

Cinderella, or Histoires ou contes du temps passe **by Charles Perrault, published in 1697**

Summary: Cinderella is a young girl who is mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters after her father's death. Forced to become a servant in her own home, Cinderella finds solace in her animal friends and dreams of a better life. When a royal ball is announced, Cinderella's fairy godmother appears and transforms her ragged clothes into a beautiful gown, complete with glass slippers. At the ball, Cinderella captures the heart of the prince, but she must leave before midnight, as the magic spell will wear off. The prince searches for her using the lost slipper, and when he finds her, they live happily ever after.

Cinderella's Retribution **by Oluwatoyin Awosanya, 2023**

But what if the fairy tale ends after the dance, that Cinderella never gets to live happily ever after with the prince. Our beloved Cinderella embarks on a twisted journey far from the original...

I sighed as I looked around the room, my eyes resting on the glass slipper that I had left behind. I had been so happy, so free, so alive. I had felt like a princess, like I was meant to be there.

But now, I was back in my prison, my stepmother's home. I was back to being Cinderella, the girl who was ignored and forgotten. I was back to being the girl who was treated like a servant, who was forced to do all the chores and errands. I was back to being the girl who was never given a chance to be happy.

I looked around the room one last time before I left, my eyes lingering on the glass slipper. I knew that I would never get the chance to wear it again, but I also knew that it was a reminder of what could have been. A reminder of the one night where I was able to be free and happy.

I took one last look at the slipper before I left, whispering to myself, "Cinderella." I quickly left my room and headed for the kitchen, where my stepmother and stepsisters were preparing an apple pie.

I have been saving apple seeds for five years, ever since my stepmother and stepsisters had taken over my late father's home. I have been determined to find a way to free myself from their tyranny and have been collecting the seeds in the hopes of one day having enough to make a wish.

Today, I am close to my goal. I had three more apples to collect and then I will have enough seeds to make my wish.

I had to get the apples before they could be used for the pie so I snuck in and grabbed the apples, then quickly ran back to my room. *She was almost free.*

Once I had the apples, I carefully separated the seeds from the fruit and stored them away. I knew that soon I would have enough to make my wish and finally be free of my stepmother and stepsisters.

The thought of being close to her goal brought a faint smile to her lips and she couldn't help but giggle. She was almost free.

I went back to the kitchen with the crushed apple seeds and added them into the apple pie without my stepmother and stepsisters noticing. I watched as they took a bite of the pie, and I couldn't help but smile. I knew that the apple seeds would make them sick, and that their selfishness would be their demise.

I watched as my stepmother and stepsisters started to feel ill, and I couldn't help but feel a sense of satisfaction. I had finally gotten my revenge. I had been able to get back at them for all the times they had treated me unfairly.

I knew that I had to leave before they realized what had happened, so I quickly grabbed my things and ran out of the house. As I ran away, I couldn't help but smile. I had finally gotten my revenge. *I am free.*