in her trinkets and baubles. An entire pair of shoes made only of Venetian glass.

ELLA

Oh, how silly. I'd be the envy of all. But how would I get to the ball?

MARIE

Well, this pumpkin over here?

ELLA

Yes?

MARIE

I'll turn it into a golden carriage.

ELLA

And horses?

MARIE

Those mice? Trapped in this cage.

ELLA

And a fox as a footman, and a raccoon as a driver. Oh, you are crazy, Marie. Why, in order to do that, you would have to be a fairy godmother.

(MARIE turns and rips off her rags and ragged cape. Underneath, is the most beautiful gown. ELLA gasps.)

ELLA

Marie! But you're a crazy woman! What are you doing in that beautiful gown?

MARIE

You'd be surprised how many beautiful gowns have crazy women in them.

ELLA

Are you really my fairy godmother?

MUSIC 8: IMPOSSIBLE

MARIE

But of course, my child. Actually, I'm everyone's fairy godmother. But you're the only one who's given me charity. Generosity. And kindness. And now, I must make all the dreams we joked about come true.

ELLA

But that's so improbable. Implausible.

END

MARIE

IMPOSSIBLE
FOR A PLAIN YELLOW PUMPKIN
TO BECOME A GOLDEN CARRIAGE!
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR A PLAIN COUNTRY BUMPKIN
AND A PRINCE TO JOIN IN MARRIAGE!
AND FOUR WHITE MICE WILL NEVER BE FOUR WHITE HORSES—
SUCH FOL-DE-ROL AND FIDDLEDY DEE OF COURSE IS
IMPOSSIBLE!

BUT THE WORLD IS FULL OF ZANIES AND FOOLS
WHO DON'T BELIEVE IN SENSIBLE RULES
AND WON'T BELIEVE WHAT SENSIBLE PEOPLE SAY,
AND BECAUSE THESE DAFT AND DEWY-EYED DOPES
KEEP BUILDING UP IMPOSSIBLE HOPES,
IMPOSSIBLE THINGS ARE HAPP'NING EVERY DAY!

ELLA

IMPOSSIBLE!

MARIE

IMPOSSIBLE!

ELLA

IMPOSSIBLE!

MARIE

IMPOSSIBLE!

