



*Sunday, March 14, 2010
Stony Plain Glenn Hall Centennial Arena*



Once upon a time, in a faraway land, a young prince lives in a shining castle. One freezing night, an old beggar woman comes to the castle and offers the Prince a red rose in return for shelter. Repelled by her ragged appearance, he sneers at the gift and turns her away. “Do not be deceived by appearances,” she warns, “for beauty is found within.”

The old woman is really an Enchantress who sees that the Prince has no love in his heart.



As punishment, the Enchantress transforms the Prince into a hideous beast and places a spell on everyone in the castle. She gives him an enchanted Mirror as his only window to the outside world and a rose, which will bloom until his twenty-first year. For the spell to be broken, he must learn to love another and earn that person's love in return before the last petal falls. If not, he will remain a beast forever.



In a charming French village, not far from the castle, lives a beautiful girl named Belle, who loves to read about far off places, daring sword fights, magic spells and princes in disguise.



She always has her nose in a book, and the villagers often make fun of her. Belle is just so different from them.



One bright morning, Belle hears a loud explosion from her cottage. Running home, she is too distracted to notice the handsome and conceited Gaston, whom all the other village girls admire. But Gaston notices Belle. “Now, that's the girl I'm going to marry, she's the only one who's worthy of me.”

Returning home, Belle is relieved to find her father, Maurice, in one piece working on his invention for the fair tomorrow.



The next day, Belle is awaiting her father's return when there is a knock at the door. It is the hunter Gaston, all dressed up. Letting him in, Belle does not know that a crowd had gathered to watch Gaston propose to her, then marry her on the spot. Waiting just outside for the happy couple to emerge is the wedding party.



Gaston is the town hero, manly and self-centred, but loved by many. “There's not a girl in town who wouldn't love to be in your shoes, Belle. This is the day your dreams come true! Say you'll marry me!”



Hearing a familiar sound in the yard, Belle turns around to welcome her father – but sees that Philippe, the horse has returned alone! “Where's Papa? What happened? Oh you must take me to him!” Belle jumps onto Philippe and thunders back toward the dark forest.



Meanwhile back in the village, Gaston has gathered at the tavern with his friend LeFou and some of his old manly men cronies. Gaston is outraged, “Who does she think she is? That girl has tangled with the wrong man. No one says NO to Gaston!”



The Girly Girl Bimbettes are always falling for and swooning over Gaston and hearing LeFou describe Gaston's many assets, the girls are as crazy as ever!



Searching for her father, Belle soon arrives at the gates of a forbidding castle. Entering timidly, Belle finds her father in the remote dungeon. “Oh Papa, We have to get you out of here!” Sensing danger, Belle whirls around to see a massive shape in the shadows. Stepping into the light emerges a horrible horned Beast, “I'm the master of this castle!” Belle gasps in horror! She can't let her father stay here with the other prisoners.



The Beast allows Maurice to leave, on one condition: Belle must promise to stay there forever! Belle becomes the Beast's new prisoner, but to her surprise, she doesn't have to stay in the dungeon. Entering her room, an unexpected surprise brings a smile to Belle's face. Welcoming her to the castle is Mrs. Potts, an enchanted teapot who can't wait to pour her a cup of tea.



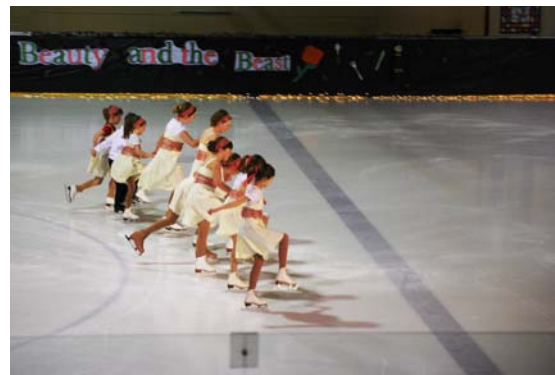
Lumiere, the enchanted Candelabra, and Cogsworth, the enchanted Clock, couldn't be more excited with a girl in the castle. "Don't you see? She's the one we've been waiting for – the one who will break the spell!" The enchanted clocks and candlesticks try to convince Belle to join the Beast for dinner.



Back in the village, Gaston and LeFou are interrupted when Maurice bursts in frantically. "Help! A Beast has Belle locked in a dungeon!" The tavern bursts out laughing, convinced Maurice is crazy. Gaston however has an intriguing thought, and pulling LeFou aside, he tells his friend his evil plan.

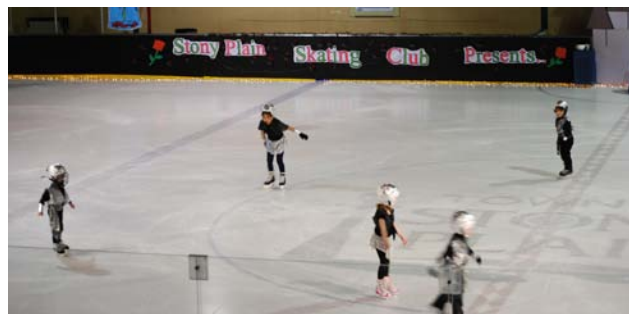


Later in the evening, Belle, heads down to the kitchen for a late night snack. “Right this way, Mademoiselle,” welcomes Lumiere, “Be Our Guest!” And with that, the bottles pop their corks, and the dishes begin to sing and dance with gusto as Lumiere conducts! The dining room proudly presents Belle with ... her dinner.



Belle has been warned not to go into the West Wing but when the others aren't looking, she speeds upstairs. As she enters his lair, the Beast leaps into the room! “Why did you come here! Get out!”

Terrified Belle turns and flees down the stairs. All of the enchanted objects turn to watch but Belle takes no notice as she crashes into the suits of armour.



Belle hurries outside and finding Philippe, they escape from the castle into the freezing night. Suddenly, Philippe snorts in alarm, and Belle sees cruel yellow eyes blazing in the dark. The wolves! Philippe breaks into a gallop as they race through the forest, with the wolves close behind.



Just as one wolf is about to strike, a huge paw snatches it away – the Beast! The snarling wolves are no match for the Beast's fury. Before Belle can escape, one of the wolves bites the Beast's arm, as he sends it flying. Belle knows that she could escape, but when she sees that the Beast is hurt, she helps him back to the castle.

Later, the Beast confides in Lumiere and Cogsworth and confesses his true feelings, "I've never felt this way about anyone. I want to do something for her." Discovering Belle's love for books and storybook characters, the Beast shows Belle all the books in the huge library and seeing Belle's delight, he says, "They're yours!"



The whole household is delighted to see a friendship growing between Belle and their master. The enchanted objects watch in amazement: "Who would have guessed they'd come together on their own?" Mrs Potts, Lumiere and Cogsworth are left to ponder if maybe there is something there that wasn't there before.



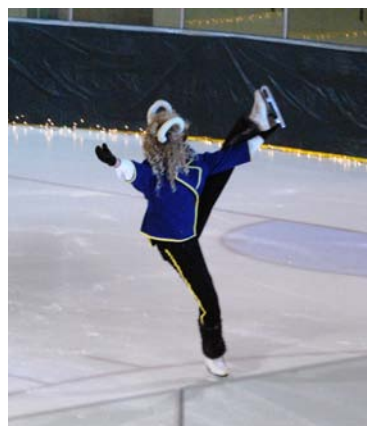
As Lumiere and Cogsworth help the Beast get ready for his romantic evening, the feather dusters and brooms are busy cleaning and getting the ballroom ready. Tonight the Beast will confess his love and before midnight they'll be human again!



Belle and the Beast share a romantic dinner, followed by the Beast leading Belle shyly into the ballroom. The enchanted objects watch with a smile as they dance a tale as old as time, a song as old as rhyme, Beauty & the Beast.



Belle sees her father in the Mirror: he needs her help! The Beast lets Belle go after her father and he gives her the mirror, so she'll have a way to look back, to remember the Beast. The enchanted objects don't understand. It should be enough to break the spell! The Beast loves her! But they've forgotten the truth, she has to love him in return and now it's too late. The Beast ponders how he could have earned her love.



With the help of Mirror, Belle is able to find her father and bring him home.

With a knock on the door, a strange man appears, standing in front of the villagers and a wagon marked Insane Asylum. “I’ve come to collect your father.” Belle can’t believe it - Maurice isn’t crazy! Grabbing the Magic Mirror, Belle knows what she has to do, “Show me the Beast!” The Mirror shimmers and shines, and produces an image of the Beast.

Everyone screams and Gaston seizes the Mirror from Belle. “The Beast will make off with your children! He’ll come after them in the night! I say we kill the Beast!”

The mob of villagers cheer as Belle cries in protest. Gaston locks her and Maurice in the cellar as the villagers gather weapons and torches.



Guided by the Mirror, Gaston leads the mob through the forest to the castle. “Sacre bleu!” cries Lumiere, “Invaders!”

“Warn the master!” cries Cogsworth. “If it’s a fight they want, we’ll be ready for them.” Led by Cogsworth, the enchanted objects are ready to defend their castle.



Upstairs alone, the Beast takes no notice of the approaching battle. He has nothing to fight for, no motivation, now that Belle has left.

Little does he know, Belle is currently galloping toward the castle! Chip had stowed away in Belle's bag before she left and after Belle and Maurice were locked up, Chip uses Maurice's invention to break down the door! Chip saves the day!



The mob is approaching but the castle is prepared. The enchanted objects launch a surprise attack on the mob as Gaston sneaks off to find the Beast. The Beast is unwilling to fight but then he spots Belle approaching the castle! She came back! As the battle continues downstairs, the Beast begins to fight.



The battle has been won, Gaston and the village mob are gone! However, before Gaston is defeated, he stabs the Beast. Running to his side, Belle embraces him.

“No” cries Belle, overcome by tears. “Please don't leave me! I love you.” As Belle cries at his side, the enchanted objects watch as the last petal falls from the rose. It is too late. All that remains is a pile of rose petals.



Suddenly, the rain begins to shimmer and sparkle and Belle looks up to see a beam of light fall like a shooting star. The air is full of magic! The Beast's eyes blink open. His paws have been transformed into human hands and touching his face, he finds that it is smooth. The spell is broken!

“Belle! It's me!” and seeing his blue eyes, Belle instantly knows that it is him. The spell has been broken.



A fireworks display explodes around Belle and her Prince as they kiss. The gloom around the castle disappears, and the castle is transformed. The enchanted objects come out to meet the Prince and Belle and one by one they are transformed back to their original human forms. Belle's love has finally broken the spell.



Tale as old as time.....Song as old as rhyme.....Beauty and the Beast.



*STONY PLAIN SKATING CLUB
MARCH 14, 2010*