

HALF FROZEN
By Craig Sodaro

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AUDITION -- for 2 m, 2 w.

In this scene, the king and queen discover that to avoid war Princess Mirabelle must change for the better.

(The garden at the castle, played before the curtain. LILITH paces down right. NED stands at center, his arms folded across his chest.)

LILITH: Why'd you have to tell Genetta the princess has changed?

NED: Seemed like a good idea at the time.

LILITH: But now what?

NED: She'll come and find out that the princess isn't as bad as she used to be.

LILITH: She's a pit bull with a tummy ache! She'll kick both Genetta's shins this time.

NED: I don't believe that.

LILITH: Well, believe it. You wouldn't believe the complaints that come into the paper and the TV station. If people could do one thing to make this kingdom better, they'd—

(KING and QUEEN enter right.)

KING: They'd do what?

LILITH: Why, why, they'd—

NED: Make your birthday a national holiday, Your Majesty.

QUEEN: Isn't that sweet. Why are you hiding out here in the garden?

LILITH: We're not hiding, Your Majesty.

NED: I had a few weeds to pull.

KING: Good boy. Very conscientious. But now tell us...did you make it to the top of Mega Mountain?

LILITH: We did, Your Highness.

KING: Did you see that sorceress Genetta?
NED: We did, Your Majesty.
QUEEN: Then what have you found out?
KING: What's the antidote that will put an end to this miserable curse?
LILITH: Well, Your Majesties....
QUEEN: Well, what?
LILITH: She didn't exactly give us the antidote.
KING: What do you mean "exactly"?
LILITH: There's, like, this tiny little condition attached.
QUEEN: What condition?
LILITH: (*Pointing to NED.*) It's all his fault!
KING: Speak up, handyman! What's this condition?
NED: Genetta is coming down from the mountain to see how much the princess has changed for the better.
KING and QUEEN: What?!
LILITH: Ned here just mentioned that the princess isn't as bad as she used to be—
QUEEN: She's worse!
NED: Wouldn't you be if everyone blamed you for freezing half the kingdom?
KING: It is her fault! And as of right now, you, whatever your name is, you're fired! Leave the palace at once before I have you thrown in irons!
NED: But, Your Majesty—
KING: No buts! Be gone before I call the guards!

(NED hesitates.)

KING: (*Cont'd.*) Guard! Guard!

(NED bows, exits right.)

QUEEN: So we've left it to Lilith and where exactly does that leave us?

LILITH: I haven't any idea, but Genetta said she's coming this evening!

(SFX: Sound of cell phone ringing.)

KING: That's mine. *(Into phone.)* Hello? Ferdinand! How's tricks? Tomaso? He hasn't called you? That bad boy. Oh, they've been having such a good time. I'm sure they're around here somewhere. What's that? If you don't hear from Tomaso by midnight you'll attack in the morning? Well, I'm sure he'll get back to you ASAP. Now don't you worry, Ferd— *(To QUEEN.)* He hung up.

QUEEN: Dear Lilith, We're between a rock and a hard place. Any suggestions?

KING: Oh, you'll think of something quick...or I'll have to open the dungeon!

LILITH: Wait...wait...I think I've got a couple of ideas up my sleeve! There's a pretty standard elixir for these curses.

QUEEN: Not that old chestnut about love's first kiss.

KING: Who'd risk kissing the princess?

LILITH: There's where you just leave it to Lilith!

(LILITH leads KING and QUEEN off right.)

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