

# PERUSAL

# THE MONSTER PRINCESS TALES

by

**Allyssa Hynes**

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CHARACTER NAME	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	GENDER
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**Trick or Treaters:**

Jo	a trick or treater in want of a scare	M/F
Sam	a good friend	M/F
Charlie	a trick or treater who loves candy	M/F

**Werewolf Cinderella**

Cinderella	a human / later werewolf	F
Jack	a pumpkin / later carriage	M
Stepmother	evil monster	F
Stepsister #1	evil monster	F
Stepsister #2	evil monster	F
Hairy Godmother	a werewolf	F
Prince Ghastly	a princely monster	M
Ghost	a hungry ghost	M/F
(Assorted Guests)		

**Vampire Snow White**

Evil Queen	vain vampire	F
Mirror	a magic mirror who talks in rhyme	M/F
Snow White	a kind vampire	F
Prince Frank	Frankenstein's monster and prince	M
Black Cat	a sassy feline	M/F
Ghost	(same from before)	M/F
(6 other ghosts - actors or puppets)		

**Mummy Rapunzel**

Rapunzel	a bored mummy	F
Witch	a bad magical friend	F
Warlock	an okay magician	M
Ghost	(same from before)	

ACT ONE

SCENE ONE.

Three trick-or-treaters, SAM, CHARLIE, and JO enter. They are in costume but it is clear that they are human. They bring their haul of candy to their hangout: some tree stumps set together like they would be around a camp fire.

SAM

This was the best Halloween ever, wasn't it?

CHARLIE:

I'll say! I got caramel and lollipops and bubble gum and nougat.

Jo sighs dramatically.

SAM

What's wrong? You don't like nougat.

CHARLIE:

If you don't want it, I'll take your nougat.

JO

No. It's not the nougat.

SAM

Which candy upset you?

CHARLIE:

I can take those off your hands too. Any one of them. I'll even eat the sour ones.

JO

No. It's not the candy that's bothering me.

CHARLIE:

Are you sure? Maybe I should check them for you.

JO

You said that this was the best Halloween ever. But why?

SAM

Because we get to dress up together in fun costumes and spend time with our best friends.

CHARLIE:

And we got a lot of great candy. Including peanut butter cups and gumdrops and chocolate.

JO

Boring!

CHARLIE:

If you find it so boring, I'll take your chocolate.

Jo protects her candy from Charlie, but then continues.

JO

Halloween is supposed to be scary, but I haven't been scared once! My mom won't let me watch any creepy movies, no one pulled any Halloween pranks, and - even look at my costume! I'm not fearsome. I'm adorable!

SAM

I'm sorry. I thought we were having a good time.

JO

You guys are my best friends. I didn't mean to make it sound like you're not.

CHARLIE:

Does that mean you'll share your candy with us?

JO

Fine. I'm not going to enjoy it anyway. I'm too disappointed.

CHARLIE:

Thanks!

SAM

You're that disappointed about nothing scary happening?

JO

It's like it's not even Halloween.

SAM

Oh. I'm sure there's something we can do to cheer you up. Look, we're here in the woods-

JO

You mean Charlie's back yard?

SAM

The *creepy* woods. Why don't we sit down here and tell each other ghost stories?

JO

That's a pretty good idea. There's just one problem.

SAM

What?

JO

I don't know any ghost stories! My mom doesn't let me hear them. Do you know any?

SAM

I guess not.

JO

Then it won't work.

CHARLIE:

You don't know any scary stories at all? Nothing about monsters?

SAM

Wait a minute! Maybe I do. Yes. I know a great story.

JO

Really? Something creepy?

SAM

Yes. I'm going to tell you the "Tail of Cinderella."

JO

But that just sounds like a fairy tale.

SAM

No. It's a *scary* tale. You see the kingdom that Cinderella came from was not like ours. It was full of terrifying monsters.

CHARLIE:

That's not quite the story I knew.

SAM

So, sit back and listen.

JO

I'll give it a try.

SAM

Once upon a time there was a girl called Cinderella.

## ACT TWO - THE TAIL OF CINDERELLA

## SCENE 1

Cinderella's house. A human Cinderella enters and addresses the audience.

CINDERELLA

My name is really Ella, but I get covered in ashes so often from cleaning up after the dragon that I was given the nickname by my two stepsisters. They're always pointing out my flaws.

The two stepsisters enter. They are monsters! They also like to show off.

STEPSISTER 1

Cinderella has no fangs.

STEPSISTER 2

Cinderella has no claws.

STEPSISTER 1

Cinderella has no scales.

STEPSISTER 2

And no tail either.

STEPSISTER 1

Why, she's barely a monster at all!

STEPSISTER 2

What a weirdo.

CINDERELLA

And if these insults weren't enough, I have to do chores for them and my stepmother too.

STEPSISTER 1

Cinderella, clean the moat.

STEPSISTER 2

Cinderella, brush the dragon.

STEPSISTER 1

Cinderella, dust the shelves. There's hardly any on them at all.

Thunder rumbles as the evil stepmother enters. She is scary.

STEPMOTHER

Cinderella, fetch the mail!

CINDERELLA

Yes, stepmother.

She hurries away and fetches the mail outside the house.

CINDERELLA

They're always having me work around the house. I don't particularly like being a servant in my own home, but I don't have much of a choice. I'm the least terrifying monster in the land. There's nowhere I really fit in. If I didn't have my Jack O'lantern in the garden to talk to, I don't know what I'd do.

We notice Jack, the Jack O'Lantern who seems happy to see her.

JACK

Hi Cinderella. I hope your stepsisters aren't *squashing* your fun?

CINDERELLA

Not too many chores left. I'm just going to get the mail.

She gathers the mail, but pauses before looking at it.

CINDERELLA

Someday I hope to change my circumstance, but I'm not sure how. I don't seem to fit in anywhere. I can't fly with the bats or swim with the sharks. Look at my hands. Five fingers. No deadly claws. Not even a wart! No wonder everyone makes fun of me. The only good thing about them is that they're the right size to let me use a yo-yo. And I can do some pretty sweet tricks.

Cinderella shows off her yo-yo tricks. She is very good, but one trick lets her yo-yo fly near Jack.

JACK

Yo! Watch what you're doing with that yo.

CINDERELLA

Sorry. But then again, that's probably the scariest thing I've ever done. I wish I was more terrifying and could find a place to fit in. Still, at least here I'm with family. Even if they are monstrous to me. I hope someday I'll be able to find somebody who understands me. Maybe even my true love. But what are the odds of that happening? It's not like the opportunity will just suddenly present itself.

She is holding the mail and waving a letter around as she says this.

JACK

Who knows what an opportunity can *stem* from? Hey, what is that?

CINDERELLA

It looks like an invitation - an invitation for all of us!

She hurries in to her stepfamily.

STEPMOTHER

It certainly took you long enough!

STEPSISTER 1

What do you expect? She doesn't have any wings.

STEPSISTER 2

And she only has two legs!

CINDERELLA

We've gotten an invitation in the mail.

STEPSISTER 1

An invitation!

STEPSISTER 2

Give it to me!

STEPMOTHER

I'll take it. But what could you mean by "we", Cinderella? No one would invite you to anything. They'd be ashamed to have such a sweet-faced girl with golden hair at their party. It would make the other guests sick.

The stepmother takes the invitation.

STEPSISTER 1

What does the letter say?

STEPSISTER 2

Is it from the castle?

STEPMOTHER

It is. It seems Prince Ghastly is throwing a ball and has invited the whole kingdom. He intends to find and dance with his future bride that night.

STEPSISTER 1

Why, that could be me!

STEPSISTER 2

Or me!

CINDERELLA

And I could go to the ball too. I'm part of the kingdom.

The stepsisters laugh.

STEPSISTER 1

Who would want to dance with you? You don't even have two left feet.

STEPSISTER 2

We should let her go. The prince will be so disgusted that he'll lock her in the dungeons.

CINDERELLA

I just want to go to the dance.

STEPMOTHER

Well, certainly, Cinderella. You can go to the ball - if you find a way to attend without embarrassing us. If you have time to get ready. After you help us to look our worst.

STEPSISTER 1

Yes. We need to start getting ready now!

STEPSISTER 2

Cinderella, help me put moose in my hair.

Cinderella helps them get ready. She adds moose antlers to stepsister 2's hair.

STEPSISTER 1

Cinderella, help me with these holes in my dress.

They rip more holes into the dress.

STEPSISTER 2

And fetch my clutch bag.

Cinderella hands her a bag that has a hand clutching it attached. The stepsisters and stepmother yell commands on top of each other and Cinderella runs around.

Finally, Cinderella ends up in the garden with Jack.

JACK

They're keeping you too busy to get ready for the ball yourself. They're in-seed-ious!

CINDERELLA

I'm not going to argue with you on this one. Well, I guess I can stay home and practice my yo-yo-ing.

JACK

I wish I could go to the ball too. That would really *brighten* my mood.

CINDERELLA

Actually, I might have an idea. A way we could both go. Could I put you on my shoulder?

JACK

Sure. Scoop me up!

Cinderella arranges Jack so he is on her shoulders. It is very Headless Horseman-esque. She approaches her family.

STEPSISTER 1

Terrifying!

STEPSISTER 2

Hideous!

STEPMOTHER

The stuff of nightmares!

JACK

We must look pretty good. I guess I'm a jack of all trades.

STEPMOTHER

We weren't talking about you. We were talking about ourselves.

STEPSISTER 1

What are you supposed to be anyway?

STEPSISTER 2

It's the Jack O'Lantern that's scary. Not you.

STEPMOTHER

That's true. If you were to lose your balance at all, he would tumble off and you'd be just the way you were. An embarrassment.

She pushes Cinderella who falls. Jacks falls off her shoulders and breaks.

CINDERELLA

Jack!

She is devastated.

STEPMOTHER

Come girls. We mustn't keep Prince Ghastly waiting.

The stepmother and stepsisters exit. Cinderella tries to help Jack.

CINDERELLA

Jack. Jack, are you all right?

JACK

(Weakly) I'm a shell of what I was.

Cinderella is upset, but then her Hairy Godmother enters who is a very wolflike monster.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Hello, dear. Is this a bad time?

CINDERELLA

Who are you?

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Why, I'm your Hairy Godmother.

CINDERELLA

My Hairy Godmother?

HAIRY GODMOTHER

That's right.

CINDERELLA

But if you're my godmother, why have I never seen you before?

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Your stepmother is too terrifying, but I thought she might be at the ball so I could finally come and talk to you. Since I've been away so long, I brought a gift to make up for all your birthdays I wasn't there for. It's a wish!

She hands Cinderella a festive box.

CINDERELLA

Earlier I would have wished to look more like a monster so I could fit in, go to the ball, and find my true love. But now I just want to fix my friend Jack.

JACK

I'm just broken up if you have to use your one wish on me.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Well, maybe it doesn't have to be used on one wish. Maybe we could divide it up somehow. For example, turning him back into a pumpkin could use a lot of magic, but it might not use as much magic if he were turned into a carriage.

CINDERELLA

A carriage?

HAIRY GODMOTHER

They are infinitely less complex than pumpkins.

CINDERELLA

I don't know.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

No. It's true.

JACK

A carriage! I'd love that! Then I'd have wheels. I could move places besides the garden. I could pop a wheelie.

CINDERELLA

All right. Let's do it.

She opens the box and lights sparkle.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Just repeat after me. Double, double, whoop de doo.

Hairy Godmother begins making hacking noises.

Cinderella repeats it all.

CINDERELLA

Double, double, whoop de doo.

She makes the same noises.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Sorry. That last bit wasn't part of it. I just had a hair ball. Well, I am a Hairy Godmother. Let's try it again. Double, double, whoop de doo. Hocus pocus. Boo!

CINDERELLA

Double, double, whoop de doo. Hocus pocus. Boo!

The magic happens. Jack transforms into a carriage.

JACK

This is awesome! I'm pumped.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

And now that he's a carriage, he could take you to that ball you wanted to go to.

JACK

Yes!

CINDERELLA

I can't go to the ball looking like this. Is there enough magic left in there to make me scary?

HAIRY GODMOTHER

I think there's enough to make you a terrifying monster just like me.

CINDERELLA

Let's do it.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

But it won't be permanent. You'd only be a monster at night when the moon is up. During the day, you'd still look like this.

JACK

I hate to *vine*, but that's not fair.

CINDERELLA

No. It's all right. I'll still be able to go to the ball. And for a night, I'd fit in.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

For this wish, you just need to howl.

CINDERELLA

Howl?

HAIRY GODMOTHER

That's right. And maybe some other wolves will join in.

They howl, encouraging the audience to join in too. The gift box glows again. Cinderella transforms into a werewolf magically.

JACK

Cinderella, *where* did you go?

CINDERELLA

It's me! And I'm hideous! I love it! Look, I even have a tail!

HAIRY GODMOTHER

I'm so glad.

CINDERELLA

The only downside is that my shoes don't fit anymore. My paws are too big.

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Here. You can wear these. I've been meaning to get rid of them. They're too big for me.

She takes some shoes out of her bag and gives them to Cinderella who puts them on.

CINDERELLA

Perfect! Thanks, Hairy Godmother!

JACK

And now I'm wheel-y ready to go to the ball!

HAIRY GODMOTHER

Have fun, you two! Just remember - you'll need to be home before the night is over. When the moon disappears, you'll no longer be a monster.

CINDERELLA

I'll remember.

Cinderella and Jack leave for the ball.

## HAIRY GODMOTHER

I just hope her evil stepmother doesn't find out what we did. She's really scary.

## SCENE TWO

The ball. Monster guests come out and dance. The stepmother and stepsisters are part of the crowd. There might be a band playing.

The GHOST is enjoying the food. PRINCE GHASTLY comes on cringing.

## PRINCE GHASTLY

It was sure hard to escape her web.

## GHOST

You mean a lady didn't want to stop dancing with you?

## PRINCE GHASTLY

I mean that I got caught in her spider's web. All these ghouls are fighting over me. But they don't care about me at all. They just like that I'm the prince. They want my money and power. Not *me*. But I am supposed to marry one of them and I guess their pushiness won't stop until I do. I wish I could just relax and maybe practice my yo-yo tricks. But no. No. I need to keep dancing. The tango, the foxtrot, the waltz. Smelly dancing. (He does a stinky belly dance dance-move.) Ghost, you don't know how lucky you have it.

## GHOST

Because I get to go to the prince's ball and sample all the fine food?

## PRINCE GHASTLY

Because you don't have toes your partner can stomp on!

The stepmother and two stepsisters come closer.

## GHOST

Well, it looks like some more toe-stompers found you. I'm going to enjoy the boo-ffet.

The ghost focuses on the food.

## STEPSISTER 1

Prince Ghastly, dance with me! I can't wait to dig my claws into you.

STEPSISTER 2

No. Dance with me. I can't wait to get my tail wrapped around you.

PRINCE GHASTLY

Ladies, I'd love to. But I need to take a break.

STEPMOTHER

You will dance with one of my daughters!

PRINCE GHASTLY

(Gulps.) Okay.

He dances with 1 and then 2 who pull on him. He finally breaks away as Cinderella enters.

PRINCE GHASTLY

Who is this gruesome creature? I've never seen her before.

CINDERELLA

I've never been to a ball. There's so many monsters here.

GHOST

And a great buffet!

CINDERELLA

I've been looking forward to this, but now that I'm finally here, I'm nervous. Maybe I'll just do a few tricks with my yo-yo before I talk to someone new. Just a bit to calm my nerves.

She starts yo-yo-ing and the Prince joins her.

PRINCE GHASTLY

Great tricks! They're a real treat to watch. Mind if I join?

CINDERELLA

Sure. Can you Walk the Gremlin?

They both do the trick.

PRINCE GHASTLY

What about the Around the Graveyard?



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