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Princess Rosy Cheeks



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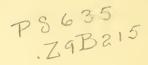
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ELDRIDGE ENTERTAINMENT HOUSE Franklin, Ohio Denver, Colo.



Cast and Costume Suggestions

Margery-Nightgown, covered by red wrapper and slippers.

Nurse-Blue and white gingham; white apron and cap.

Dream Fairies-Grey-Grecian style.

- Fresh Air Fairies—Blue cheesecloth or blue and gold alternately.
- Soap and Water Fairies—Pink dresses, white aprons; blue basins and wash cloths.
- Tooth Brush Brigade-Boy Scout suits.
- Light Fairy—White, Grecian style; carries green-shaded lamp.
- Beautiful Hair Fairies—Kimonas, in colors which do not clash with each other.
- Food Fairies—White dresses, red stockings, red caps or hair ribbons. Black letters on cardboard.

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Rest Fairies-Pale lavendar, or blue grey.

Princess Rosy Cheeks

Scene—A child's bedroom. A white bed is on one side of stage. A bedside table with a rose-shaded lamp and small clock beside it. On the other side is a chair with a book thrown open upon it. Clothes are scattered about the room. There is a window at the rear, concealed or partly concealed by a large screen. By use of screen, the window is not necessary. Splashing of water is heard.

Margery—(outside, protesting) Well, I don't see the use of all this fuss to be clean, anyway! There, I am through—!

(Margery enters; jumps into bed and pulls covers over head.)

(Nurse follows with tooth brush and glass.)

Nurse-Now, Miss Margery-

Margery—(getting out of bed, takes tooth brush, steps behind screen and gives her teeth a hasty scrub, and again pulls covers over her head)

(Nurse opens window.)

Margery—(sitting up) Don't open that window; it is cold in here!

Nurse—(hands on hips) I never saw such a girl never want any fresh air. Never want to play outdoors —always reading those fairy books, in a stuffy room. No wonder you haven't any color and no appetite. If I didn't know your mother forbid you candy between meals, I'd think it was that. Now, go to sleep. (Takes off the wrapper and tucks covers more smoothly around her.) You fussed so long over having your hair brushed, it is long after bed time. (Snaps off light. Exit.)

Margery—(cautiously sits up, snaps on light, and throws on wrapper, tip-toes over for her book, then begins to read, munching caramels which are under her pillow. She shivers, jumps up again, runs to window and closes it, and again, half lying down, begins to read. Her head soon begins to nod.)

(The Sandman enters with a bag of sand thrown over his shoulder. He dances about, throwing sand in her eyes and kicking her clothes about the floor, then disappears.)

(Dance of Sandman—"Humoresque." Any eccentric step can be used.)

(The Dream Fairies enter from behind the screen softly singing and waving lavendar, blue and rose scarfs, as they surround the bed.)

SONG OF DREAM FAIRIES Tune: "Love's Old Sweet Song"—Chorus

Dreams that come at evening, When the lights are low, And the twinkling shadows Softly come and go; Little girls grow weary Of Hygiene it seems So these self-same lessons We teach in dreams—

We-teach them-in their-dreams.

Margery-(sitting up and rubbing her eyes) __Oh, what a lovely dream! If only I truly were a Princess! But I am so little and homely and pale-I never could be one-oh, dear!

First Dream Fairy- Little Princess Margery-

Margery—(startled, jumps out of bed and courtesies) Why—why—good evening—I am sorry, but I fear I don't remember your name.

D. F.-We are Dream Fairies. We gave you that pretty dream, little Princess.

Margery-Why do you call me "Princess'? I an not one, you know. I am just Margerv.

D. F.—But, really, you are a princess. Didn't you know? All little gir's who are healthy and happy and good are—you are just the disguise now.

Mar.—Really! How wonderful! But how can I lose this ugly disguise? Won't you tell me? Oh, please.

First D. F.—(other Dream Fairies slip off quietly) Cuddle down in bed and we will call the Good Health Fairies, to tell you how. But the window is closed. They can't get in. Nurse must have forgotten.

Mar.---No, I closed it----

D. F.—And so kept all the Fresh Air Fairies from getting in. Too bad! There! (Opens window.)

Tune: "When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

(Enter from behind screen, skipping, waving blue and gold handkerchiefs, ten Fresh Air Fairies. At "Hurrah, Hurrah!" they wave handkerchiefs over head. They skip around stage, then form circle, "forward and back," and on last note all suddenly sit down facing Margery, and sing.)

SONG OF FRESH AIR FAIRIES Tune: "When Johnny Comes Marching Home"

She's opened the window, nice and wide, Hurrah! Hurrah!
So the Fresh Air Fairies can get inside, Hurrah! Hurrah!
We enter your lungs, the market place,
With oxygen clean, then right-about face, And carry off the impurities, the blood gives

back to us.

The blood then goes racing with all its might, Hurrah! Hurrah!

All fresh and clean and pure and bright,

Hurrah! Hurrah!

It enters the heart, then out again;

The heart pumps it back into artery and vein And pale cheeks glow with the red blood's rosy light.

(At close, all jump up and skip off, waving handkerchiefs at Margery.)

Mar.—Why, I didn't know Fresh Air and Sunshine really mattered. How interesting!

D. F.—Indeed, they are the most important of the Good Health Fairies. They are the ones that give you rosy cheeks. Keep your window open both day and night, so they can be with you.

Mar.—But when it is cold?

D. F.—Open it at the top and just a little at the bottom. The stuffy used up air will go out at the top and fresh new air will come in at the bottom. Put on more clothes or blankets, but don't keep the rosy cheek makers out.

(Enter eight Soap and Water Fairies. Every second one carries a basin, but all have soap and washcloth. March slowly in from either side of screen, down center in two's, in four's and then in eight's. Basin girls hold basin while partner washes face, neck and ears, on verses.)

SONG OF SOAP AND WATER FAIRIES Tune: "Jingle Bells"

Fairies from Spotless Town When our faces bright you see, We hope where now you wear a frown, A smile will come to be. Just take some water warm, And plenty of good soap; And then you wash it off again And dry it well we hope. Chorus— Soap and Water (shake cloth, facing front) Soap and Water, Is my face quite clean? (face partner) Will you look at ears and neck? (back to partner) The cleanest ever seen! (face front) (Repeat Chorus)

Second Verse

And now another thing, Before you dump the tub, You take the little nail brush, And finger nails you scrub.

Now, to these lessons add A cold bath every day, A shampoo every week or two, The Good Health Fairies say.

Chorus-

(Repeat Chorus)

(On second verse reverse the action. March out single file, courtesying as they pass Margery. This must be done with precision of drill and sung with animation, and with appropriate action.)

D. F.—And it isn't enough, Margery, to just keep the hands and face clean. You must take a bath every day, so that the millions of pores which serve as little drain pipes for the body will not get clogged up.

Mar.—Oh, yes, I know the pores. That is where the perspiration comes from.

D. F.—Yes, and those tiny drops of water are filled with the impurities the healthy body is trying to get rid of.

Mar.—I see, now, why baths are necessary, even if we look clean.

(During this dialog, Light Fairy enters quietly and appears beside Margery's bed. Sings.)

SONG OF THE LIGHT FAIRY Tune: "Tenting Tonight."

You were reading tonight In a very poor light, Princess, you must beware. Those eyes so blue That were given to you Are precious jewels rare.

Reading at night Needs a very good light, A green shade, and not rosy red; Have it fall from your shoulder, And never in your face, And sit up, don't lounge in bed.

(Slowly backs toward the screen.)

(Spoken)

If these rules, then, you keep, And have plenty of good sleep, Beautiful your clear eyes will seem.

(Disappears)

(Tune: "Dixie.")

(Enter Toothbrush Brigade, six boys. March in military style around stage, carrying toothbrushes. Salute Mar. as they pass. Stand at attention at close.)

> We are the Hygiene Soldiers of the U. S. A. For the Good Health Cause. We work you'll say,

1

As we scrub, As we scrub, As we scrub, Scrub our teeth. We chase the germs As the Yanks did the Germans, We'll *show* you how, As we can't preach sermons, As we scrub, As we scrub, Scrub our teeth.

(Chorus to be whistled. On the first "Hooray, hooray!" charge, pointing a toothbrush at Margery. On last lines, advance, charging, until close to bed, then sing last line. "We scrub. We scrub. Scrub our teeth.")

(Stand at attention.)

Mar.—But I do brush my teeth and they don't shine at all.

D. F.—But, how do you brush them?

Mar.—Why, just brush them.

D. F.—Company, attention! (All salute.) Show Margery the way to brush her teeth.

First Soldier—(stepping forward) Warm water, tooth paste, or mild soap. (Demonstrates.)

Second Soldier--(stepping forward) Brush upper teeth down-never across them. (Demonstrates.)

Third Soldier—(stepping forward) Brush lower teeth up. (Demonstrates.)

Fourth Soldier—Use dental floss to remove the food particles that are wedged between the teeth. (Demonstrates.)

Fifth Soldier—Rinse your mouth with fresh water. (Demonstrates.)

Sixth Soldier—Drink glass of water before break-fast and at bedtime.

D. F.-Company, March!

Mar.-Why do they drink water?

D. F.—A glass of water every morning and evening and as often as you think of it, besides, gives the inside of the body its daily bath. Now, remember—water every day, externally, internally and *eternally*!

(Ten or more girls with beautiful hair, enter, sit down on front of stage, and sing.)

Tune: "Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party."

At night our hair we brush,

So it will grow and shine,

And that we do it thoroughly,

We count to twenty-nine.

Chorus—(To be spoken, vigorously brushing hair in rhythm.)

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19; 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 we've said. 26, 27, 28 and 29; And now we go to bed.

(They go out, each courtesying and saying "Good night, Princess," in turn. They may carry out Japanese lanterns, or search lights, which they keep concealed until exit, when they carry them high as if lighting their way. A pretty exit march can be arranged if the stage is darkened. Simple march figures will seem quite lovely in this light.)

Mar.-What good does all that brushing do?

D. F.—It stimulates the oil glands at the base of each hair and this oil gives it the beautiful gloss. But you must also keep the scalp clean by a shampoo every two weeks or so or the little oil glands will get clogged with dirt, like the pores, and cannot do their work properly, and that makes the hungry hair dull and lifeless. But here come my littlest fairies, the Good Food Fairies. They will tell you what to eat to keep strong and well.

(Enter twenty-six little boys and girls. March straight to front of stage and form line across it. Each carries a placard hung from shoulder. As they sing their lines, they step forward and turn the cardboard over, showing the letter they represent.)

Song-Tune: "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean."

A is for Apples so rosy, B is for Butter and Bread, C is for Candy, it's dandy, But not between meals or in bed.

D is for Drinking eight glasses,

E is for eating quite slow,

F is for Food that is wholesome,

If you eat it you'll see how you'll grow.

Chorus-(see below)

H is for Happy and Healthy, Iron from Spinach so green, J is for Jam and for Jelly, Made in your Kitchen so clean.

L is for hot Lemonade,

M is for Milk and for Meat,

N is for Nourishment in it,

O is for Oranges sweet.

Chorus-(see below)

P for Potatoes and Porridge, Be Quiet just after a meal, Rest before Running and Romping, If you do this, new Strength you will feel. T is for Tea you must not drink, U the Upbuilding you'll see, Vegetables, Vitamines bring you, Drink Water, so healthy you'll be. Chorus—(see below)

X is for Examinations, And Y is for you, my dear lass, Z the Zest these foods give you, For study, so surely you'll pass.

CHORUS

A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

(At close of song, they march out, "A" leading.)

Mar.—Aren't they darlings? Aren't there any more fairies, Dream Lady?

D. F.-Just the Rest Fairies. Lean back on your pillows, and I will call them to sing to you.

(Five fairies tip-loe in quietly, fingers to lips; surround the bed; sing softly.)

SONG OF THE REST FAIRIES Tune: "Sweet and Low."

Sleep and Rest, Sleep and Rest, Bright eyes will come to thee, soon. Rest, rest, ten hours are best, In an airy room.

If you will take these lessons to heart, Ponder them well and then do your part, Good Health will come to thee soon, Sleep, little Princess, sleep! Sleep, pretty Princess, sleep!

(They slip quietly out. Margery sleeps.)

(Nursc enters, shakes head, opens window, takes away book and candy, puts out light. Exit.)

(Dream Fairy appears in moonlight by screen.)

(Soft singing is heard outside. Dream Fairies^{*} song as before.)

(Margery wakes up. Dream Fairy disappears.)

Mar.—I will try, Dream Fairy; indeed I will! Why, it's only a dream. No, it isn't! The light is out and the window open. The Fresh Air Fairies were really, truly here. Where's my Princess book? (Snaps on the light.) It's gone—oh, dear! Never mind, I will be too busy, learning to be a Health Princess myself, to have time to read about then.. Ten o'clock. If I'm going to sleep ten hours, I'll have to hurry. (Snaps off light and cuddles down in bed.)

(Dream Fairies' Song is heard faintly outside.)

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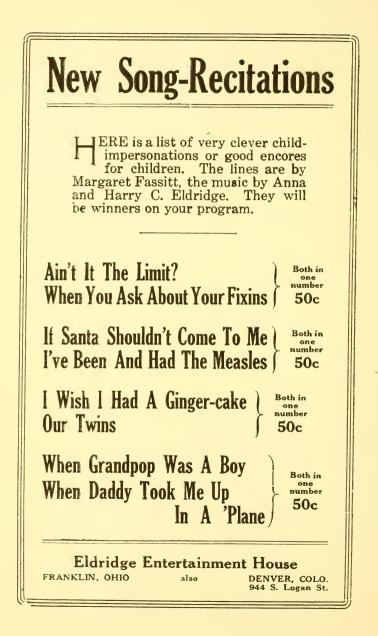
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