

46

Act III

CINDERELLA: Did you know everyone there?

STEPMOTHER: Nearly everyone. All except a Princess who came in very late and left very early. I had no idea who she was.

CINDERELLA: (*Interested and stopping whatever she is doing at the moment*): Did she dance with the Prince?

PORTIA: Y-y-yes. I think I saw her dancing with him once.

JOY: That's right, just once.

CINDERELLA: Do you think he liked her?

JOY: (*Making a noise that means yes and no or so-so*): N-n-yeh.

STEPMOTHER: She was only there for a few minutes.

JOY: Did you go to sleep right after we left?

CINDERELLA: No. I stayed up till . . . a little after midnight.

STEPMOTHER: What were you doing all that time?

CINDERELLA: Dreaming.

STEPMOTHER: Dreaming what?

CINDERELLA: Oh, what it must be like at the ball.

STEPMOTHER: You couldn't possibly dream what it was like unless you were there.

CINDERELLA: Well, I was trying to.

JOY: Well, you just couldn't,

CINDERELLA: Maybe I have more imagination than you think. I have been dreaming and trying to feel just the way you must feel—the way all girls must be feeling—looking forward to the ball all that time and finally *the* night arrives, and you put on the most beautiful dress you have ever worn in your life . . . and off you go! I think I can almost feel what it's like. I imagine . . . I imagine

(*In high excitement she starts to sing.*)

Music 26: WHEN YOU'RE DRIVING THROUGH THE MOONLIGHT

CINDERELLA (*Sings*):

When you're driving through the moonlight on—
the highway,

When you're driving through the moonlight to
the dance,

You are breathless with a wild anticipation
Of adventure and excitement and romance.
Then at last you see the towers of the palace