



Photo of the cast by Carol Rosegg.

Synopsis and Story Guide

Ford's Theatre: Sensory-Friendly Performance Pre-Visit Story

Into the Woods



Photo of the cast by Carol Rosegg.

Into the Woods is based on familiar fairy tales. Many things happen simultaneously on stage in this musical.

It is okay to follow any one of the following character's storylines as you watch the musical.

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Baker and Baker's Wife



Photo of Evan Casey and Awa Sal Secka by Carol Rosegg.

A long time ago, the Baker's father stole from the Witch's garden to feed his pregnant wife.

As punishment, the Witch took their baby girl when she was born and locked her away in a tower. The baby's name is Rapunzel.

The Witch also placed a curse on the Baker's entire family so they cannot have children.

The Baker and the Baker's Wife now live in the family house. They wish to have children but cannot because of the Witch's curse.

The Witch tells the Baker and the Baker's Wife if they find four specific things she will remove the curse.

They need: a cow as white as milk; hair as yellow as corn; the cape as red as blood; the slipper as pure as gold.



Photo of Evan Casey, Tiziano D'Affuso and Awa Sal Secka by Carol Rosegg.



Photo of Rachel Zampelli, Awa Sal Secka and Evan Casey by Carol Rosegg.

The Baker and the Baker's Wife journey into the woods to break the curse. They meet other characters along the way who have the items.

Later, when a giant threatens the kingdom, the Baker's Wife dies. The Baker starts a new life with their son and the friends they meet in the woods.

Cinderella



Photo of Justine "Icy" Moral, Erin Driscoll, Maria Egler and Ashleigh King by Carol Rosegg.

Cinderella lives with her father, Stepmother and two Stepsisters.

Cinderella's family is unkind and treats her like a servant.

Cinderella wishes to go to a Royal Festival with the rest of her family, but her family does not allow it.

Cinderella is sad she cannot go to the Festival. She goes to her mother's gravesite near an enchanted tree to speak with her mother's spirit. Her mother's spirit grants Cinderella's wish to go to the Festival.

Cinderella goes to the Festival and meets the Prince.



Photo of Erin Driscoll by Carol Rosegg.



Photo of Erin Driscoll and Christopher Mueller by Carol Rosegg.

As time passes, Cinderella marries but discovers she is not happy with her Prince. The Prince is not faithful to her.

Cinderella goes into the woods to find the Prince and learn more about a Giant that has come to the kingdom.

By the end of the story, Cinderella finds a new family with the Baker, Jack and Little Red Ridinghood.

Jack



Photo of Samy Nour Younes and Tiziano D'Affuso by Carol Rosegg.

Jack lives with his Mother and a white cow named Milky White.

Milky White doesn't produce any milk so his Mother tells Jack to sell the cow.

When Jack is in the woods, he meets the Baker and Baker's Wife who gives Jack several beans in exchange for the cow.

When Jack returns home with beans, his Mother is angry he did not get money for the cow. She throws the beans into the yard.

The beans are magical. They grow into a large stalk that reaches into the sky.

Jack climbs the stalk and finds a Giant's kingdom with beautiful things like a harp, a hen that lays golden eggs and lots of gold.

The Giant discovers Jack stealing his riches and chases Jack down the beanstalk. The Giant falls off the beanstalk and dies.



Photo of Rayanne Gonzales by Carol Rosegg.



Photo by Gary Erskine.

The wife of the Giant is upset that her husband died. She demands Jack be given to her so she can kill him.

Jack's Mother is killed by the royal Steward when she defends her son's actions.

Jack works with Cinderella, the Baker, Little Red Ridinghood and others to defeat the giant and restore peace to the kingdom.

Jack finds a new family with the Baker, Cinderella and Little Red Ridinghood.

Little Red Ridinghood



Photo of Jade Jones by Carol Rosegg.

Little Red Ridinghood lives with her mother. Her Grandmother lives in a house in the woods.

Little Red Ridinghood gets sweets from the Baker and his Wife to bring to her Grandmother who is sick in bed. She cannot resist eating the sweets herself.

Little Red Ridinghood meets a Wolf in the woods. He is exciting and scary, and he distracts Little Red Ridinghood.

The Wolf gets to Grandmother's house first and eats Grandmother. When Little Red Ridinghood arrives, the Wolf eats her too.

The Baker follows Little Red Ridinghood to her Grandmother's house. He cuts the Wolf's belly open with a knife, freeing Little Red Ridinghood and her Grandmother.



Photo of Christopher Mueller by Carol Rosegg.



Photo of Karen Vincent by Carol Rosegg.

Little Red Ridinghood's house is crushed by the Giant. Her Grandmother's house is crushed too. Little Red Ridinghood's mother and grandmother die when their homes are crushed.

Little Red Ridinghood finds a new family with Jack, the Baker and Cinderella.

Witch and Rapunzel



Photo of Rachel Zampelli by Carol Rosegg.

The Witch has lived next door to the Baker's family for generations.

The Baker's father stole greens and magic beans from the Witch's garden, to feed his pregnant wife.

As punishment, the Witch took their baby girl when she was born and locked her away in a tower. The baby's name is Rapunzel.

The Witch also placed a curse on the Baker's entire family so they cannot have children.

The Witch promises to lift the curse, if the Baker and his Wife can bring her four specific things for a potion.

The Witch visits Rapunzel in her tower every day. The tower has no doors. The Witch climbs up Rapunzel's hair to get into the tower.

Rapunzel's Prince discovers the tower and begins to visit Rapunzel. They fall in love.



Photo of Quynh-My Luu by Gary Erskine.



Photo of Rachel Zampelli by Carol Rosegg.

The Witch is very angry when she discovers that Rapunzel has met a prince. She banishes Rapunzel to a desert and blinds Rapunzel's Prince as punishment.

The Baker and his Wife bring the four things to the Witch to break the curse. The breaking of the curse also makes the Witch young and beautiful.

Rapunzel is crushed by the Giant. The Witch's heart is broken.

SYNOPSIS AND STORY GUIDE – CREDITS

All stage photos are from the Ford's Theatre production of *Into the Woods*.

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