

A BEAU FOR BELLE

A Humorous Pantomime Skit

by
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CHARACTERS:

WORRIED MAMMA - A comely fair-fat-and-forty-lady.

HENPECKED PAPA - A shy gentleman with graying hair and mustache.

GRANDMOTHER - A sweet old lady with glasses that are always at the end of her nose.
She is always knitting.

BELLE - The sweet young thing, who is just that.

MRS. SNOOP - An overdressed and over-stuffed matron friend of the family.

PERCY SNOOP - Son of Mrs. Snoop, a skinny, vapid individual.

MISS SNIP - A prim, thin spinster. Dressed in black.

SIMON SUAVE - Her brother, a Don Juan if there ever was one.

THE DUKE OF SWELLINGTON - A dashing young man, the villain type.

LARRY LOVE - The brave, bold hero type. A "detekative."

READER

COSTUMES:

May be Gay Nineties; Colonial; or Present Day.

SCENE:

A living-room. Furniture may be antique, with an old sofa Center, a table at Right on which is an old-fashioned ornate oil lamp. Chairs at R and L. Doors R and L.

PROPERTIES:

Strip bacon for Papa - In his pocket.

Whisk broom for Belle and Simon - on sofa.

Broom for Mrs. Snoop and Simon - Stands by door.

Marbles for Belle - In her pocket.

Bandanna hanky for Swellington - In his pocket.

Hanky for Grandmother - In knitting bag or pocket.

PROLOGUE: (Memorized) For Reader at Center in front of curtain.

READER: This is a tale that we'd like to tell

It's just a tale of a Beau (Somebody comes rushing out R to C near Reader with a big bow)

And a Belle (Somebody comes rushing out L to C with a cowbell and rings it)

Then curtain rises, and Reader goes to R of stage where there is a rack to hold manuscript.

Note: Every time the word Beau is mentioned, the party with the bow hurries forward and waves bow, and every time Belle is mentioned, the party with the bell comes forward and rings it. Be sure to accent second syllable of Mamma and Papa.

READER: (Reads from manuscript)

Once upon a time in the days of long ago

There lived a little family, whom I want you all to know.

There was Grandmother who always used to sit and knit and knit,

And when she wasn't knitting she just used to sit and sit.

(Grandmother comes out on stage and sits down in chair R with knitting)

And there was Mamma, a good lady in her way,
But worried as can be about her daughter every day.

(Mamma comes fluttering out on the stage L)

For that sweet young thing had now come to a marriageable age,
And you mothers know what happens when a girl gets to that stage.

(Mamma wrings her hands, standing in center of stage)

Of course, Mamma had a husband, whom she didn't boast about.
He was just a henpecked character, a very meek old lout.

(Papa comes out on stage, stoop-shouldered,
walking with heavy tread across stage, sits down in chair)

They'd been married long enough so that life had lost its flavor.
But he did bring home the bacon, which, of course, was in his favor.

(He takes a strip of bacon from his pocket, strokes it, goes to table, and lays it
down in front of Mamma, who bows and beams at him. Papa goes back to chair)

Papa sat and twirled his mustache, and wondered what she'd say

(Twirls his mustache thoughtfully)

If perhaps he should assert himself some fair, fine, future day.

For he had found a likely swain his daughter's hand to win.

He'd met a British peer, and this night he'd asked him in.

Now he told Mamma about it, and she brightened at the thought.

(Mamma shows ecstasy. She hugs and kisses Papa)

But Grandmother just shook her head, (Shakes head) and said, "Love can't be bought."

But Papa said, "Wait till you meet the Duke of Swellington.

He's a guy that any guy would be happy to call son."

And Mamma said, "Hush, (Finger to lips) here comes Belle, and let's not tell her now.

She's a girl that can't be driven; she's a bit like me, I vow."

Belle tripped in (She trips in) to the sofa, and sat down with a shy smile.

She was a real good-looker that could a man beguile.

— End of free preview —