

Trial of the Wicked Witch

A fairy tale parody where the audience is the jury!

by Craig Sodaro

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STORY OF THE PLAY

The Wicked Witch has finally been caught and hauled into the Court of Once Upon a Time to stand trial. She's accused of casting a spell on Sleeping Beauty, attempting to poison Snow White, kidnapping Rapunzel, and trying to eat Hansel. Red Riding Hood heads up the prosecution with the Evil Stepmother of Cinderella fame serving as the defense attorney. The Three Little Pigs act as bailiffs, while Jack the Giant Killer is the guard. The judge? None other than the Fairy Godmother. The Wicked Witch's alleged victims are witnesses for the prosecution, along with the ever-popular Prince Charming. However, rigorous cross-examinations by the Evil Stepmother poke holes in many of their stories. Not to be outdone, Red has a field day tearing up the testimony of the witnesses for the defense who include the Gingerbread Man, Rumpelstiltskin, the ugly stepsisters, and the most dangerous of all, the Big Bad Wolf. The *Trial of the Wicked Witch* is a fresh, sassy take on the old folk tales, turning them on their heads. The best part is that the audience is the jury and gets to decide the outcome of the trial.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(8 m, 12 w, 1 voice flexible, doubling possible)

JENNY: Smartest Little Pig, a bailiff.

DENNY: Jenny's lazier brother, another bailiff.

BENNY: Jenny's laziest brother, another bailiff.

RED RIDING HOOD: The prosecuting attorney.

EVIL STEPMOTHER: The defense attorney.

JACK THE GIANT KILLER: The guard.

WICKED WITCH: The defendant.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: The judge.

SLEEPING BEAUTY: A very tired witness.

SNOW WHITE: A witness.

HANSEL: A rebellious witness.

GRETEL: Hansel's equally rebellious sister.

RAPUNZEL: A tangled-up witness.

PRINCE CHARMING: The most charming witness of all.

CINDERELLA: A visitor.

GINGERBREAD MAN: A spicy witness for the defense.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: A defense witness.

IZZY: Cinderella's stepsister.

DEZZY: Cinderella's other stepsister.

BIG BAD WOLF: A howling witness for the defense.

911 OPERATOR: Voice only.

Doubling: Sleeping Beauty, Snow White, Rapunzel, and Cinderella may also play Gingerbread Man, Rumpelstiltskin, Izzy, Dezzzy, or Wolf.

SET

The Court of Once Upon a Time. A judge's desk and chair are up center. If possible, the desk should be on a platform to look as imposing as possible. A small evidence table sits below and in front of the desk. On this table sit various exhibits to be used in the trial including a witch's broom and a partially eaten apple. At the left of the judge's desk sits a chair for witnesses. If desired, this can be behind a small railing. At right of judge's desk sit three chairs for the bailiffs. Down left sits a table set with two chairs for the defense. It faces center. At right is the prosecution table set with two chairs, also facing center. The courtroom setting should give the impression of cartoonish fanciness.

PROPS

Jenny: locked wooden box containing the witch's spell book
Denny: small pile of sticks, two portraits of any two celebrities who might get a laugh large enough for the audience to see
Red: briefcase holding papers, eye chart on a piece of poster board, poster showing cartoon of Wolf being arrested by cartoon cop in front of brick house, numbers and unreadable letters appear in one corner, tape recorder
Stepmother: briefcase holding papers, cell phone
Godmother: magic wand, handkerchief, comb, compact mirror, lipstick, cell phone
Benny: gavel, two portraits large enough for the audience to see, one is a crude drawing of the Wicked Witch and the other can be of any celebrity who might get a laugh
Prince: comb
Witch: part of broken broom
Izzy and Dezzy: lip gloss

SOUND EFFECTS: Thunder, frog ribbits.

Please see costume notes at the end of the script.

ACT I

(AT RISE: The Court of Once Upon a Time. BENNY lies sleeping on the bailiff chairs. DENNY sits at prosecution table playing with sticks. JENNY enters left carrying a wooden box closed tightly and secured with a large padlock.)

JENNY: Guess what I've... *(Notices BENNY and DENNY.)*
got. *(JENNY slams the box down on table. Denny's pile of sticks falls.)*

DENNY: Hey! Look what you did to my sticks.

JENNY: Sticks! Sticks! Sticks! You're obsessed with sticks!
You even built your stupid house from sticks and we all know what happened to it...

DENNY: You don't need to rub it in.

JENNY: Benny! Benny, wake up.

BENNY: I need some more straw. This is the most uncomfortable bed I ever slept in.

JENNY: It's not a bed, you lazy oaf. You're in a courtroom.
We're the bailiffs. Get up. The jury's already here and the trial's ready to start.

BENNY: What courtroom? What trial?

JENNY: The Court of Once Upon a Time. Today's the trial of the Wicked Witch.

DENNY: Yeah, they finally caught the old hag whipping up a spell near Hansel and Gretel's new condo.

BENNY: Is that all? Lemme sleep five more minutes.

JENNY: Okay. Sure. Fine. Should I wake you up when he shows up to testify?

BENNY: *(Sitting upright, terrified.)* He's a witness?

JENNY: For the defense.

DENNY: *(Shaking with terror.)* Oh, no! What'll we do?

JENNY: He won't try anything. We've got a restraining order, remember?

BENNY: Tell that to my house.

JENNY: You mean that pile of straw? Honestly, Benny, if you'd have put even the tiniest effort into building something out of bricks.

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BENNY: Lay off me, Sis. Just because you're so perfect with your big brick house doesn't mean everybody can be perfect.

DENNY: You always were Mom's favorite.

(RED enters right carrying a briefcase. She wears a cape with a hood, but removes it.)

RED: All set, Little Pigs?

BENNY: Oh, Little Red Riding Hood, is it true he's going to testify today?

RED: He's on the defense list. But don't worry. Jack the Giant Killer's on alert. He tries anything and Jack will knock him over the head with a beanstalk.

DENNY: It's still pretty scary. We haven't seen him since... since...

JENNY: Since you two bums moved in with me. Good thing I built a three-bedroom ranch house. So, Red, you're prosecuting the old hag?

RED: Our case is going to nail her. She's going up the river forever after.

BENNY: Then can we do something about—

DENNY: Him?

WITCH: *(From offstage.)* Get your hands off me! Don't push. I'm goin'!

(STEPMOTHER enters left carrying briefcase. WITCH is pushed on left by JACK. They sit at the defense table as Jack stands nearby.)

WITCH: *(Cont'd. To JACK.)* Brother! You kill one little giant and all of a sudden you're Dirty Harry.

JACK: *(Toughly.)* Go ahead, make my day.

WITCH: I'd turn you into a turnip if I had my spell book.

RED: Which is safely locked away as evidence.

STEPMOTHER: You, Little Miss Red Riding Hood, are not to address my client in any way, shape, or form. Do it again and I'll seek a mistrial.

End of Freeview

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