

The Princess with a Frozen Heart



Adapted from the novel by L. Frank Baum

C. Edward Wheaton

Adapted from *The Scarecrow of Oz* by L. Frank Baum

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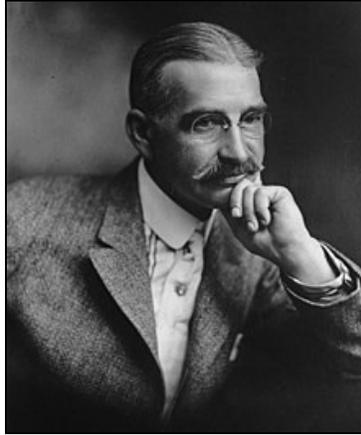
The Princess with a Frozen Heart

CLASSIC. Adapted from the novel *The Scarecrow of Oz* by L. Frank Baum. King Krewl insists Princess Gloria marry the wealthy Lord Tullydub, but Princess Gloria has fallen in love with Pon, the gardener's son. To remedy the situation, King Krewl hires Zora the witch to freeze Princess Gloria's heart so that she will no longer love Pon. But now that Princess Gloria's heart is frozen, she cannot love anyone and declines Lord Tullydub's proposal. It's now up to Glinda the Good and the Scarecrow to find a way to unfreeze Princess Gloria's heart. Suitable for all ages. Easy to stage.

Performance Time: Approximately 75 minutes.

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

4



L. Frank Baum, circa 1911

About the Story

Lyman Frank Baum (1856-1919) was born in Chittenango, NY, and grew up on his family's large estate, where he was the seventh of nine children. Baum was influenced by the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Andersen, and Lewis Carroll. After an unsuccessful period as a playwright and theater producer, Baum moved from upstate New York to South Dakota, where he and his wife opened a store and Baum worked as the editor and publisher of a newspaper. Later, Baum relocated his family to Chicago, where he worked as a newspaper reporter and wrote his best-selling children's novel, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, which was published in 1900. In 1915, Baum published *The Scarecrow of Oz*, which Baum said was his favorite of the 14 novels set in Oz. In addition to his Oz novels, Baum wrote numerous short stories, poems, and novels before he died in 1919. Baum's final book, *Glinda of Oz*, was published in 1920, one year after his death.

Characters

7 M, 11 F, 7 flexible, extras
(With doubling: 6 M, 8 F, 5 flexible)

KING KREWL: Wicked, greedy king who usurped the throne from Princess Gloria's father; male.

LORD TULLYDUB: Wealthy lord who has asked Princess Gloria to marry him 39 times but she refuses; offers money and jewels to King Krewl in return for Princess Gloria's hand in marriage; male.

PRINCESS GLORIA: Rightful ruler of Jinxland who is in love with Pon, the gardener's boy, but King Krewl is forcing her to marry Lord Tullydub; female.

PON: The gardener's boy who is in love with Princess Gloria; male.

LADY DORTHIA: Princess Gloria's loyal lady-in-waiting; wears a cloak with a hood; female.

ZORA: Witch who has been tasked by King Krewl to freeze Princess Gloria's heart so she will no longer love Pon and will marry Lord Tullydub instead; female.

GWIG: Zora's minion; flexible.

GUARDS 1, 2: King Krewl's loyal guards; flexible.

GLINDA THE GOOD: The Good Witch of the South, a good and beautiful sorceress with magical powers who rules over Quadling Country in the southern quadrant of the Land of Oz; female.

SCARECROW: Scarecrow who has been given brains by the Wizard of Oz and who serves as friend and advisor to Glinda the Good; male.

MESSENGER: Glinda the Good's messenger; flexible.

CAPTAIN BILL MORGAN: Balloonist extraordinaire from Ohio who accidentally lands in Jinxland; male.

MILLIE: Captain Bill's niece who lands with him in Jinxland; female.

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

6

- SIR TALLYDINGLE:** Rose-loving knight who served Princess Gloria's father but was banished when King Krewl took the throne; distinguished-looking gentleman who sports a walrus-type mustache and wears a leather apron and a pair of gardening gloves; male.
- PESSUM THE OBSERVER:** Quarrelsome, fault-finding old man who lives alone because he drove the entire village away with his negativity; male.
- TWIX:** Tween's sister; female.
- TWEEN:** Twix's sister; female.
- MOTHER:** Twix and Tween's mother; female.
- CARNIVAL MANAGER:** Manager of the Bailum and Barney's Great Consolidated Shows; flexible.
- LADY 1-3:** Ladies at the carnival; female.
- SERVANT:** King Krewl's servant; nonspeaking; flexible.
- CITIZEN 1, 2:** Citizens of Jinxland who appear before King Krewl to air their grievances; flexible.
- EXTRAS:** Additional Citizens of Jinxland and Carnival-goers (opt.).

Options for Doubling

- SIR TALLYDINGLE/PESSUM** (male)
- LADY 1/TWIX** (female)
- LADY 2/TWEEN** (female)
- LADY 3/MOTHER** (female)
- SERVANT/CARNIVAL MANAGER** (flexible)
- MESSENGER/GWIG** (flexible)

Setting

Jinxland, a principality of the Land of Oz that is cut off from the rest of the Land of Oz by a high range of mountains, an impassible gulf, and the Deadly Desert.

Sets

Locations are represented by simple set pieces that can be moved on an off easily. Note: The same hut and woods backdrop may be used for locales.

Castle garden. There are trees, shrubs, and patches of flowers.

There is a bench partially hidden by bushes SL.

Castle throne room. There is a throne for King Krewl. A second throne is brought on for Princess Gloria.

Zora's hut in the woods. There is a hut with a pole next to it and a large cauldron hanging over a "fire" SL.

Woods. There is a backdrop of a woods and some bushes large enough to hide behind.

Sir Tallydingle's hut in the woods. At CS, there is a hut and a rose garden SR. There is a bench out front.

Carnival. A cutout of a hot-air balloon and basket. A carnival backdrop may be used, if desired.

Twix and Tween's hut in the woods. There is a hut and a flower garden and trees.

Castle kitchen. A backdrop may be used or a bare stage will suffice.

Pessum's hut in the woods. There is a hut with a chair outside the hut.

Princess Gloria's study. There is a desk, a chair, and some books.

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I

Scene 1: Castle garden.

Scene 2: Castle throne room.

Scene 3: Zora's hut in the woods.

Scene 4: Castle throne room.

Scene 5: Pon's hut in the woods.

Scene 6: Zora's hut in the woods.

Scene 7: The woods.

Scene 8: Castle garden.

Scene 9: Castle throne room.

Scene 10: Sir Tallydingle's hut in the woods.

Intermission, opt.

ACT II

Scene 1: Carnival, Ohio, 1915.

Scene 2: The woods.

Scene 3: Twix and Tween's hut in the woods.

Scene 4: Glinda the Good's study in Quadling Country.

Scene 5: Castle kitchen.

Scene 6: Pessum's hut in the woods.

Scene 7: Castle throne room.

Scene 8: Castle gardens.

Scene 9: The woods.

Scene 10: Sir Tallydingle's hut in the woods.

Scene 11: Castle throne room.

Props

Armload of chopped wood	attach it to Millie's
Several bottles for "potions"	shoulder)
Cauldron	Large book with "The Great
Ladle	Book of Records" on the
2 Bags of "jewels"	cover
Rope	Map
Brass bottle and bowl	3 Short ropes
Watering can	Slip of paper (recipe)
Hoe	Ingredients for soup
Picnic basket	Sticks
Carnival fliers	Sword, for Sir Tallydingle
Sign that reads, "Bailum and Barney's Great Consolidated Shows!"	Pouch with powder or glitter inside, for Scarecrow
Sign that reads, "Captain Bill Morgan, Balloonist Extraordinaire!"	Small box with powder or glitter inside
Rope that leads to a valve	Pouch with powder or glitter inside, for Zora
Small plastic grasshopper (with Velcro tape to	Magic wand, for Zora
	Crown, for King Krewl

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

18

Special Effects

Knock at the door
Bubbling sound for cauldron
Fire effect (lighting)
Smoke effect for cauldron (opt.)
Flash
Music, "The Entrance of the Gladiators"
Pounding at the door
Gust of wind

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

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“Love and cats have nine lives.”

—Zora

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

12

ACT

Scene 1

(AT RISE: Castle gardens. There are trees, shrubs, and patches of flowers. At CS, there is a bench partially hidden by bushes SL. Pon, the gardener's boy, and Princess Gloria are seated on the bench.)

PON: Princess, you shouldn't be seen with me. You know your uncle, King Krewl, has forbidden it.

PRINCESS GLORIA: I know it, but I had to come and see you. I tried to stay away, but I just couldn't. It is becoming unbearable. The King insists that I marry Lord Tullydub or nobody. And right now, nobody has a better chance. I love you, Pon. You have touched my heart in a way that no other young man has.

PON: But I'm just a gardener's boy.

PRINCESS GLORIA: I don't care.

(King Krewl, Lord Tullydub, and Guard 1, 2 enter.)

LORD TULLYDUB: *(To King Krewl, pointing at Princess Gloria and Pon.)* There! You see? I told you this is where the Princess would be...cavorting with that, that, gardener's boy!

(King Krewl approaches Princess Gloria.)

KING KREWEL: *(To Princess Gloria, menacingly.)* You know I have forbidden you to see this boy! Why do you constantly defy my wishes?

PRINCESS GLORIA: Even though he is a gardener's boy, I love him!

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

3

KING KREWEL: Impossible! Princesses do not fall in love with commoners!

PRINCESS GLORIA: I am not so sure about that. You could be wrong.

KING KREWEL: A king is never wrong! You are not to see this boy anymore! I will have you locked in your room, and you will stay there until you decide to marry Lord Tullydub!

PRINCESS GLORIA: Then I will stay in my room until I am as old as he is! (*Indicating Lord Tullydub.*) Then I will marry him!

KING KREWEL: (*To Lord Tullydub, mood lightens.*) You see? There is hope for you.

LORD TULLYDUB: (*Worried.*) But, Your Majesty—

(*King Krewel raises his hand to stop Lord Tullydub. The King's mood darkens again as he turns to Pon.*)

KING KREWEL: (*To Pon.*) If you know what is good for you, you common gardener's boy, you will stay away from Princess Gloria or I will have you flogged, beheaded, and banished! (*To Guard 1, 2.*) Escort the Princess back to the castle and see that she doesn't leave. (*To Princess Gloria.*) Don't force me to resort to locking you in your room and posting guards outside your door.

(*Guard 1, 2 starts to escort Princess Gloria and start to exit. Princess Gloria looks back longingly at Pon. They exit. King exits after them.*)

LORD TULLYDUB: (*To Pon.*) You heard what His Majesty said!

(*Pon picks up his hoe like he wants to strike Tullydub. Lord Tullydub exits.*)

Scene 2

(AT RISE: Castle throne room. King Krewl is sitting on his throne. Lord Tullydub is pleading with him.)

LORD TULLYDUB: But Your Majesty!

KING KREWL: There is nothing more I can do.

LORD TULLYDUB: Couldn't it be managed that Pon accidentally falls into the Great Gulf?

KING KREWL: It would do no good. The Princess is a stubborn young lady. She would still love him.

LORD TULLYDUB: *(Sighs.)* I have asked her to marry me 39 times, and she has refused me 39 times!

KING KREWL: Well?

LORD TULLYDUB: I'm beginning to think that it is hopeless. *(Pause. Sneers.)* "A bird that can sing, and won't sing, must be made to sing."

KING KREWL: *(Sneers.)* Huh! That is easy with a bird, but the Princess is harder to manage. There is no more I can do.

(Lord Tullydub comes up with a new strategy.)

LORD TULLYDUB: That is a shame. I have saved a bushel of jewels that I had intended to give Your Highness upon my marriage to Princess Gloria.

KING KREWL: Hmm... *(Mulling it over. Interested.)* A bushel, you say?

LORD TULLYDUB: Well, more like a bushel and a half. *(Sighs.)* But, now...

KING KREWL: Perhaps there is a way. What we must do is kill Gloria's love for Pon.

LORD TULLYDUB: That is better if there is such a way to do it. *(Silence as King Krewl and Lord Tullydub think. Gets an idea.)* I know! Why not send for Zora the witch? You have used her services on many occasions.

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

15

KING KREWL: You mean place an enchantment on Princess Gloria?

LORD TULLYDUB: That's an excellent idea, Your Majesty!

KING KREWL: Hmm...yes...an enchantment. *(Realizes.)*

Oh, but that hag demands many rewards for her services.

LORD TULLYDUB: Never mind, I will pay.

KING KREWL: *(Smiles.)* Well, now, that does alter things.

And since you insist... *(No response from Lord Tullydub.)* You do insist...?

LORD TULLYDUB: Yes, Your Majesty.

KING KREWL: Then I will immediately send a servant to summon the witch.

LORD TULLYDUB: *(Bowing.)* Thank you, Your Majesty!

(King Krewl and Lord Tullydub exit. Princess Gloria enters.)

LADY DORTHIA: *(Offstage, calls.)* Princess, it is I. *(Enters.)*

PRINCESS GLORIA: Lady Dorthia!

(Lady Dorthia looks back over her shoulder to make sure no one is watching and then quickly approaches. Princess Gloria and Dorthia embrace.)

LADY DORTHIA: *(Leading the Princess away from the door to the other side of the room.)* It is urgent that I speak with you.

PRINCESS GLORIA: *(Anxiously.)* What is it?

LADY DORTHIA: Princess, I bring news.

PRINCESS GLORIA: What news?

LADY DORTHIA: A faithful servant has informed me that the King has sent for the witch, Zora. I fear, Princess, that they are planning to work some enchantment upon you.

(Princess Gloria steps away from Lady Dorthia to mull this over.)

PRINCESS GLORIA: *(Turns quickly.)* This is some of Lord Tullydub's doing! He would do anything to force me to

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

16

marry him. If it were not for the witch, Zora, the people would overthrow King Krewl.

LADY DORTHIA: By rights, you are the rightful ruler of Jinxland.

PRINCESS GLORIA: In this case, rights mean nothing. I am a prisoner.

LADY DORTHIA: What are you going to do?

PRINCESS GLORIA: What can I do?

(Pause.)

LADY DORTHIA: Perhaps...perhaps if you merely *promise* to marry Lord Tullydub, it would give you time—

PRINCESS GLORIA: No! I will not promise to marry that horrible man even to save my own life!

(Princess Gloria begins pacing, nervously.)

LADY DORTHIA: Princess, I have an idea.

(Princess stops pacing and approaches Lady Dorthia.)

PRINCESS GLORIA: What is it?

LADY DORTHIA: Leave the castle and go to Pon.

PRINCESS GLORIA: But I can't leave. The King has given orders that I am not allowed to leave the castle.

LADY DORTHIA: Change clothes with me.

PRINCESS GLORIA: But—

LADY DORTHIA: Don't argue! *(Princess Gloria is taken aback.)* I'm sorry. Please, Princess. Change clothes with me. You can leave the castle undetected. Put the hood of my cloak over your head and make sure no one sees your face.

PRINCESS GLORIA: But what about you?

LADY DORTHIA: When you are safely away, I will sneak out the back way and meet up with you. Quickly now!
(Blackout.)

Scene 3

(AT RISE: Zora's hut in the woods. There is a pole SR of the hut. At SL, there is a bubbling cauldron hanging over a "fire." Carrying several bottles, Zora exits her hut, goes to cauldron, and begins mixing the contents.)

ZORA: Hee! Hee! Hee! Zora, you sure put one over on that old fool of a wizard. You gave him six worn-out charms in exchange for three new ones. (Cackles. Stirs the cauldron and takes a sniff.) Now, to see if this new spell works! But who shall I try it on? (Gwig enters, carrying an armload of wood. Gwig drops the wood next to the cauldron and then enters the hut. To herself.) Why not try it on Gwig? Hmm, yes. That's a good idea. (Cackles.) But what if it works? I'll have to find another minion. (Shrugs.) How hard can that be? (Cackles. Gwig exits the hut. Calls.) Oh, Gwig!

GWIG: Yes, Your Wickedness?

ZORA: I want you to try this.

GWIG: What is it?

ZORA: Never mind what it is. Just taste it. (Lifts ladle. Gwig reluctantly takes a sip from the ladle. With keen anticipation.) Well? Do you feel any different?

GWIG: No.

ZORA: Hmm. Not even a slight tingling sensation?

GWIG: No.

(Zora dips the ladle into the cauldron.)

ZORA: (Offering.) Take another sip.

(Gwig takes another sip.)

GWIG: (Smacks his lips.) Needs more salt.

(Angry, Zora grabs the ladle from Gwig.)

ZORA: Bah! Get back to your chores before I turn you into something useful! *(Stirs the cauldron. Dips the ladle, brings it up to her nose, takes a whiff, and takes a sip. To herself.)* Soup! That old wizard traded me ingredients for soup! Oh, Zora, you are getting old. To be cheated in this way! If your sisters ever found out! *(Guard 2 enters, looking very nervous. Zora doesn't notice him. Guard 2 stands silent for a moment and then nervously clears his throat to get Zora's attention. Zora turns.)* Well, what do you want?

GUARD 2: *(Nervously clearing his throat.)* His Royal Majesty, King Krewl, commands— *(Zora takes a couple of steps toward the Servant and gives him a hard stare.)* Well, it might have been more like an invitation to come to the palace. He has a matter of importance to discuss with you. *(Fidgets nervously as he awaits Zora's reply.)*

ZORA: Tell His Highness that I shall be there directly. *(Guard 2 seems to be frozen in place. Zora moves closer. Shouts.)* Boo!

(Terrified, Guard 2 runs off. Zora cackles. Blackout.)

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

19

Scene 4

(AT RISE: Castle throne room. King Krewl and Lord Tullydub are awaiting the arrival of Zora. Nervous, Lord Tullydub is pacing.)

KING KREWL: (To Lord Tullydub.) Will you relax before you wear a hole in the floor?! (Lord Tullydub keeps pacing. Shouts.) That is a royal command! (Lord Tullydub stops pacing. Knock at the door. Calls.) Enter!

(Guard 2 enters.)

GUARD 2: (Bows.) Your Majesty, the witch, Zora, has arrived and is awaiting your pleasure.

KING KREWL: Bring her in.

GUARD 2: Yes, Your Majesty.

(Guard 2 bows and exits. Zora enters, escorted by Guard 2. They halt CS.)

KING KREWL: (To Guard 2, with a wave of his hand.) Leave us.

GUARD 2: (Bows.) Yes, Your Majesty. (Exits.)

ZORA: You summoned me, Your Majesty?

KING KREWL: Of course, I did.

ZORA: How may I be of service to you this time?

KING KREWL: Can you destroy the love Princess Gloria has for the gardener's boy?

ZORA: That's a hard question to answer. It would be simpler to turn the gardener's boy into a toad or some other loathsome creature.

KING KREWL: (Sighs.) That wouldn't do at all. She would still love him no matter what you turned him into.

ZORA: Well, I can do, as you well know, lots of clever magic, but love is a stubborn thing to conquer. When you think

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

28

you've killed love, it's liable to bob up again as strong as ever. Love and cats have nine lives, you know.

LORD TULLYDUB: (*Exasperated.*) Your Highness, we are wasting our time with this old hag!

(*Zora approaches Lord Tullydub and looks him in the eye.*)

ZORA: (*To King Krewl, pointing at Lord Tullydub.*) This one I will turn into a loathsome creature for nothing.

(*Scared, Lord Tullydub hides behind King Krewl.*)

KING KREWL: Maybe later. Let's stick with one enchantment at a time.

ZORA: (*Pacing.*) Killing love is a hard job, even for a skillful witch such as myself. (*Stops pacing and approaches the King.*) But I believe I can do something that will achieve your purpose just as well.

KING KREWL: What is that?

ZORA: I can freeze the girl's heart. I've got a special incantation for that, and when Gloria's heart is thoroughly frozen, she will no longer love the gardener's boy.

LORD TULLYDUB: Just the thing!

(*Zora glares at Tullydub and hisses at him. Scared, Lord Tullydub shrinks back behind King Krewl.*)

ZORA: Well, Your Highness?

KING KREWL: Yes, I think that will do nicely. I agree!

ZORA: Now, about my fee. For a difficult incantation such as this, my fee is one bag of coins and one bag of jewels.

LORD TULLYDUB: That's outrageous!

ZORA: Well, perhaps you can find another witch...

LORD TULLYDUB: (*Whining.*) Your Majesty...

KING KREWL: If I remember correctly, it was you who insisted we use Zora's services.

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

21

LORD TULLYDUB: Well, yes, but—

KING KREWL: *(To Zora, indicating Lord Tullydub.)* He will pay it.

LORD TULLYDUB: Had I known how much it would cost, I would not have offered—

(Lord Tullydub throws a temper tantrum like a child. King Krewl patiently waits for Lord Tullydub to stop. Lord Tullydub finally stops.)

KING KREWL: Are you quite finished?

LORD TULLYDUB: *(Sulking.)* Yes...

ZORA: *(To King Krewl.)* Bring the Princess to my hut tomorrow. I shall have everything ready. *(Curtseys.)* Your Majesty.

(As Zora exits, she hisses at Lord Tullydub and he shrinks back in fear.)

LORD TULLYDUB: Your Majesty! A bag of coins *and* a bag of jewels?!

KING KREWL: Would you rather have been turned into a toad? *(Calls.)* Guard! *(Guard 2 enters. To Guard 2.)* Bring the Princess to me.

GUARD 2: Yes, Your Majesty. *(Bows and exits.)*

KING KREWL: *(To Lord Tullydub.)* We will take Princess Gloria straightaway to Zora, and that should end her involvement with Pon. *(Tullydub stands silent.)* What's wrong? I thought you would be excited.

LORD TULLYDUB: Your Majesty, may I ask to be excused from going along?

KING KREWL: I thought you wanted to be the first to see your intended.

LORD TULLYDUB: There is plenty of time for that. Besides, I don't think Zora is very fond of me, and she just might throw in an extra enchantment.

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

22

KING KREWL: As you wish.

LORD TULLYDUB: (*Happily.*) The Princess and I shall be married this very day! All preparations have been made! (*Slight pause.*) But what if Zora's spell doesn't work?

KING KREWL: You won't be any worse off than you are now.

LORD TULLYDUB: I shall be poorer by a bushel and a half of gems and a bag of coins and gems with nothing to show for it!

KING KREWL: Relax, Zora has never failed me.

LORD TULLYDUB: But—

KING KREWL: If she had failed me, we would be speaking of her in the past tense. (*Guard 2 enters.*) Where is the Princess? (*Guard 2 hesitates.*) Speak up!

GUARD 2: I regret to inform Your Majesty that Princess Gloria is not in her room.

KING KREWL: Where is she?

GUARD 2: No one knows.

KING KREWL: What do you mean, "no one knows"?!

GUARD 2: No one has seen her since yesterday.

LORD TULLYDUB: She has run away, Your Majesty!

KING KREWL: Thank you, Tullydub. I would have eventually figured it out. (*To Guard 2.*) How did she manage to get by my guards? (*Guard 2 doesn't respond.*) I am surrounded by fools! Bring me her lady-in-waiting, Lady Dorthia.

GUARD 2: She is missing also.

KING KREWL: I see...

LORD TULLYDUB: What are you going to do?! I think you should summon Zora and make her use her magic to find out where the Princess is hiding.

KING KREWL: I don't need Zora to know where the Princess is... (*Blackout.*)

Scene 5

(AT RISE: Pon's hut in the woods. Pon, Princess Gloria, and Lady Dorthia are standing in front of Pon's hut.)

PRINCESS GLORIA: *(To Pon.)* What are we going to do now?

By now, the King has discovered that I have run away.

PON: Well, we can't stay here. This will be the first place the King will come in search of you.

LADY DORTHIA: Where can we go? The people of Jinxland will be too afraid to take us in.

PON: I know of someone who isn't afraid of King Krewl.

PRINCESS GLORIA: Who is it?

PON: A knight...Sir Tallydingle. He was banished when King Krewl took the throne.

LADY DORTHIA: Then may I suggest that we leave immediately?

GUARD 2: *(Offstage, shouts.)* There they are, Your Majesty!

LADY DORTHIA: *(To Princess Gloria.)* It's King Krewl!

PRINCESS GLORIA: You must go!

LADY DORTHIA: I won't leave you, Princess!

PON: *(To Princess Gloria.)* Nor will I!

PRINCESS GLORIA: You must go! If you are captured, there is no telling what the King will do to you. Also, if you are captured, who will rescue me? You must go to Sir Tallydingle and ask for his help. *(Pon and Lady Dorthia don't move.)* Must I make it a royal command?! Now, go quickly!

(Pon and Lady Dorthia run off. King Krewl, Guard 1, 2, and Servant enter. Servant is carrying two bags. Princess Gloria tries to run off in the opposite direction.)

KING KREWEL: *(To Guards 1, 2, shouts.)* Grab the Princess!

(Guard 1, 2 grab Princess Gloria and bring her back.)

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

24

GUARD 1: What of the other two?

KING KREWL: Never mind them for now. I will deal with them later. Besides, how far can they go? Jinxland is a small country, and no one will dare give them shelter. Come along, Princess, you have an appointment with Zora. (*Guard 2 binds Gloria's hands. To Guard 1.*) Post a guard here in case they come back.

GUARD 1: Yes, Your Majesty.

KING KREWL: (*To Princess Gloria.*) Come along...

(King Krewl and Princess Gloria exit. Blackout.)

Scene 6

(AT RISE: Zora's hut in the woods. King Krewl enters. Guards 1, 2, and Servant enter with Princess Gloria.)

KING KREWL: *(To Guard 1, 2.)* Bind her to that pole.

(Guard 1, 2 bind Gloria to the pole. Zora emerges from her hut.)

ZORA: *(Curtsies.)* Your Majesty.

(King Krewl takes the bags of jewels and money from his Servant and hands them to Zora. Zora holds up the bags, shakes them, and pulls out some jewels. Delighted, Zora takes the bags into her hut and returns.)

KING KREWL: Are you absolutely sure you can freeze this princess's heart so that she will no longer love that lowly gardener's boy?

ZORA: Sure as witchcraft, Your Majesty.

KING KREWL: Then get to work. But if you fail, I will tie you to that pole! *(Points to the pole where Princess Gloria is tied. Turns to exit.)*

ZORA: Oh, Your Majesty, you are leaving?

(King Krewl stops and turns.)

KING KREWL: I am sure this is going to be most unpleasant. After all, she is my niece. I shall be awaiting the result back at the palace.

ZORA: As you wish. *(King Krewl, Guard 1, 2, and Servant exit. To Princess Gloria.)* And now, my dear, when old Zora is finished, you will be an entirely different person. *(Calls.)* Gwig!

(Gwig emerges from the hut.)

GWIG: Yes, Your Wickedness?

ZORA: Bring out the magical compounds I have prepared.

GWIG: Yes, Your Wickedness.

(Gwig exits into the hut. Zora cackles with pleasure.)

ZORA: *(To Princess Gloria.)* Your uncle is going to be very pleased with the results. *(Gwig emerges from the hut with a brass bottle and a bowl. Zora adds the contents of the brass bottle to the cauldron, stirring as she does. The cauldron begins to smoke and bubble. [Note: Bubbling sound is heard. Smoke is optional.] Zora walks around the cauldron waving her hands over it and mumbling an incantation. She reaches into the bowl and tosses some of its contents into the cauldron. Flash. Zora cackles. She dips the wooden ladle into the cauldron and approaches Gloria, who struggles. Recites.)* "Love no more! Magic art, now will freeze your mortal heart!" *(Zora sprinkles the contents of the ladle on Princess Gloria. Princess Gloria goes still. Zora unties her from the post.)* Now, my dear, tell me...who do you love? *(Princess Gloria is silent.)* I ask again, "Who do you love?"

(Princess Gloria puts her hand over her heart.)

PRINCESS GLORIA: *(Coldly.)* No one.

(Zora cackles with glee and dances a jig.)

ZORA: Then go back to the castle and show King Krewl. *(Princess Gloria exits. Zora cackles with glee and dances a jig. She stops suddenly. To herself.)* I should have asked for more jewels! Oh, be quiet!

(Blackout.)

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

27

Scene 7

(AT RISE: The woods. There are some bushes. Pon and Lady Dorthia enter and stop CS. Pon looks back.)

PON: *(To Lady Dorthia.)* No one is following us.

LADY DORTHIA: How do you plan on rescuing the Princess once we get to Zora's?

PON: I don't know, but I just can't stand by and do nothing.

LADY DORTHIA: But if Zora catches us, there is no telling what she will do. *(Noise is heard off SR.)* Someone's coming!

(Pon and Lady Dorthia hide behind the bushes. Princess Gloria enters and walks past the bushes. Pon quickly emerges from behind the bushes.)

PON: *(Calls.)* Princess Gloria! Wait! *(Princess Gloria stops, turns, and gives Pon an icy stare.)* Are you all right?

PRINCESS GLORIA: *(Emotionless.)* Of course, I am.

LADY DORTHIA: I am glad you got away from that horrid witch.

(Princess Gloria is silent. Pon approaches Princess Gloria to embrace her but stops when she makes a haughty gesture.)

PON: Princess, what's wrong?

PRINCESS GLORIA: There is nothing wrong.

PON: Don't you love me?

PRINCESS GLORIA: No.

PON: But why?

PRINCESS GLORIA: My heart is frozen to all mortal loves.

LADY DORTHIA: Oh, Princess! What have they done to you?!

PON: *(To Princess Gloria.)* Don't you have any feelings for me at all?

PRINCESS GLORIA: *(Coldly.)* No.

(Pon is crestfallen. Princess Gloria turns and exits. Pon sadly hangs his head. Lady Dorthia approaches Pon and puts her hand on his shoulder.)

LADY DORTHIA: Oh, Pon, I am so sorry.

PON: If my love for Princess Gloria is not strong enough to melt her heart, then I don't think I can stand by every day watching her not love me anymore.

LADY DORTHIA: What are you going to do?

PON: *(Sighs.)* Well, we can't go back to my hut.

LADY DORTHIA: You said your friend, Sir Tallydingle, would help us?

PON: Yes.

LADY DORTHIA: I have never heard of him. Who is he?

PON: He is a knight who served Princess Gloria's father and my father.

LADY DORTHIA: *(Surprised.)* Your father was king? Why, then, are you working as a gardener's boy?

PON: When my father was king, Krewl was his prime minister. One day, while out hunting, my father had a quarrel with Krewl and tapped him on the nose with the knuckles of his closed hand. This so provoked the wicked Krewl, he tripped my father so he fell backward into a deep pond. Krewl threw a mass of heavy stones, which weighed down my poor father and his body could not rise to the surface. Krewl proclaimed himself king, took possession of the royal castle, and drove out all my father's people. I was a small boy then, but when I grew up, I became the gardener. I have served King Krewl without him knowing that I am the son of King Pherse, who he so cruelly made away with.

LADY DORTHIA: I'm so sorry.

PON: Come this way...

The Princess with a Frozen Heart
29

(Lights fade as Pon leads Lady Dorthia off.)

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

39

Scene 8

(AT RISE: Castle gardens. Lord Tullydub has been impatiently waiting for Princess Gloria's return. Princess Gloria enters. Lord Tullydub expects Princess Gloria will be in love with him, but she walks right past him without even giving him a glance.)

LORD TULLYDUB: (Dashing after her, calls.) Princess!
Princess!

(Princess Gloria stops and turns.)

PRINCESS GLORIA: (Coldly.) What is it?

LORD TULLYDUB: I have come to take you back to my mansion, where we will be married!

PRINCESS GLORIA: Married?

LORD TULLYDUB: Yes! All the arrangements have been made! (Princess Gloria tosses her head disdainfully and starts to exit. Calls.) Princess, wait! (Princess turns.) What does this mean? You don't still love the gardener's boy, Pon, do you?

PRINCESS GLORIA: No.

LORD TULLYDUB: Then what is wrong?

PRINCESS GLORIA: Nothing is wrong. I have found that I love no one.

LORD TULLYDUB: But that cannot be!

PRINCESS GLORIA: But it is.

LORD TULLYDUB: (Angry.) But you must wed me whether you want to or not!

PRINCESS GLORIA: I think not.

LORD TULLYDUB: (Angry.) But I paid good money –

PRINCESS GLORIA: What is that to me?

LORD TULLYDUB: (Angry.) If you refuse me, it will mean that I have been robbed, robbed, robbed! (Throws his hands into the air. Pacing.) Oh, my precious money and jewels!

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

31

PRINCESS GLORIA: Well, you know the old saying... *(Lord Tullydub stops.)* ..."a fool and his money are soon parted."

(Princess Gloria lets out a cold, bitter laugh and turns to exit. Lord Tullydub rushes after her and grabs her by the arm.)

LORD TULLYDUB: You *must* marry me! *(Princess Gloria whirls around and "punches" Lord Tullydub, sending him through the bushes. Princess Gloria turns and starts to exit. Lord Tullydub crawls out of the bushes, rubbing the side of his face. He watches helplessly as Princess Gloria exits. Shouts.)* But, but, but, I've been cheated!

(Blackout.)

The Princess with a Frozen Heart

32

Scene 9

(AT RISE: Castle throne room. King Krewl is sitting on his throne, listening impassively to Lord Tullydub's complaints.)

LORD TULLYDUB: (*Upset.*) But, Your Majesty, I've been cheated!

KING KREWL: Cheated? Cheated how?

LORD TULLYDUB: That old hag froze the Princess's heart!

KING KREWL: (*Harshly.*) Well?

LORD TULLYDUB: But now she loves no one. I met her in the garden and she said she did not love Pon or anyone else!

KING KREWL: (*Shrugs.*) Well, at least she doesn't love that gardener's boy anymore.

LORD TULLYDUB: But what about me?! And what about all the money and jewels I paid that old hag?!

KING KREWL: Then your argument is with the witch.

LORD TULLYDUB: (*Scared.*) But what if she turns me into a toad?

KING KREWL: You will always have a place in the garden pond...

LORD TULLYDUB: Is that all you have to say?! (*Whining.*) But I paid you that bushel and half of jewels...

KING KREWL: And I gave you permission to marry Princess Gloria, didn't I?

LORD TULLYDUB: Well, yes, but—

KING KREWL: You got what you bargained for. Now, I have more important matters to attend to.

(*King Krewl exits. Lord Tullydub thinks.*)

LORD TULLYDUB: (*To himself, angry.*) So, they think they can cheat me! Well, I'll have my revenge! What one witch can do, another can undo! (*Blackout.*)

Scene 10

(AT RISE: Sir Tallydingle's hut in the woods. There is a hut CS and a rose garden SR. Sir Tallydingle is dusting his roses. He is a distinguished gentleman who sports a walrus-type mustache. He is wearing a leather apron and a pair of gardening gloves.)

SIR TALLYDINGLE: (To roses.) Now that should keep the bugs off you. (Examining the roses.) Hmmmm, you look like you could use a little water. (Picks up a watering can and "sprinkles" the roses.) There. (Grabs a hoe and begins gently hoeing around the base of the roses.) Don't worry. This won't hurt a bit.

(Pon and Lady Dorthia enter SL. Sir Tallydingle's back is to them.)

PON: (Clears throat.) I beg your pardon...

(Sir Tallydingle straightens up.)

SIR TALLYDINGLE: Huh? (To roses.) Well, 'pon my word! Which one of you spoke to me?

PON: (Clears his throat, louder.) Excuse me, sir.

SIR TALLYDINGLE: (Turns.) Oh, Pon! It was you who spoke to me. For a moment, I thought my roses had learned to speak. You see, I do talk to them, but, of course, I never really expect them to answer. (Turns back to his roses.) Hmmmm, yes. (Turns back to Pon.) Well, now, what can I do for you, my boy?

PON: (Introducing.) This is Lady Dorthia. She is Princess Gloria's lady-in-waiting.

LADY DORTHIA: (Curtseys.) Sir Tallydingle.

(Sir Tallydingle takes off his gloves and approaches Lady Dorthia.)

SIR TALLYDINGLE: Lady Dorthia. *(Takes her hand in his, bows, and kisses her hand.)* How is the Princess? I imagine, by now, she has grown into a beautiful young woman.

PON: Yes, she has.

SIR TALLYDINGLE: And is that old reprobate, Lord Rub-a-Dub, still hanging around?

PON: You mean Lord Tullydub?

SIR TALLYDINGLE: *(Wrinkling his nose, making a sour face.)* Yes, that's the villain.

PON: Yes, he is still in King Krewl's service.

SIR TALLYDINGLE: What is wrong, my boy?

PON: We have come to you for protection.

SIR TALLYDINGLE: Protection? Protection from whom?

PON: King Krewl. Princess Gloria and I fell in love, but Lord Tullydub wanted the King to force the Princess into marrying him. When she refused, King Krewl had Zora, the witch, place an enchantment upon her. We tried to help the Princess escape, and now we can't go back.

SIR TALLYDINGLE: Why, that old serpent! Of course, I will give you my protection! I served your father and Princess Gloria's father, and I will serve you. Come inside and rest, and don't worry any longer about King Krewl.

(They exit into the hut. Blackout. Curtain. Intermission, opt.)

[END OF FREEVIEW]