

## PROLOGUE

**START** [MUSIC NO. 01 "PROLOGUE"]

*(The curtain rises on a modest pumpkin patch illuminated by a full moon. The FAIRY GODMOTHER appears in the moon.)*

**FAIRY GODMOTHER.** Once upon a time in a kingdom far away,

There lived a lovely little girl who smiled throughout the day.

~~*(CINDERELLA enters beneath the moon.)*~~

Her name was Cinderella and there was no child more joyful in the land.

But then one day her mother died, and Cinderella's father took her hand.

~~*(A small tree appears.)*~~

"We will plant a tree," he said, "and when you're full of doubt and fear, bring your troubled heart beneath this tree and Mother will be here."

Several years had come and gone when Cinderella's father died.

The brokenhearted child ran to her mother's tree and cried and cried.

~~*(CINDERELLA runs to the tree, kneels, and weeps as, in the distance, the ENSEMBLE sings a choral lament.)*~~

Her tears fell down upon the earth and made the tree to grow, and to this day, when she is sad, both tree and Mother know.

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NOW YOU CAN GO WHEREVER YOU WANT TO GO!

**END**