

SCENE 5.

The Kitchen at Hardup Hall. Fullset. There is a table with a ragged tablecloth, two chairs, a necklace of nine carrots and a pumpkin set by the wall. (CINDERELLA is discovered sitting on a three legged stool at the fireplace, weeping. BUTTONS enters R.)

Buttons & Cinderas

**BUTTONS.** Come along, Cinderas, you've got to get ready for the Ball! You can't just sit there crying – CRYING? What are you crying for?

CINDERS. I'm not going to the Ball.

BUTTONS. What do you mean not going – every lady in the land is going!

CINDERS. But I haven't got an invitation.

BUTTONS. Of course you have.

CINDERS. Stepmother tore it up!

BUTTONS. What?

CINDERS. She tore it up. She tore my invitation up!

BUTTONS. Well, of all the nasty, mean and spiteful things – I'm not standing for this! I tell you what, Cinderella, if you're not going – I'm not going!

CINDERS. But you're *not* going.

BUTTONS. Not going? I know I'm not going! But this has really got me going, you not going!

CINDERS. Me not going?

BUTTONS. Yes, you not going. So whether I was going or not going, and I know I'm not going, but even if I was going, I'm not going now!

CINDERS. Well, I guess that makes two of us.

BUTTONS. Yes, I guess it just about does...

CINDERS. Cup of tea?

BUTTONS. Cup of tea.

CINDERS. (**Getting up.**) Right.

BUTTONS. Hang on a moment, Cinders! We can do better than that! Cup of tea? Let's have champagne, anything we want!

CINDERS. But Buttons –

BUTTONS. Let's *pretend* and have the most wonderful, fantabulous evening of our own! We can go anywhere, do anything, we could even be famous!

CINDERS. But I don't want to be famous!

BUTTONS. Will you settle for rich?

CINDERS. **(Laughing)** OK. Rich. Rich would be nice.

Finish

**BUTTONS.** **(Whipping off tablecloth)** In that case, Madame must have the very finest designer wrap!

**(BUTTONS places it around CINDERELLA'S shoulders.)**

CINDERS. Lovely.

BUTTONS. It's entirely recycled.

CINDERS. Of course.

BUTTONS. **(Producing carrot necklace.)** Your fabulous necklace!

CINDERS. Thank you.

BUTTONS. It's nine carrots.

CINDERS. I would expect nothing less.

BUTTONS. Where shall we go?

CINDERS. Let's go and see the sea.

BUTTONS. Let me take you there in my private jet!

CINDERS. But of course!

BUTTONS. Please to sit next to me in ze cockpit.

**(They sit together on the table.)**

CINDERS. Why are you speaking like that?

BUTTONS. I'm French - and I'm amazingly handsome.