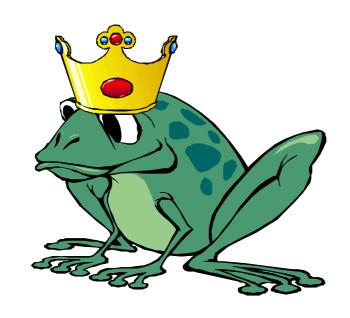


THE PRINCESS FROG



A comic fairy tale with songs

Written by Lynn Brittney

CAST LIST

The King

Prince Michael

Prince Henry

Prince Stephen

Princess Beautiful

Princess Pretty

Princess Frog (Arabella)

The Minister of Justice

Lady Anna

Lady Caroline

Lady Natasha

Sergeant at Arms

Baker 1

Baker 2

The Witch Jag

The Skeleton Eternal

The Frog Handmaidens (4 speaking parts, extras can be added)

Skeleton servants (3 speaking parts, extras can be added)

The Eagle

The Bear

The Pike

(26 speaking parts and any number of non-speaking/singing extras.)

RUNNING TIME IS APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR and TEN MINUTES.

Lyrics for 7 suggested songs included. Inclusion of these songs is optional.

Please feel free to amend the script if you decided to omit any or all of the songs. The full lyrics are given but, in practice, most schools prefer to cut the songs down to about half of their written length. See MUSIC page overleaf.

MUSIC

Backing tracks can be purchased and downloaded for a modest fee from various sources, as shown below. Or, you could source the original artiste's recording from amongst parents/grandparents and just have the children sing along to it, as many schools do. If you cannot source them from amongst the school community, then Amazon sell very cheap downloadable MP3 tracks for hundreds of thousands of songs. These can be purchased, downloaded on to a computer and then burnt on to a CD for performance. Below we give the song title and source of backing tracks. Where it says "Traditional" or "Disney" this means there is no backing track we know of but it may be in sheet music form in your school or on a children's school music compilation CD.

THE PRINCESS FROG

SONGS

Bless Your Beautiful Hide (Howard Keel)

It's Not Easy Being Green (Kermit the Frog)

Www.ameritz.co.uk

We All Stand Together (Paul McCartney & Frogs)

Www.ameritz.co.uk

Help! (The Beatles)

I Put A Spell on You (The Animals)

Reach Out and I'll be There (Four Tops)

Www.ameritz.co.uk

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We All Stand Together(Paul McCartney & Frogs)

THE PRINCESS FROG

ACT 1 SCENE 1.

The Palace throne room. There is a throne in the centre of a bare stage. The Minister of Justice enters with the three Ladies – Anna, Caroline and Natasha.

MINISTER

Well, I said to the King that things couldn't go on as they are...

ANNA

And what did he say, Minister?

MINISTER

He finally agreed!

(All the LADIES make approving noises and clap their hands.)

CAROLINE

So he's finally agreed that his sons should be married?

MINISTER

Absolutely.

NATASHA

So that means we might be in with a chance! I've always wanted to be a

Princess!

ANNA

Me too!

CAROLINE

And me!

MINISTER.

Now, ladies, don't get your hopes up. Knowing the King, he will have his own ideas on the subject. It took me long enough to persuade him. I have a feeling that it won't be a simple matter.

(There is a fanfare sounded offstage.)

VOICE OFFSTAGE (shouting)

His Imperial Majesty, the King approaches – accompanied by their Imperial Highnesses, Princes Michael, Henry and Stephen!

(The KING and his sons enter. The MINISTER and the LADIES bow and curtsey. The KING sits on his throne.)

KING

Right! So I've been persuaded that it is time that my three sons were married.

(The LADIES all looked pleased and excited)

But... (He pauses for effect) I have decided that we shall leave the choice of brides to Fate.

MINISTER (looking concerned)

What do you mean, Your Imperial Majesty?

KING

I'm not having all this nonsense of balls and parties to choose brides. I can't stand the thought of the ladies at court primping and preening themselves all the time in the hope that they will be chosen as a suitable Princess.

(The LADIES all go "Aaw" and look disappointed.)

See? (Pointing at the LADIES) They were all waiting for this chance! Well, I'm not having any of that nonsense. Like I said, Fate will decide.

MICHAEL

What exactly are you proposing, Father?

KING

Ah! I have a plan! Each one of you is going to fire an arrow from that window (pointing offstage left) – shoot it as far as you can – and whatever young lady finds the arrow will be your bride.

HENRY

What!! That's a stupid idea! What if the woman who finds my arrow is ugly?

MICHAEL

Or really poor and in rags?

STEPHEN

Brothers, brothers...you must trust in Fate and our father and all will be well.

MICHAEL (sarcastically)

Oh trust *you* to be OK with this dumb idea. You always have to see the good in everything!

KING

Boys, boys! Stop squabbling! I have made a decree and you must just get on with it. *(calling)* Sergeant At Arms!

(The SERGEANT appears.)

SARGEANT bowing)

Yes, Your Imperial Majesty?

KING

Fetch me a bow and three different coloured arrows.

SARGEANT

One bow and three different coloured arrows. Yes, Your Imperial Majesty.

(He bows and leaves)

MINISTER

I just hope that the arrows don't kill anyone, Your Imperial Majesty!

KING

Mm. That's a good point. Can't have people shot down by the Princes, can we? Minister, you must send out a decree and tell everyone they must stay in their homes all day tomorrow. We'll postpone the event until then. Tell them they have to stay in *all* day, mind. It's going to take us quite a while.

MINISTER

Yes, Your Imperial Majesty.

(He bows and exits)

(The SERGEANT returns with a bow and three different coloured arrows. He bows to the KING.)

SARGEANT

The items you requested, Your Imperial Majesty.

KING

Thank you, Sergeant, but we are postponing the event until tomorrow, so you will have to bring them back then.

SERGEANT

Yes, Your Imperial Majesty. (He bows and exits.)

HENRY

I'm trembling with fear as to what sort of girl will find my arrow.

MICHAEL

Me too. I would much rather have picked my own bride.

STEPHEN

Cheer up, brothers! There could be a beautiful woman out there, just waiting for you. You never know.

SONG (STEPHEN, MICHAEL and HENRY and others.)

Bless your beautiful hide

Wherever you may be.

We ain't met yet

But I'm a willin' to bet

You're the gal for me.

Bless your beautiful hide

You're just as good as lost.

I don't know your name

But I'm a-stakin' my claim

Lest your eyes is crossed.

Oh, I'd swap my gun 'n' I'd swap my mule

Tho' whoever took it would be one big fool.

Or pay your way thru cookin' school.

If 'n you would say I do.

Bless your beautiful hide

Prepare to bend your knee.

And take that vow

Cause I'm tellin' you now,

You're the gal for me.

Pretty and trim but kinda slim.

Heavenly eyes but oh that size,

She's gotta be right to be the bride for me.

Bless her beautiful hide

Wherever she may be.

Bless your beautiful hide

Wherever you may be.

We ain't met yet but I'm a willin' to bet

You're the gal for me.

(END OF ACT 1 SCENE 1.)