



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST READINGS

NARRATOR

Once Upon a Time in a faraway land, a young prince lived in a shining castle. Although he had everything his heart desired, the Prince was spoiled, selfish and unkind. But then, one winter's night, an old beggar woman came to the castle and offered him a single rose in return for shelter from the bitter cold. Repulsed by her haggard appearance, the Prince sneered at the gift and turned the old woman away. But she warned him not to be deceived by appearances for beauty is found within. And when he dismissed her again, the old woman's ugliness melted away to reveal... a beautiful Enchantress.

The Prince tried to apologize, but it was too late. For she had seen that there was no love in his heart. As punishment, she transformed him... into a hideous beast and placed a powerful spell on the castle and all who lived there. Ashamed of his monstrous form, the Beast concealed himself inside his castle with a Magic Mirror as his only window to the outside world. The rose she had offered was truly an enchanted rose, which would bloom for many years.

If he could learn to love another and earn their love in return by the time the last petal fell, then the spell would be broken. If not... he would be doomed to remain a beast for all time. As the years passed, he fell into despair and lost all hope. For who could ever learn to love a Beast?



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BELLE / LEFOU

BELLE: Is he gone? Can you imagine... he asked me to marry him! Me, the wife of that boorish, brainless...

LEFOU: Hey, Belle! Have you seen Gaston?

BELLE: You Just missed him. Wait a minute, where did you get that scarf?

LEFOU: This? In the woods. Pretty nice, huh?

BELLE: This belongs to my father!

LEFOU: Yeah, well, finders-keepers.

BELLE: Lefou. I want you to think hard and tell me exactly where you found that.

LEFOU: No!

BELLE: Think!

LEFOU: Somewhere in the woods.

BELLE: Harder!

LEFOU: Near the crossroads, okay? Ow!



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BELLE: Then he's still out there somewhere! Lefou, you have to take me back!

LEFOU: Not the woods again!

BELLE: Don't you see? Something must have happened. You have to take me back!

LEFOU: Not on your life!

BELLE: Then, I'll find him myself!



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COGSWORTH/ LUMIERE

COGSWORTH: Couldn't keep quiet, could we? Just had to invite him to stay, didn't we? Serve him tea, sit in the Master's chair.

LUMIERE: I was trying to be hospitable!

COGSWORTH: Rubbish!

LUMIERE: A, Cogsworth, can you blame me for trying to maintain what's left of our humanity? Look at us. Look at you!

COGSWORTH: What about me?

LUMIERE: You always were insufferable. But every day, you become just a little more inflexible... a little more tightly wound... a little more ticked off!

COGSWORTH: Please, spare me the stupid puns.

LUMIERE: At least, we are not as far gone as some of the others. You saw what happened to Michelle.

COGSWORTH: She always was too vain about her looks. And that's exactly what she's become.

LUMIERE: A vanity.

COGSWORTH: Little drawers, mirror... the works.



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CHIP/ MRS. POTTS

CHIP: Mama, you're not gonna believe what I saw... not in a million thousand years... not in a trillion million thousand years!

MRS. POTTS: Yes dear.

CHIP: No, really... this is the greatest thing... it's the thing that everybody's been waiting for since... since... I don't know when!

MRS. POTTS: Alrigh Chip, what is it?

CHIP: There's a girl in the castle!

MRS. POTTS: Bless my soul, wouldn't that be lovely?

CHIP: But there is! I saw her!

MRS. POTTS: Now Chip, I'll not have you making up wild stories. Getting everyone's hopes up for no reason.