

The RESCUE
of the
PRINCESS WINSOME

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The RESCUE
OF THE
PRINCESS
WINSOME

*A FAIRY PLAY FOR OLD
AND YOUNG*

BY

ANNIE FELLOWS JOHNSTON

*Author of "The Little Colonel Series," "Big
Brother," "Joel: A Boy of Galilee,"
"In the Desert of Waiting," etc.*

MUSIC BY

ALBION FELLOWS BACON



BOSTON

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PUBLISHERS' NOTE

THE Princess Winsome, the part taken by the "Little Colonel" in the play called "The Rescue of Princess Winsome" in "The Little Colonel's Hero," has shared the popularity of the creator of the rôle.

Appealing to children because of its association with their favorite heroine, and to their parents because of its high moral tone and the beauty of its lines, the play has found great favor among children's clubs for their private theatricals, in many cases rivalling the success of the "Little Colonel" and her friends in obtaining funds for charitable purposes.

In response to repeated requests, the publishers are glad to present the play in separate form, making it more easily accessible to young amateur actors and actresses.

“THE RESCUE OF THE PRINCESS WINSOME”

CHARACTERS

ORIGINAL CAST

King . . .	Rob Moore.
Queen . . .	Allison Walton.
Prince Hero . . .	Keith MacIntyre.
PRINCESS WINSOME	Lloyd Sherman.
Knight . . .	Malcolm MacIntyre.
Ogre . . .	Joe Clark.
Witch . . .	Kitty Walton.
Godmother . . .	Elizabeth Loyd Lewis.
Frog-eye Fearsome	Ranald Walton.
Titania . . .	Elise Walton.
Bewitched Prince .	HERO, THE RED CROSS DOG
Chorus of Fairies.	

Flower Messengers	{	Morning-glory.
		Pansy.
		Rose.
		Forget-me-not.
		Poppy.
		Daisy.

*“THE RESCUE OF THE
PRINCESS WINSOME”*

ACT I.

SCENE I. In the Witch's Orchard. Frog-eye Fearsome drags the captive Prince and Princess to the Ogre's tower. At Ogre's command Witch brews spell to change Prince Hero into a dog.

SCENE II. In front of Witch's Orchard. King and Queen bewail their loss. The Godmother of Princess promises aid. The Knight starts in quest of the South Wind's silver flute with which to summon the Fairies to his help.

ACT II.

SCENE I. In the Tower Room. PRINCESS WINSOME and HERO. Godmother brings spinning-wheel on which

PRINCESS WINSOME

Princess is to spin Love's golden thread that shall rescue her brother. Dove comes with letter from Knight. Flower messengers in turn report his progress. Counting the Daisy's petals the Princess learns that her true Knight has found the flute.

ACT III.

SCENE I. In Witch's Orchard. Knight returns from quest. Blows the flute and summons Titania and her train. They bind the Ogre and Witch in the golden thread the Princess spun. Knight demands the spell that binds the Prince and plucks the seven golden plums from the silver apple-tree. Prince becomes a prince again, and King gives the Knight the hand of the Princess and half of his Kingdom. Chorus of Fairies.

*“THE RESCUE OF THE
PRINCESS WINSOME”*

ACT I.

SCENE I. *Witch bends over fire in middle of orchard,
brewing a charm in her caldron. Ogre stalks
in, grinning frightfully, swinging his bludgeon
in triumph.*

Ogre

Ha, old witch, it is done at last !

I have broken the King's stronghold !

I have stolen away his children twain

From the clutch of their guardsmen bold.

I have dragged them here to my castle
tower.

Prince Hero is strong and fair.

“THE RESCUE OF THE

But he and his sister shall rue my power,
When once up yon winding stair.

Witch

Now why didst thou plot such a wicked
thing?

The children no harm have done.

Ogre

But I have a grudge 'gainst their father,
the King,

A grudge that is old as the sun.

And hark ye, old hag, I must have thy
aid

PRINCESS WINSOME”

Before the new moon be risen.

Now brew me a charm in thy caldron
black,

That shall keep them fast in their prison !

Witch

I'll brew thee no charm, thou Ogre
dread !

Knowest thou not full well

The Princess thou hast stolen away

Is guarded by Fairy spell ?

Her godmother over her cradle bent.

“ O Princess Winsome,” she said,

“THE RESCUE OF THE

“ I give thee this gift : thou shalt deftly
spin,

As thou wishest, Love’s golden thread.”

So I dare not brew thee a spell ’gainst
her.

My caldron would grow acold

And never again would bubble up,

If touched by her thread of gold.

Ogre

Then give me a charm to bind the
prince.

Thou canst do that much at least.

PRINCESS WINSOME''

I'll give thee more gold than hands can
hold,
If thou'lt change him into some beast.

Witch

I have need of gold — so on the fire
I'll pile my fagots higher and higher,
And in the bubbling water stir
This hank of hair, this patch of fur
This feather and this flapping fin,
This claw, this bone, this dried snake
skin!

Bubble and boil

And snake skin coil,

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

This charm shall all plans

But the Ogre's foil.

[As Witch stirs and sings, the Ogre, stalking to the side, calls.]

Ogre

Ho, Frog-eye Fearsome, let the sport begin!

Hence to the tower! Drag the captives in!

[Frog-eye Fearsome drags Prince Hero and Princess Winsome across the stage, and into the door leading up the tower stair. They are bound by ropes. Prince tries to reach his sword. Princess shrieks.]

PRINCESS WINSOME''

Princess

Oh, save us, good, wise witch,

In pity, save us, pray.

The King, our royal father,

Thy goodness will repay.

[Pulls back, wringing hand.

Oh, I cannot, *cannot* mount the tower!

Oh, save us from the bloody Ogre's
power!

*[They are dragged into the tower, door bangs
and Ogre locks it with key a yard long. Goes
back to Witch, who hands him vial filled
from caldron with black mixture.*

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Witch

Pour drop by drop upon Prince Hero's
tongue.

First he will bark. His hands and
feet

Will turn to paws, and he will seem a
dog.

Seven drops will make the change com-
plete.

The poison has no antidote save one,
And he a prince again can never be,
Unless seven silver plums he eats,
Plucked from my golden apple-tree.

PRINCESS WINSOME

Ogre

Revenge is sweet,
And soon 'twill be complete!
Then to my den I'll haste for gold to
delve.
I'll bring it at the black, bleak hour of
twelve!

Witch

And I upon my broomstick now must fly
To woodland tryst. Come, Hornèd Owl
And Venomed Toad! Now play the spy!
Let no one through my orchard prowl.

[Exit Witch and Ogre to dirge music.]

“*THE RESCUE OF THE*”

SCENE II. *Enter King and Queen weeping. They pace up and down, wringing hands, and showing great signs of grief. Godmother enters from opposite side. King speaks.*

King

Good dame, Godmother of our daughter
dear,

Perhaps thou’st heard our tale of woe.

Our children twain are stolen away

By Ogre Grim, mine ancient foe.

All up and down the land we’ve sought

For help to break into his tower.

And now, our searching all for nought,

We’ve come to beg the Witch’s power.

PRINCESS WINSOME''

[Godmother springs forward, finger to lip, and anxiously waves them away from orchard.]

Godmother

Nay! Nay! Your Majesty, go not
Within that orchard, now I pray!
The Witch and Ogre are in league.
They've wrought you fearful harm this
day.

She brewed a draught to change the
prince

Into a dog! Oh, woe is me!

I passed the tower and heard him bark:

Alack! That I must tell it thee!

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

[*Queen shrieks and falls back in the King's arms, then recovering falls to wailing.*]

Queen

My noble son a *dog?* A *beast?*
It cannot, must not, *shall* not be!
I'll brave the Ogre in his den,
And plead upon my bended knee!

Godmother

Thou couldst not touch his heart of stone.
He'd keep *thee* captive in his lair.
The Princess Winsome can alone
Remove the cause of thy despair.
And I unto the tower will climb,

PRINCESS WINSOME”

And ere is gone the sunset's red,
Shall bid her spin a counter charm —
A skein of Love's own Golden Thread.
Take heart, O mother Queen ! Be brave !
Take heart, O gracious King, I pray !
Well can she spin Love's Golden Thread,
And Love can *always* find a way !

[*Exit Godmother.*

Queen

She's gone, good dame. But what if she
Has made mistake, and thread of gold
Is not enough to draw our son
From out the Ogre's cruel hold ?

“THE RESCUE OF THE

Canst think of nought, your Majesty?
Of nothing else? Must we stand here
And powerless lift no hand to speed
The rescue of our children dear?

*[King clasps hand to his head in thought, then
starts forward.]*

King

I have it now! This hour I'll send
Swift heralds through my wide domains,
To say the knight who rescues them
Shall wed the Princess for his pains.

Queen

Quick! Let us fly! I hear the sound of
feet,

PRINCESS WINSOME”

As if some horseman were approaching
nigher.

’Twould not be seemly should he meet
Our royal selves so near the Witch’s fire.

*[They start to run, but are met by Knight on
horseback in centre of stage. He dismounts
and drops to one knee.]*

King

Tis Feal the Faithful! Rise, Sir Knight,
And tell us what thou doest here!

Knight

O Sire, I know your children’s plight.
I go to ease your royal fear.

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Queen

Now if thou bringst them back to us,
A thousand blessings on thy head.

King

Ay, half my kingdom shall be thine.
The Princess Winsome thou shalt wed.

Queen

But tell us, how dost thou think to cope
With the Ogre so dread and grim?
What is the charm that bids thee
hope
Thou canst rout and vanquish him?

PRINCESS WINSOME''

Knight

My faithful heart is my only charm,
But my good broadsword is keen,
And love for the princess nerves my arm
With the strength of ten, I ween.
Come weal, come woe, no knight can fail
Who goes at Love's behest.
Long ere one moon shall wax and wane,
I shall be back from my quest.
I have only to find the South Wind's flute.
In the Land of Summer it lies.
It can awaken the echoes mute,
With answering replies.

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

And it can summon the fairy folk
Who never have said me nay.
They'll come to my aid at the flute's
clear call.
Love *always* can find a way.

King

Go, Feal the Faithful. It is well!
Successful mayst thou be,
And all the way that thou dost ride,
Our blessings follow thee.

[*Curtain.*

PRINCESS WINSOME''

ACT II.

SCENE. *Room in Ogre's tower. Princess Winsome kneeling with arm around Dog's neck.*

Princess

Art thou my brother? Can it be
That thou hast taken such shape?
Oh turn those sad eyes not on me!
There *must* be some escape.
And yet our parents think us dead.
No doubt they weep this very hour,
For no one ever has escaped,
Ere this, the Ogre's power.

“THE RESCUE OF THE

Oh cruel fate! We can but die!
Each moment seems a week.
Is there no hope? Oh, Hero dear,
If thou couldst only speak!
But no! Within this tower room
We're captive, and despair
Must settle on us. 'Tis the doom
Of all dragged up yon winding stair.

*[Drops her head and weeps. Enter Godmother,
who waves wand and throwing back curtain,
displays a spinning-wheel.]*

Godmother

Rise, Princess Winsome,
Dry your weeping eyes.

PRINCESS WINSOME''

The way of escape
Within your own hand lies.

Waste no time in sorrow,
Spin and sing instead.
Spin for thy brother's sake,
A skein of golden thread.

Question not the future,
Mourn not the past,
But keep thy wheel a-turning,
Spinning well and fast.

All the world helps gladly
Those who help themselves,

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

And the thread thou spinnest,
Shall be woven by elves.

All good things shall speed thee !
Thy knight, the Faithful Feal,
Is to thy rescue riding.
Up! To thy spinning-wheel !

[Disappears behind curtain.]

Princess

All good things shall speed me ?
Sir Knight, the Faithful Feal,
Is to my rescue riding ?

[In joyful surprise.]

Turn, turn, my spinning-wheel !

(She sings.)

PRINCESS WINSOME "

Spinning Wheel Song

8va.

f 8va.

8va. *f* 8va.

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It features a melodic line with dotted rhythms and eighth notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and some beamed sixteenth notes. The piece begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and an 8va. marking.

1. My god-moth-er

mp

The vocal and piano accompaniment section consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It begins with a rest followed by the lyrics "1. My god-moth-er". The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, respectively, with the same key signature and time signature. The piano part features a melodic line in the treble and a harmonic accompaniment in the bass. The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) is placed between the piano and vocal staves.

"THE RESCUE OF THE

Spinning Wheel Song (Continued)

bids me spin, that my heart may not be

sad. Spin and sing for my

PRINCESS WINSOME”

Spinning Wheel Song (Continued)

brother's sake, and the spinning makes me glad.

2. Spin, sing with humming whir, the wheel goes round

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Spinning Wheel Song (Continued)

Andante.

and round. For my broth-er's sake, the

slower.

charm I'll break, Prince Hero shall be found.

PRINCESS WINSOME''

Spinning Wheel Song (Continued)

The first system of the piano accompaniment consists of three staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains four whole rests. The middle and bottom staves are grouped by a brace and contain a piano introduction. The middle staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp, featuring a sequence of chords and eighth notes. The bottom staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp, featuring a sequence of eighth notes and chords.

dolce.

The second system features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp, containing the vocal melody with the lyrics "Spin, sing, the golden thread, Gleams in the sun's bright". The middle and bottom staves are grouped by a brace and contain the piano accompaniment. The middle staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp, starting with a piano dynamic marking (*p*) and featuring a sequence of eighth notes. The bottom staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp, featuring a sequence of chords and eighth notes.

Spin, sing, the golden thread, Gleams in the sun's bright

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Spinning Wheel Song (Continued)

ray, The hum-ming wheel my

The first system of musical notation consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains the lyrics "ray, The hum-ming wheel my". The piano accompaniment is written for two staves: a right-hand treble clef staff and a left-hand bass clef staff. The right-hand part features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left-hand part provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with dotted rhythms.

grief can heal, For love will find a way.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The vocal line, on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, contains the lyrics "grief can heal, For love will find a way." The piano accompaniment continues on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The right-hand part features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, and the left-hand part provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with dotted rhythms. The system concludes with a double bar line.

PRINCESS WINSOME''

[Pauses with uplifted hand.]

What's that at my casement tapping?

Some messenger, maybe.

Pause, good wheel, in thy turning,

While I look out and see.

*[Opens casement and leans out, as if welcoming
a carrier dove, which may be concealed in
basket outside window.]*

Little white dove, from my faithful
knight,

Dost thou bring a message to me?

Little white dove with the white, white
breast,

What may that message be?

“THE RESCUE OF THE

[Finds note, tied to wing.]

Here is his letter. Ah, well-a-day!

I'll open it now, and read.

Little carrier dove, with fluttering heart,

I'm a happy maiden, indeed.

(She reads.) “ O Princess fair, in the

Ogre's tower,

In the far-off Summer-land

I seek the South Wind's silver flute,

To summon a fairy band.

Now send me a token by the dove

That thou hast read my note.

Send me the little heart of gold

PRINCESS WINSOME”

From the chain about thy throat.
And I shall bind it upon my shield,
My talisman there to stay.
And then all foes to me must yield,
For Love will find the way.


Here is set the hand and seal
Of thy own true knight, the faithful—
Feal.”

*[Princess takes locket from throat and winds
chain around dove's neck.]*

Princess sings

“THE RESCUE OF THE

The Dove Song



Now, flut-ter and fly, flut-ter and fly,

The first system of the musical score for 'The Dove Song'. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are 'Now, flut-ter and fly, flut-ter and fly,'. The piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs, also with a key signature of one sharp and common time. The piano part features chords and single notes, with some notes marked with an asterisk (*).



Andante
Bear him my heart of gold, Bid him be

The second system of the musical score. It begins with the tempo marking 'Andante'. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'Bear him my heart of gold, Bid him be'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes, including some notes marked with an asterisk (*).

PRINCESS WINSOME''

The Dove Song (Continued)

brave lit-tle car-rier dove! Bid him be brave and

mp Andantino

bold! Tell him that I at my

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

The Dove Song (Continued)

spin-ning wheel, Will sing while it turns and

hums, And think all day of his

PRINCESS WINSOME''

The Dove Song (Continued)

love so leal, Un-til with the flute he

comes. Now fly, flut-ter and fly, Now
Sva. . . . Sva. .
tr. tr

“THE RESCUE OF THE

The Dove Song (Continued)

flut-ter and fly a - way, a - way.
.....

*[Sets dove at liberty. Turning to wheel again,
repeats song.]*

Princess repeats

My Godmother bids me spin,
That my heart may not be sad;

PRINCESS WINSOME”

Spin and sing for my brother's sake,
And the spinning makes me glad.

Sing! Spin! With hum and whir
The wheel goes round and round.
For my brother's sake the charm I'll
break!

Prince Hero shall be found.

Spin! Sing! The golden thread
Gleams in the sunlight's ray!
The humming wheel my grief can heal,
For Love will find a way.

*[First messenger appears at window, dressed as
a Morning-glory.]*

“THE RESCUE OF THE

Morning-glory

Fair Princess,

This morning, when the early dawn
Was flushing all the sky,
Beside the trellis where I bloomed,
A knight rode slowly by.

He stopped and plucked me from my
stem,

And said, “ Sweet Morning-glory,
Be thou my messenger to-day,
And carry back my story.

PRINCESS WINSOME”

“ Go bid the Princess in the tower
Forget all thought of sorrow.
Her true knight will return to her
With joy, on some glad morrow.”

[Disappears.]

Princess sings

Spin ! spin ! The golden thread
Holds no thought of sorrow.
My true knight he shall come to
me
With joy on some glad morrow.

*[Second flower messenger, dressed as Pansy,
appears at window.]*

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Pansy

Gracious Princess,

I come from Feal the Faithful.

He plucked me from my bower,

And said, speed to the Princess

And say, “ Like this sweet flower

The thoughts within my bosom

Bloom ever, love, of thee.

Oh, read the pansy’s message,

And give a thought to me.”

[Pansy disappears.]

PRINCESS WINSOME

Princess sings

Spin, spin, O golden thread!
And turn, O humming wheel.
This pansy is his thought of me,
My true knight, brave and leal.

[Third flower messenger, a pink Rose.]

Rose

Thy true knight battled for thee
to-day,
On a fierce and bloody field,
But he won at last in the hot affray,
By the heart of gold on his shield.

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

He saw me blushing beside a wall,
My petals pink in the sun
With pleasure, because such a valiant
knight
The hard-fought battle had won.

And he kissed me once on my soft pink
cheek,
And once in my heart of gold,
And bade me hasten to thee and speak.
Pray take the message I hold.

*[Princess goes to the window, takes a pink rose
from the messenger. As she walks back,
kisses it and fastens it on her dress. Then
turns to wheel again.]*

PRINCESS WINSOME''

Princess sings

Spin, spin, O golden thread,

And turn, O happy wheel.

The pink rose brought in its heart of gold

A kiss, his love to seal.

[Fourth messenger, a Forget-me-not.

Forget-me-not

Fair Princess,

Down by the brook, when the sun was

low,

A brave knight paused to slake

His thirst in the water's silver flow,

As he journeyed far for thy sake.

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

He saw me bending above the stream,
And he said, “ Oh, happy spot !
Ye show me the Princess Winsome’s eyes
In each blue forget-me-not.”
He bade me bring you my name to hide
In your heart of hearts for ever,
And say as long as its blooms are blue,
No power true hearts can sever.

Princess sings

Spin, spin, O golden thread.
O wheel, my happy lot
It is to hide within my heart
That name, forget-me-not.

[Fifth messenger, a Poppy.]

PRINCESS WINSOME”

Poppy

Dear Princess Winsome,
Within the shade of a forest glade
He laid him down to sleep,
And I, the Poppy, kept faithful guard
That it might be sweet and deep.
But oft in his dreams he stirred and
spoke,
And thy name was on his tongue,
And I learned his secret ere he woke,
When the fair new day was young.
And this is what he, whispering, said,
As he journeyed on in his way:

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

“ Bear her my dreams in your chalice
red,

For I dream of her night and day.”

Princess sings

Spin, spin, O golden thread.

He dreams of me night and day!

The poppy's chalice is sweet and red.

Oh, Love will find a way!

[Sixth messenger, a Daisy.

Daisy

O Princess fair,

Far on the edge of the Summer-land

I stood with my face to the sun,

PRINCESS WINSOME”

And the brave knight counted with
strong hand

My petals, one by one.

And he said, “ O Daisy, white and
gold,

The princess must count them too.

By thy petals shall she be told

If my long, far quest is through.

“ Whether or not her knight has found
The South Wind’s flute that he sought.”

So over the hills from the Summer-land,

Your true knight’s token I’ve brought.

“THE RESCUE OF THE

[Gives Princess a large artificial daisy. She counts petals, slowly dropping them one by one.]

Princess

Far on the edge of the Summer-land,

O Daisy, white and gold,

My true love held you in his hand.

What was the word he told?

He's found it. Found it not.

Found it. Found it not.

That magic flute of the South Wind,

sweet,

Will he blow it, over the lea?

PRINCESS WINSOME”

Will the fairy folk its call repeat,
And hasten to rescue me?

He's found it, found it not.

Found it, found it not.

Found it, found it not.

He's *found* it!

[Turning to the dog.

Come, Hero! Hear me, brother mine;
Thy gladness must indeed be mute,
But oh, the joy! We're saved! We're
saved!

My knight has found the silver flute!

(Sings.)

“THE RESCUE OF THE

“*Spin, Wheel, Reel Out Thy Golden Thread*”

Vivace.

Spin, wheel, reel out thy gold-en thread, My

The first system of music features a vocal line on a single treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a dotted quarter note A4, and then eighth notes B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, and G5. The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with a series of eighth notes and a left hand with a simple harmonic accompaniment.

hap - py heart sings glad and gay, . .

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with a dotted quarter note G5, followed by eighth notes F#5, E5, D5, C5, and B4. The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns, including a final measure with a fermata over the right hand.

PRINCESS WINSOME

“Spin, Wheel, Reel Out Thy Golden Thread” (Continued)

He - ro shall 'scape the O - gre dread, And

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written on a single treble clef staff in G major, with lyrics "He - ro shall 'scape the O - gre dread, And". The piano accompaniment is written on two staves (treble and bass clefs) and begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the bass line and chords in the treble line.

I my own true love shall wed. For

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is on a single treble clef staff with lyrics "I my own true love shall wed. For". The piano accompaniment continues on two staves, maintaining the same rhythmic and harmonic structure as the first system.

“THE RESCUE OF THE

Spin, Wheel, Reel Out Thy Golden Thread” (Continued)

love has found a way, For love has found a way.

[Curtain.

PRINCESS WINSOME

ACT III.

SCENE. *In front of Witch's Orchard. Knight comes riding by, blows flute softly under the tower window. Princess leans out and waves her hand. Knight dismounts, and little page takes horse, leading it off stage.*

Knight

Lean out of thy window, O Princess fair,
Rescuers now are at hand.

Thou shalt be led down the winding
stair

By the Queen of the Fairy band.

Listen, as low on the South Wind's flute
I call the elves to our tryst.

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

Down rainbow bubbles they softly float,
Light-winged as stars in a mist.

[He blows a flute, and from every direction the Fairies come floating in, their gauzy wings spangled, and each one carrying a toy balloon, attached to a string. They trip back and forth, their balloons bobbing up and down like rainbow bubbles, singing.]

PRINCESS WINSOME''

Fairy Chorus

DUETT.



1. We come, we come at thy call, On

PIANO.



rain - bow bubbles we float. We



fair - ies, one and all, . . . Have



“THE RESCUE OF THE

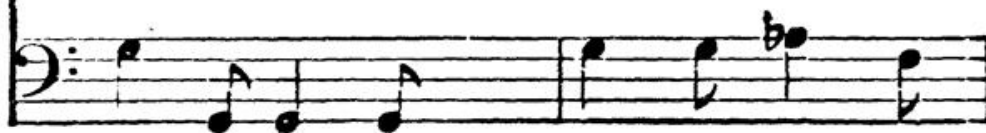
Fairy Chorus (Continued)



answer'd the wind flute's note. 1. The south wind's silver
2. To the aid of the gallant
3. And now, at thy be -



flute, From the far - off sum - mer
knight, To the help of the prin - cess
hest, We pause in our bright ar -



PRINCESS WINSOME"

Fairy Chorus (Continued)



land, It bade us has-ten here, . To
fair, To the res-cue of the prince, We
ray, To end thy weary quest, . For



lend a help-ing hand. It bade us has-ten,
come to the Ogre's lair. To the res-cue
love has found a way, To end thy wea-ry,



“THE RESCUE OF THE

Fairy Chorus (Continued)



has - ten here, To lend a help-ing hand.
of the prince, We come to the Ogre's lair.
wea - ry quest, For love has found a way.



*[Queen Titania coming forward, waves her
star-tipped wand, and looks up toward
Princess at the window.]*

Titania

Princess Winsome,

When thy good Godmother

PRINCESS WINSOME"

Bade thee spin Love's thread,

It was with this promise,

These the words she said:

All the world helps gladly

Those who help themselves.

The thread thou spinnest bravely,

Shall be woven by elves.

And now, O Princess Winsome,

How much hast thou spun,

As thy wheel, a-whirling,

Turned from sun to sun?

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Princess

This, O Queen Titania.

[Holding up mammoth ball.]

To the humming wheel's refrain,
I sang, and spun the measure
Of one great golden skein.

And winding, winding, winding,
At last I wound it all,
Until the thread all golden
Made a mammoth wonder-ball.

Titania

Here below thy casement
Thy true knight waiting stands.

PRINCESS WINSOME”

Drop the ball thou holdest

Into his faithful hands.

[Princess drops the ball, Knight catches it, and as Titania waves her wand, he starts along the line of Fairies. They each take hold as the Witch and Ogre come darting in, she brandishing her broomstick, he his bludgeon. They come through gate of the Orchard in the background. As the ball unwinds, the Fairies march around them, tangling them in the yards and yards of narrow yellow ribbon, singing as they go.]

Fairy Chorus

We come, we come at thy call,

On rainbow bubbles we float.

We fairies, one and all,

“ THE RESCUE OF THE

Have answered the Wind-flute's note.
To the aid of the gallant Knight,
To the help of the Princess fair,
To the rescue of the Prince,
We come to the Ogre's lair.

We come, we come at thy call,
The Witch and Ogre to quell,
And now they both must bow
To the might of the fairies' spell.
Love's Golden Thread can bind
The strongest Ogre's arm,
And the spell of the blackest Witch
Must yield to its mighty charm.

PRINCESS WINSOME''

[Ogre and Witch stand bound and helpless, tangled in golden cord. They glower around with frightful grimaces. King and Queen enter unnoticed from side. Knight draws his sword, and brandishing it before Ogre, cries out fiercely.]

Knight

The Key! The key that opens yonder
tower!

Now give it me, or by my troth

Your head shall from your shoulders
fly!

To stab you through I'm nothing
loath!

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

[Ogre gives Knight the key. He rushes to the door, unlocks it, and Princess and dog burst out. Queen rushes forward and embraces her, then the King, and Knight kneels and kisses her hand. Princess turns to Titania.]

Princess

Oh, happy day that sets me free

From yon dread Ogre's prison!

Oh, happy world, since 'tis for me

Such rescuers have 'risen.

But see, your Majesty! the plight

Of Hero — he the Prince, my brother!

Wilt thou *his* wrong not set aright?

Another favour grant! One other!

PRINCESS WINSOME'

*[Titania waves wand toward Knight who
springs at Witch with drawn sword.]*

Knight

The spell! The spell that breaks the
power

That holds Prince Hero in its thrall!

Now give it me, or in this hour

Thy head shall from its shoulders fall!

Witch

Pluck with your thumbs

Seven silver plums

[Speaking in high, cracked voice.]

From my golden apple-tree!

“THE RESCUE OF THE

These the dog must eat.

The change will be complete,

And a prince once more the dog will be !

[Princess darts back into orchard, followed by dog, who crouches behind hedge, and is seen no more. She picks plums, and, stooping, gives them to him, under cover of the hedge. The real Prince Hero leaps up from the place where he has been lying, waiting, and hand in hand they run back to the centre of the stage, where the Prince receives the embraces of King and Queen. Prince then turns to Knight.]

Prince Hero

Hail, Feal the Faithful !

My gratitude I cannot tell,

PRINCESS WINSOME”

That thou at last hast freed me
From the Witch's fearful spell.
But wheresoe'er thou goest,
Thou faithful knight and true,
The favours of my kingdom
Shall all be showered on you.

[Turns to Titania.

Hail, starry-winged Titania !
And ye fairies, rainbow-hued !
I have not words sufficient
To tell my gratitude,
But if the loyal service
Of a mortal ye should need,

“THE RESCUE OF THE

Prince Hero lives to serve you,
No matter what the deed!

[Characters now group themselves in tableau. Queen and Prince on one side, Godmother and Titania on the other. King in centre, with Princess on one hand, Knight on other. He places her hand in the Knight's, who kneels to receive it. Ogre and Witch, still making horrible faces, are slightly in background, bound. Fairies form an outer semi-circle.]

King

And now, brave Knight, requited stand!
Here is the Princess Winsome's hand.
To-morrow thou shalt wedded be,
And half my kingdom is for thee!

PRINCESS WINSOME''

Fairy Chorus

Love's golden cord has bound
The strongest Ogre's arm,
And the spell of the blackest Witch
Has yielded to its charm.

The Princess Winsome plights
Her troth to the Knight to-day,
So fairies, one and all,
We need no longer stay.

The golden thread is spun,
The Knight has won his bride,
And now our task is done,
We may no longer bide.

“ *THE RESCUE OF THE* ”

On rainbow bubbles bright,

We fairies float away.

The wrong is now set right

And Love has found the way!

Curtain.