

FAIREST OF THEM ALL

An original screenplay by

Dino A. Barlaam

Contact Information:

Dino A. Barlaam
DBarlaam99@aol.com
(908) 591-9886
Registered with WGAe

EXT. ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Late 14th Century.

A gorgeous summer morning with birds singing and flying over the green fields. A narrow river runs through the forest to the west just beyond the trees.

In a quiet, open area, three young princesses sit on a large blanket and enjoy a morning picnic:

SNOW WHITE (24), fair porcelain skin with ruby lips, CINDERELLA (21), petite with an athletic figure, and PRINCESS AURORA (A.K.A. "SLEEPING BEAUTY") (26), radiant with locks of blond hair cascading down her shoulders.

THREE FEMALE SERVANTS tend to them and prepare food.

SNOW

What a perfect day, is it not?

CINDERELLA

It is still early.

SNOW

Do not be so grim, Cindy.

Cinderella opens one of the baskets and begins removing the wrapped contents.

CINDERELLA

Sir John told me a storm is coming.

A plump Servant approaches Cinderella.

SERVANT #1

Please, m'lady. No need for you to do that.

She politely takes the basket away from Cinderella.

CINDERELLA

I prefer tables and chairs to these common surroundings.

SNOW

This is more pleasant than the damp halls of our castles. Don't you agree, Aurora? Aurora?

Princess Aurora, who's been staring at the passing clouds, finally wakes from her daydream.

PRINCESS AURORA

Hmm? Oh, yes. Of course.

SNOW
 Something troubling you?

PRINCESS AURORA
 Forgive me. 'Tis nothing.

CINDERELLA
 (calls to a servant)
 You sure I cannot be of any help?

SERVANT #2
 No, m'lady. Thank you.

Snow grabs a RED APPLE from the large display of food on the blanket, and peels off the skin with a small knife.

SNOW
 Well?

Princess Aurora takes a deep breath and sighs.

PRINCESS AURORA
 (to the servants)
 Leave us.

The Servants excuse themselves, and head towards a nearby trail.

PRINCESS AURORA (CONT'D)
 It's just, Richard's been...I
 mean, lately he is...

FLASHBACK

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

In one of the royal chambers of a great castle, Princess Aurora stands near the open window. Her hands grab the arms of PRINCE RICHARD (28), tall, very handsome.

PRINCESS AURORA
 I love you.

PRINCE RICHARD
 As do I, Aurora.

PRINCESS AURORA
 Let us lie down.

PRINCE RICHARD
 Not now, my sweet. My head is
 spinning about the journey
 tomorrow. I'm not a diplomat.

PRINCESS AURORA

I am sure I can put your mind at ease.

She kisses his neck, but he resists. She stops, frowning at him.

PRINCE RICHARD

Forgive me.

Princess Aurora looks away from him. He gently turns her head to face him. The Prince then kisses her on the cheek and leaves. The door closes.

BACK TO SCENE

CINDERELLA

He is a prince. Their work is never done.

SNOW

Richard returns tomorrow, yes?

PRINCESS AURORA

I wish that meant something to me. Never have I wanted to return to my hundred-year slumber as I do now.

CINDERELLA

Do not say such awful things.

Snow cuts the apple into slices and enjoys a piece. She places the remaining slices on the blanket next to her.

PRINCESS AURORA

Even when we are together, I still feel alone. Not since our wedding day have I felt his warm embrace.

SNOW

Was that not three years ago?

CINDERELLA

Two years, eleven months and five days, to be sure.

The other two give Cinderella a quizzical look.

SNOW

(to Aurora)

How have you kept yourself ...entertained?

PRINCESS AURORA
I have found educating the mind to
be quite fulfilling.

SNOW
That is not what I meant.

CINDERELLA
What do you mean?

Snow smirks, raising an eyebrow at Princess Aurora.

PRINCESS AURORA
I dare not say.

SNOW
You must.

Princess Aurora's eyes well with tears. Her lips
tremble.

SNOW (CONT'D)
It's okay. Do not worry so. What
is it?

FLASHBACK

INT. SIR GARETH'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

SIR GARETH (30), makes passionate love to Princess
Aurora. They are lost in pure ecstasy, sweating and
panting.

BACK TO SCENE

SNOW
Oh my.

CINDERELLA
One of the king's guards? Why?

Snow turns to her with a look that says, "Are you
kidding?"

PRINCESS AURORA
God forgive me. But Sir Gareth
makes me feel like a woman once
again.

CINDERELLA
You are married. How could--?

AURORA

What I have is not a marriage.
There is no love, no pleasure.

CINDERELLA

Then speak to him of this.

AURORA

My words are lost to Richard's
ears.

CINDERELLA

What would your father, the king,
say of such deceitful actions? You
could lose your crown, or worse.

SNOW

Cindy--

AURORA

How dare you speak to me this way.

CINDERELLA

Are we all not royalty? I may
speak as freely as either of you.

AURORA

I have royal blood running through
my veins. You, dear sister,
merely married into your kingdom.

Cinderella grabs Snow's knife and jumps to her feet.

CINDERELLA

You witch!

Princess Aurora stands, fists clenched. Snow joins her.

SNOW

Cindy. Wait.

AURORA

(to Cinderella)
Are you looking to fight me,
princess? Careful. No fairy
godmothers to save you here.

SNOW

Stop it! Both of you. Cindy, it
is not your place to judge Aurora.

CINDERELLA

How can you defend her?

SNOW

She is my friend, as you are.

CINDERELLA

But--

SNOW

But, nothing. We make our own choices.

Snow holds out her hand. Cinderella hands her the knife.

CINDERELLA

My apologies.

SNOW

No need. I will say this, Aurora. You never cease to amaze me.

AURORA

Nor I, myself, lately.

SNOW

Is there no hope for you and Richard?

AURORA

I know it must end with Gareth. God willing, when Richard returns tomorrow, we can perhaps--

They hear a faint SPLASH from the nearby river. The three women sneak over towards the river's edge.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Through the bushes, they find Prince Richard and a very muscular YOUNG MAN standing knee-deep in the calm, shallow water. BOTH ARE NAKED. They soon embrace in a passionate KISS.

The three women's jaws drop in shock and amazement. Princess Aurora's eyes widen in disbelief.

CINDERELLA

Charming.

Princess Aurora FAINTS, falling to the ground.

FADE OUT.