

**CINDERELLA  
VS.  
THE STEP-FAMILY**



by Dana Proulx-Willis

# **Cinderella vs. The Stepfamily**

Characters:

Judge (Bumbling, a bit off center)

Bailiff (Judge's straight man and caretaker)

Mrs. Shoe (Cinderella's Lawyer: the Old Woman Who Lived in the Shoe. Maternal, yet feisty)

B.B. Wolfe (Step-family's lawyer: Big Bad. Charming, yet slimy)

Security Guard 1 (Officer-like and eager to perform his duty)

Security Guard 2 (Slacker)

Cinderella (Total Princess)

Fairy Godmother (Owns the room, takes no guff)

Prince (Full of himself, yet charming)

King (A weary monarch, but lovable)

Page (Loyal servant)

Mouse 1

Mouse 2

Mouse 3

Brando (Dog. Loyal and protective.)

Lady Trupayne (Stepmother: the long-suffering widow)

Grizelda (Stepsister: Self-righteous)

Portabella (Stepsister: Sensitive, easily offended)

Lucy 4 (Cat: Devious)

*At rise, dramatic cop-show style music plays as the witnesses and representatives for both sides file in, Cinderella's side on SR, the Stepmother's side on SL. Judge, Security Guards and Bailiff are CS. The Mice come in first, and then Lucy 4, who pounces and causes the mice to scurry under their chairs or into other hiding places. Brando enters next, growling at Lucy 4, who hisses. All others onstage react appropriately for their character. Security Guards approach the animals. Lucy 4 stalks slowly to her place.*

Bailiff: All rise. The Honorable Judge I. Hangum now presiding.

Judge: Thank-you very much. You may be seated. The next case is Cinderella vs. the Stepfamily.

Bailiff: Cinderella is suing The Step-Family for neglect, verbal and emotional abuse, embezzlement of funds, destruction of property and breaking child labor laws. The Stepfamily is counter-suing for libel, theft, pain and suffering and animal abuse.

Judge: Send the legal representatives forward please. (*Mrs. Shoe and B.B. Wolfe step up to the bench. Judge turns to Wolfe*) And you are representing whom?

Wolfe: I am the Stepfamily's lawyer, your honor.

Judge:           *(Peers closely at him)* You're new to this courtroom, aren't you? I can always tell a newby.

Wolfe:           Why, no, your honor. *(Extends his paw)* B.B. Wolfe, attorney at Paw, at your service. I was involved in a case here with you awhile back.

Judge:           Yes... yes of course, I thought so. And did you win?

Wolfe:           Why else would I be standing here before you today?

Judge:           So you always get your man, huh? We'll see... we'll see. And is this your mother you've brought with you? *(Eyeing Mrs. Shoe, who looks indignant)*

Wolfe:           Er—no, your honor. My mother is more of a back woods type. This would be the lawyer for the Stepfamily.

Judge:           Well, that would explain the lack of family resemblance. *(Looking over Mrs. Shoe)* Ahhh, yes. I'd know you anywhere, Mrs. Hubbard! So you're busy doing legal work to keep that cupboard full?

Mrs. Shoe:       Actually, it's Mrs. Shoe, and this is my first time in this courtroom, your honor. After

my children all grew up and got the boot, I decided it was my turn. I wanted excitement, good pay, and fun-filled Vail skiing vacations, so I became a court reporter. Then I studied law in night school and now I'm a full-time attorney. This case caught my attention because it concerned the abuse of a child, and if there's one thing I know, it's children.

Judge: I see... I see. You may begin your opening statements.

Mrs. Shoe: *(to the audience/ jury)* Pain. Suffering. Abandonment. Abuse. These are the things that made up Cinderella's daily life. Her mother died when she was just a baby, her father died only a few short years later and left her alone with a stepfamily who was jealous of her and treated her like a slave. She was forced to wear rags, to sleep by the fireplace, and to do all of the housework by herself, while her stepsisters made fun of her, and her stepmother neglected her. Even after escaping this horrid existence, my client still has the emotional scars to bear. Ladies and Gentlemen of the jury, bring the perpetrators of these hideous crimes to justice by finding in favor of my client.

Wolfe: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, don't judge a book by its cover. You are all