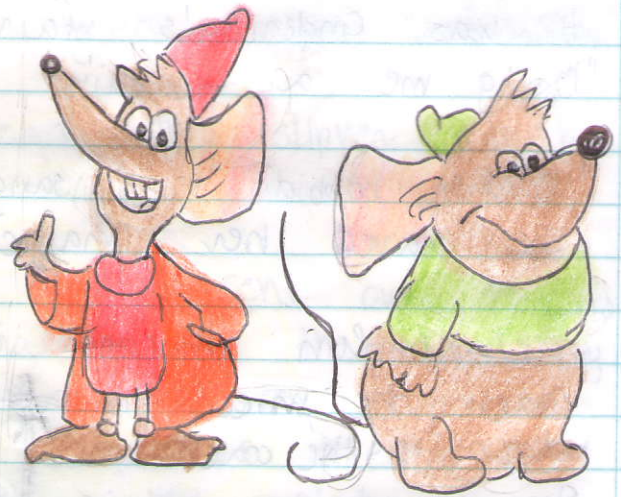


Cinderella

Cinderella lived with her mean stepmother and two stepsisters.

She worked hard all day long, cooking and cleaning and washing dishes.

The only friends Cinderella had were two little mice named Jack and Gus, a horse, a dog, and two birds.



"Cinderella, we love you," they would say.

One day the stepsisters were invited to a ball. At the ball the prince would choose a wife. Cinderella helped the stepsisters get ready. Then she asked, "May I come, too?" "You can't go to the ball," answered her stepmother. "You don't have a dress to wear."

But Cinderella's friends Jack and Gus and the birds sewed ribbons and bows to one of her dresses.

"Oh," said Cinderella, "it looks so pretty. Thank you, my little friends." "Wait!" cried Cinderella. "I'm coming too."

The cruel stepsisters were angry because Cinderella looked so lovely. They tore her dressed until it hung in rags.

Poor Cinderella. She cried and cried. Her friends cried, too.

Then a small woman appeared in a cloud. It was Cinderella's fairy godmother.

"Bring me a pumpkin" she said. "I'll fix things!"

"Biddidi, bobbidi, boo!" sang the fairy godmother as she waved her magic wand.

The pumpkin changed into a coach, the mice into horses, the dog into a footman, and the horse into the coachman.

She waved her magic wand again, and Cinderella's rags turned into a beautiful dress. On her feet are tiny glass slippers.

"Good - bye" called fairy godmother. The magic spell will end at midnight. You must leave the ball before then.



When the prince saw Cinderella, he fell in love. Cinderella and the prince whirled around the ballroom.

They danced every dance together.

As the clock began to strike midnight, Cinderella ran away.

One of her glass slippers fell off her foot.

At the final stroke of midnight, Cinderella's beautiful dress became rags once more. Her coach disappeared too, and in its place was a pumpkin. But Cinderella was still wearing the other glass slipper.

The prince looked and looked for Cinderella, but he only found the glass slipper Cinderella lost.

"The girl who can wear this slipper will be my wife", he said.



A grand duke was sent out to have every maiden in the land try on the slipper.

Cinderella's stepsisters tried and tried to make the glass slipper fit. But their feet were too big.

Cinderella's stepmother locked Cinderella in her room so she can't try on the slipper.

But Jack and Gus got the key and pushed it under the door. "Hurry, Cinderella" they said.

When the mean stepmother heard Cinderella running down the stairs, she broke the glass slipper. "That's all right. I have the other one right here", said Cinderella, pulling the slipper out of her pocket.

The grand duke put the slipper on Cinderella's foot. It fitted perfectly.

Cinderella's going to marry the prince! sang the little birds.