

# “The Snow Queen”

*sample dialogue*

book, music & lyrics by CHERYL E. KEMENY

*(based on a story by Hans Christian Anderson)*

## Songs

### Act I

- 1.) *Negativity* (Sorcerer, Goblins & Cast)
- 2.) *Youth Is Sweet* (Gerda, Kai, Roses & Grandmother)
- 3.) *Come With Me* (Snow Queen & offstage chorus)
- 4.) *Suddenly* (Kai)
- 5.) *I'll Change* (Gerda)
- 6.) *Winter On The River* (Cast)
- 7.) *I'll Go With You* (Kai & Snow Queen)
- 8.) *Why Are You Crying?* (Roses)
- 9.) *Courage* (Gerda)
- 10.) *River of Life* (Cast & Gerda)
- 11.) *After River* (Gerda & Flowers)
- 12.) *Time Stands Still* (Garden Woman)
- 13.) *I Can Only Sing My Own Song* (Flowers & Gerda)
- 14.) *Why Shouldn't I Marry?* (Princess & Ladies)
- 15.) *Courage* (reprise, Act I finale) (Prince & Cast)
- 16.) *Act II Music Sets Us Free* (Robber Girl & Robbers)
- 17.) *In The Shining Valley of My Home* (Ba & Doves)
- 18.) *In The Shining Valley Of My Home* (Robber Girl) reprise
- 19.) *I'll Be Your Friend* (Gerda & Robber Girl)
- 20.) *The Power Of One Pure Heart* (Finland Woman)
- 21.) *Battle Dance* (in piano score)
- 22.) *Finale* (Kai, Gerda, Roses & Doves, Snow Queen, Cast)

Crystal Theatre



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## THE “SNOW QUEEN” CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(in order of appearance,)*

Hans Christian Andersen (narrator, non-singing)  
The Sorcerer (evil villain, singing-baritone or alto)  
The Goblins (singing/speaking)  
Mirror Soloists  
Kai (young boy, tenor or alto)  
Gerda (young girl, soprano/belt, demanding singing part)  
Grandmother (mezzo-soprano, 40-ish)  
The Roses (young sopranos)  
The Snow Queen (strong soprano/ “dramatic” acting ability)

Snowflake Dancers  
Erik, Hans, Per & Skaters (speaking)  
Farmer’s Wife (speaking)  
The River  
Garden Woman (belt/speaking role, quirky personality)  
Iris, Narcissus, Hyacinths, For-Get-Me-Not (solos)  
Flower Chorus  
The Crow (comic speaking role)  
The Princess (comic role, belt to B)  
Ladies-In-Waiting (comic back-up singing, lines)  
Page, Harry (comic speaking)  
Suitor 1, Suitor 2, Suitor 3 (comic speaking)  
Guards  
Prince (speaking-may also sing solo in Act I finale if he can sing)  
Crow’s Fiancée (speaking, comic)  
The Horse  
Robberhag, Jake & Dino (comic male roles, singing)  
Robbers  
Robbergirl (strong belt, “tough-girl” type)  
Ba (character role, reindeer, baritone or alto)  
Doves (young sopranos, lines also)  
Lapland Woman (speaking comic role)  
Finland Woman (dramatic speaking and big belt solo)

*(ALL CAST MEMBERS ARE IN THE ENSEMBLE)*

“The Snow Queen”  
Overture

Prologue

**Hans Christian Andersen:** (*in One*).

Good evening ladies and gentleman, boys and girls and welcome! Tonight we are going to share a story about friendship and the invincible power of a pure heart. Now, don't be afraid, but you are about to meet an evil sorcerer who is trying to steal the innocence of the world. You will also meet his arch enemy – the beautiful Snow Queen. Our protagonists, Kai and Gerda, will soon begin the adventure of a lifetime and through their story, **we** may even learn the secret to Eternity.

But, first, the dark magician! This sorcerer is **so** wicked that he has created a magic mirror which makes good (*snaps his fingers*) – disappear! Even worse, it can take the tiniest imperfection and make it seem enormous! Now, the goblins (*HOBGOBLINS begin to ENTER and surround HANS CHRISTIAN as he continues to speak*) who attend his school are obsessed with this mirror, for they say it shows what mankind is **really** like. These nasty creatures serve the Sorcerer. In a short time, this mirror will explode before your very eyes, into a million tiny pieces. Yet, **each** little piece will retain **all** its evil power. (*telling a secret to the audience*). And then? Then, you will see what happens when pieces of this mirror become lodged in the heart and mind of our young hero, Kai. Can Kai be saved? When we get to the end of our story, you will know, one way or another! (*Music begins. GOBLINS are swarming about the stage. The SORCERER is CS on a platform behind the Mirrors. HANS CHRISTIAN EXITS, as if frightened by the GOBLINS.*)

**SONG:** “Negativity”

**Sorcerer:**

Welcome class! I have a surprise.

One that will open your eyes.

My latest invention reflects my contention

That life breeds dissension and ultimate demise.

*(The GOBLINS look at him stupidly. They don't understand)*

*(spoken)* In other words....

*(sung)* People are bad! So bad! And, now I can prove it;

With one little move it becomes totally clear!

Look here! *(removing covering from large mirror CENTER STAGE)*

At my latest creation. It exceeds expectations!

It makes good.....disappear!

Come closer! **Gaze** into the mirror!

Come, let its power take over your heart!

Come closer! **Look** into the mirror!

Let Negativity now play its part!

*(GOBLINS dance)*

**Sorcerer:** Come closer! **Gaze** into the mirror!  
Come, let its power take over your heart!  
Come closer! **Look** into the mirror!  
Let Negativity now play its part!

*(spoken over music)*

**Goblin 1:** Master! You are truly a genius!

**Sorcerer:** Have I ever given you cause to believe otherwise?

**Goblin 2:** With this mirror, evil will conquer the world!

**Sorcerer:** Yes, my little toads, this mirror is the **ultimate** tool! When you gaze into its glass, it shrinks any goodness to the tiniest speck of sand, **but**...the slightest imperfection grows...and grows...and **grows**...into an enormous monument to all that is twisted and evil in this world!

**All Goblins:** Bravo! Bravo!

**Sorcerer:** And now...my slimy apprentices, I charge you to take this mirror out into the world and wreak havoc upon its citizens!

**Goblins:** Hooray! *(Hobgoblins head toward the mirror)*

**Sorcerer:** *(shouting loudly)* **Wait!** *(music stops; all freeze)* One more thing, you slithering slugs...**be careful!** The mirror grows as it gains power, so make sure you don't **drop it!**

**Goblins:** *(music starts)* Evil rules! Evil rules!

*(DANCE) (MIRROR PEOPLE begin to ENTER during singing)*

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## ACT 1

### SCENE 1: "Changing Seasons"

*(On the roof of KAI's Grandmother's house. There are 2 "ROSE BUSHES" and a makeshift "puppet theater". KAI [a young boy, approaching adolescence] & his best friend, GERDA [a little younger than KAI] are putting together a puppet show. GRANDMOTHER is visible downstairs, working or knitting. KAI's GRANDMOTHER takes care of GERDA as well as KAI.)*

**Kai:** *(holding an "Evil Sorcerer" puppet and playing the part)* "You cannot escape from my evil power!"

**Gerda:** (*holding "Rose" puppet*) "Stay away from me! (*melodramatic aside to audience*) Will no one save me?"

**Kai:** "It is useless to resist! You must become my servant or die!"

**Gerda:** (*popping up from behind wooden screen*) Die? I don't like this play, Kai and I quit.

**Kai:** (*popping up, exasperated*) Quit? You can't quit. We haven't finished.

**Gerda:** I'm tired of my puppets being killed by **yours** all the time. It's not nice!

**Kai:** Well, why don't you show a little courage and have your puppets fight back for a change.

**Gerda:** Fight back? My puppet's a rose. Roses can't fight.

**Kai:** (*moving to one of the ROSEBUSHES*) Maybe they can't fight, but they're Beautiful! (*ROSES smile when KAI is not looking.*) They could use their beauty to charm the Evil Sorcerer and escape that way.

**Gerda:** They really **are** beautiful, aren't they?

**Kai:** (*grabbing her hands impulsively*) Almost as beautiful as you! Gerda, I want you to know that you're my best friend in the whole world and I will love you forever! (*throws his arms around her*)

**Gerda:** (*staring at KAI speechlessly, blushing awkwardly.*) And...and you're my best friend, too. I'm so happy to be living here with you and your Grandmother. I, I don't know what would have happened to me if she...

**Kai:** (*putting his finger to her lips*) No sad talk! (*THEY lock eyes for a meaningful moment*)

**Gerda:** (*changing subject*) (*Getting up & moving to ROSES*) Roses are my favorite flowers in the whole world. I know! I could have the roses sing to the Sorcerer and melt his evil heart.

**Kai:** That's a great idea, but ...what song would they sing?

**Gerda:** Do you remember the song your grandmother taught us? The one about roses?

**Kai:** Um...(*scrunching his face and thinking*) How does it go?

**SONG:** "Youth Is Sweet" (*Gerda, Kai, Roses, Grandmother*)

**GERDA:** Youth Is Sweet, but, cannot stay;  
Like a rose, it fades away.  
When again the rose we see.  
We will know eternity.

**GERDA & KAI:** (*in harmony*) When at last the roses fall,  
And we hear old winter's call;  
All my life will sweeter be;  
Knowing you were here with me. (*KAI & GERDA go back to puppets*)

**ROSEBUSHES:** Life is fragile as a flower;  
Blooming, fading in an hour;  
Youth Is Sweet, but, cannot stay;  
Like a rose, it fades away.

**GRANDMOTHER:** (*hearing them sing, she begins reminiscing*)  
Like a rose, my life unfolded through the years.  
Changing seasons brought me joy and brought me tears.  
A petal falls, and it reminds me time is swift.  
It flies away like withered leaves that on the wind do drift.  
Though fallen from its stem, its fragrance it retains;  
And so, the memory of youth within my mind remains.

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***new scene:***

**Kai:** We'll be careful! (*to Gerda*) Now! In my new play, the Sorcerer has kidnapped the roses and is searching for new victims. (*using Sorcerer voice*) "I must roam the world until I find an innocent child to add to my collection!"

(*The SORCERER & GOLBINS ENTER, STAGE RIGHT & stand on CENTERSTAGE platform as they spy on GERDA & KAI.*)

**Gerda:** But then, he meets the Snow Queen! (*holding up Snow Queen puppet*) "Stand back, evil Sorcerer! The next victim is mine!"

**Kai:** (*as Sorcerer*) "I am more powerful than you! I need only cast my magic dust and I conquer all I see!"

**Gerda:** (*as Snow Queen*) But **my** kiss can freeze the heart of any man! Including you!  
(*She lunges the Snow Queen puppet at the Sorcerer puppet. Magic music is heard as GOBLINS cast "mirror-dust" towards KAI.*)

**Kai:** (*shouting in pain and jumping up- no longer as the "Sorcerer"*) Ow! Something's

in my eye! *(covering his eye with his hand)* It hurts! I can't see!

*(GOBLINS laugh wickedly from Tower)*

**Gerda:** Kai! What happened!?

**Kai:** *(grabbing his chest)* Oh! Now my chest hurts!

**Gerda:** Kai! What can I do to help you?!

*(GOBLINS cackle)*

**Hobgoblin 1:** Master! Another victim!

**Hobgoblin 2:** The mirror has struck it's mark!

**Sorcerer:** He shall soon succumb to it's power! Watch how it's evil magic changes him. Soon he will be mine!

**Snow Queen:** *(blue light comes up on Snow Queen Tower)* He shall be mine, Sorcerer!

**Sorcerer:** You! I will rule the world and you cannot stop me now!

**Snow Queen:** You may have bewitched his heart for the moment, but I will take him with me when the time is right.

**Hobgoblin 3:** What about the girl, Master?

**Snow Queen:** *(scoffing)* You cannot touch the girl! Her heart is pure. Your evil will never grow in her. *(LIGHTS fade to black on SNOW QUEEN)*

**Sorcerer:** *(to the SNOW QUEEN angrily)* Negativity will conquer all! Evil will rule! *(LIGHTS fade on SORCERER)*

**Goblins:** Evil rules! Evil rules! Evil rules! *(gradually fades)*

*(LIGHTS UP on KAI & GERDA)*

**Gerda:** I'm going to get Grandmother!

**Kai:** No! Wait! I'm feeling better now.

**Gerda:** *(who is crying, tears streaming down her face)* Are you sure?

**Kai:** *(standing up, there is a visible change in his personality. He now speaks to*

*GERDA in an annoyed, irritable manner.*) Of course I'm sure! And stop crying! It makes your face look so ugly!

**Gerda:** *(taken back)* Wh...what?

**Kai:** *(holding up his puppet and turning to the ROSEBUSHES)* "And then the evil Sorcerer proves his power to the Snow Queen by killing the stupid roses!" *(He starts pulling off the flowers and throwing them to the ground)*

**Gerda:** *(trying to stop him; in shock)* Kai! What are you doing?!

**Kai:** I'm pruning these pitiful roses!

**Gerda:** Stop it! Stop it this instant!

**Kai:** Stop? Why should I? Suddenly, it's as if the fog around me has lifted! I'll never get anywhere if I keep on playing these baby games. I'm through with toys!  
*(KAI throws down his puppet.)*

**Gerda:** Kai, what are you saying?!

**SONG:** "Suddenly"

**KAI:** Suddenly everything's clear, now!  
Suddenly; would you like to hear how?  
It came upon me like a flash,  
That logic and love are meant to clash.  
Reason can be undone by emotion;  
Sensible people don't cause a commotion.  
Never let your passion rule,  
Or people will certainly call you a fool!  
Suddenly...I seek perfection.  
Suddenly...I don't need direction.  
Anyone can plainly see,  
Logic and reason are the key!  
Now, that I've become a man,  
I'll get what I want and take what I can!  
No more fairy-tales for me!  
Only the facts will set me free!  
Childish games are wasted time!