

## Cinderella & Baron Hardup:

*Baron Hardup enters DSL, adorned in Union Jacks.*

**Cinderella:** Hi Dad. (*sarcastically*) I like your outfit! It's very...subtle.

**Baron:** Well, I'm pumped for the Platty Jubes!

**Cinderella:** Don't ever say Platty Jubes again. Where have you been this morning?

**Baron:** I was getting ready for the Bake Sale but I got into trouble.

**Cinderella:** Why, what happened?

**Baron:** They told me off for freezing my cake.

**Cinderella:** Why on earth did you freeze it?

**Baron:** Because they told me it needed icing!

**Cinderella:** Ugh, you're so embarrassing!

**Baron:** I'm your father. It's part of the job description. Well done again on your dance earlier though, Cinderella. Your mother would be so proud.

**Cinderella:** (*sadly*) It's days like today when I miss her the most.

**Baron:** Me too, darling, me too. However, as you know, your stepmother and your new sisters are moving into Hardup Hall today now they've have had their old home repossessed.

**Cinderella:** Repossessed?

**Baron:** Yes. All that money I spent on the exorcism wasted! Now I know you're going to find this a little hard, but you're all going to get on like a house on fire. I can sense it already. It'll be so nice to have some company rather than just the two of us rattling around on our own in such a big old house.

**Cinderella:** But it's not just us two. There's Buttons during the day and then the mice in the pantry and the swallows in the attic at night.

**Baron:** You always said you wanted a sister, and now you get two.

**Cinderella:** Well, I hope they're going to be nicer than they were at the wedding.

**Baron:** I thought we'd resolved all this. It was just a misunderstanding.

**Cinderella:** Misunderstanding? After the ceremony at the Council House, they picked me up and threw me into the Floozy in the Jacuzzi. It wouldn't have been so bad, but they hadn't turned the water on yet!

**Baron:** Well, it won't happen again. They're going to have the spare room so you've always got your bedroom as a special sanctuary that's just for you. I just need you to try for me. It's been so long since your mother died and I really want this to work out, for all of us.

**Cinderella:** Okay, I promise I'll try.

**Baron:** Thank you, my favourite daughter.

**Cinderella:** (*jokily*) Because I'm your *only* daughter!

**Baron:** Not anymore! Would you go and put the kettle on as they'll be here any minute?

**Cinderella:** Sure, I'm on it!

**Baron:** (*sensing her sadness*) It's going to be alright, Cinderella. This will be good for both of us.