OUT OF THE WOODS

Cast of Characters: suggested roles

Emma –Bossy, thinks she’s in charge (Mirai)

Julie –In Charge, calm, thoughtful (Elle)

Melinda –Scared, timid (Maleha)

Drew –Curious, brave (Veronica)

Bella – Everyone’s friend (Rosalie)

Tina – Clueless, follows the others (Cheridan)

Sandy – Has maps, father built road (Lindy)

Narrator 1: Once Upon a time there was a little town in the middle of nowhere, called Castlerock.

Narrator 2: Everyone in this little town loved to dance.

Narrator 1: Well, almost everyone.

Narrator 2: There were dance festivals and dance contests and just plain dancing for fun.

Narrator 1: Schools danced, families danced, friends danced. But you ought to take a look for yourself.

Narrator 2: We’d like to take you to Castlerock for the first day of the annual Mystery of the Castle Dance festival.

MC 1: Welcome everyone to Castlerock’s annual Dance Festival. Let’s begin. From Genovia, just west of here, dancing to Honey, I’m Good.

Dance #1 Honey, I’m Good. Corie’s Hip Hop/both

MC 2: You’re in for a big treat. From nearby New Yorkville let’s welcome: It Don’t Mean a Thing if you Ain’t got that Swing.

Dance #2 It Don’t Mean a Thing Chad’s Tap 3-4 & 4

MC 1: And don’t forget the winners of our final dance contest are in for a mystery surprise. Let’s introduce our next contestant: Rosalie in “Joy”, Elle in “No Angel”, Veronica in “What Do I have to Do”, Mirai in “Breathe Me”

Dance # 3 Solo: Rosalie, Elle, Veronica & Mirai

MC 2: But let’s not delay here is Jump, Jive and Wail.

Dance # 4 Jump, Jive & Wail Senior Perf Team

MC 2: Now tell us more about the Mystery rally.

MC 1: As you know this town is named after the big Castle on the rock that is located in the Woods just to the North of here. But nobody has been able to find the castle or see inside for the last 100 years. Each year our dance festival winners are given another clue to help them try to find the castle and the wonders it may behold.

MC 2: This year our “Mystery of the Castle” participants will receive what is suppose to be the clue to tell all. But do you know what that means?

MC 1: I haven’t a clue. Ha HA!

MC 2: We’ll find out soon enough. And now put your hands together for:

Dance #5 The Walker/ Not Afraid to be Me

*(Downstage Right 5 girls are talking)*

Girl 1 Emma: We have been coming to this dance contest for the last 5 years and every year they tell us we will get the clue to tell all. “The mystery of the Castle.” Do you think it will be any different this year?

Girl 2 Julie: I overheard from Mrs. Darling they uncovered a book in the basement of the library that was filled with Fairy tales.

Girl 3 Melinda: What are fairy tales? *(She shrugs, girls look at her in disbelief)*

Julie: They’re enchanting stories that have deeper meanings. And in the book it describes the castle on the rock, and a princess and treasure locked inside the castle.

Girl 4 Drew: We’ve got to win that contest so we can get the final clue. I have been wondering about that castle all my life. It’s time to find it and see what’s inside.

Melinda: But what if it’s protected by some evil spell? Last year’s winner never returned.

Emma: I’m not afraid. Are we all in? If we win we’ll share the prize with each other.

Girl 5 Bella: We can protect each other.

Melinda: I’m not sure

All 4 girls: *(putting hands together)* We’re in! *(Melinda’s not sure)*

MC 1: And now our teacher, Mrs. Darling, will introduce you to your judges

Mrs. Darling: Welcome everyone. I would like to introduce our judges. *(Judges stand waving)* Miss Snow, Miss Ella, and Ms. Miranda! I hope you’re ready to make the final selection. Who will be our Mystery winner this year?

MC 1: Here come our local girls From Castlerock in “Snap Clap”.

Dance # 6 “Snap Clap”

*(Enter Rumple Stiltzkin as girls are exiting)*

RS: What’s going on here? Why aren’t you all in school? *(Xing to SR)*

Bella: Hello Mr. Stiltzkin. We’re competing in the annual dance contest. *(Girls gather SL)*

Narrator 1: Just to fill you in…Mr. Stiltzkin has been the headmaster of the school in the town of Castlerock forever. Literally.

Narrator 2: He has never liked to dance and can’t understand all the fuss over the

Castle. He hates this annual event and wants it stopped.

Emma: *(Waving)*Hello Mr. Stiltzkin. They are just about to announce the winners.

MC 1: And the winner is “Snap Clap*”. (Girls cheer and run to the stage)*

Mrs. Darling: Here is your prize. It’s an old book that was found in the library basement. It’s sure to have the clues needed to find and enter the Castle on the rock.

Girls : Hoorray!!etc. *(jumping up and down)* We won, we won!! *(Julie takes the book)*

RS*: (Xing to them)* You girls will be sorry. You better give that to me right now. *(He tries to grab it from her)*

Julie: No way. We’ll find the castle and figure out the mystery. Come on girls. *(Motions to Emma, Bella, & Drew)*

Girl 6 Tina : We want to come too. *(Melinda, Tina & Sandy form a group SL)*

Girl 7 Sandy: All for one, right? *(Girls start to leave)*

Emma: I’m not sure you should come. *(To Melinda, Tina & Sandy)*It could be dangerous.

Melinda: Don’t leave us behind. *(scared)*

RS: You’ll be sorry. It’s a dangerous trail and the clues are hard.

Julie: *(Stops and turns around)* How do you know?

RS: I’ve been around for a long time. I can be a help to you. Here, take these beans. *(Girls crowd around. He hands them to Melinda)* If you need me or need to get out of trouble, bury one into the dirt, chant the magic words “Magic Castle on a rock, help the mystery to unlock” and things will change. *(He swirls around and disappears off stage)*

Drew: Melinda, give those to me. I’ll be in charge.

Melinda: He gave them to me. I guess you have to take me along.

Julie: All right everyone*. (Xing to Center)*It’s all for one and one for all*. (They all 7 shake.)* Whoever is in for adventure, we’ll meet tomorrow morning at 8 at the Old tree at the edge of the woods. *(They all exit. Fade back into the dance festival)*

MC 1: And now some future contestants will perform for you.

Dance # 7 “Intergalactic” Jo Hip Hop 2-3/ “Baby Take a Bow” Cindy BTII

Dance # 8 “Emperor’s Waltz” Mary Ballet I / “Playtime”- Marie Ballet I

Dance #9 “Valerie” Tap Team/ “I’ve got the Magic in Me” Boy’s Tap – Chad

Miranda: That was great kids. Don’t forget to come back next year to compete. I think we have a winner here.

Narrator 2: The next morning Julie, Emma, Bella and Drew show up at the tree at the edge of the forest. They were surprised to see three other friends waiting for them.

*(Tina, Sandy & Melinda are waiting at the tree)*

Drew: What are you all doing here?

Sandy: We thought you might need some help.

Tina: We want to come along too.

Melinda: Don’t forget, I have the beans.

Sandy: I brought food, and a flashlight, and a map of the woods.

Drew: Where did you get a map? That could help us a lot

Sandy: In the 90’s my dad helped build the highway nearby, so I grew up in these woods.

Julie: This could be dangerous. Are you sure you want to come?

Tina: Of course. Let’s go!

Julie: Ok everyone, pick a partner and keep an eye out or each other. *(Girls team up: Julie & Sandy, Emma & Bella, and Drew, Melinda & Tina)* Sandy you come with me.

Julie: Everyone listen up. I read through the book last night.

Sandy: What did you learn?

Julie: It’s filled with stories of funny characters, but with important morals to learn. I also found this note.

Emma: Let me read it *(snatching it away)* “If you find this note, please come and find me. You’ll need honesty, bravery, imagination, hard work, humility and friendship to reach the castle. Then the magic words will get you past the guards. Please hurry!!”

Sandy: Sounds like we better get a move on. I’ve got the map, Follow me. *(Exit SR)*

Dance #10 “I’ve got no Strings on me”

Narrator 1: The girls follow the path deeper into the woods and come upon a little house. A small boy is singing and playing with what looks like puppets.

Bella: Little Boy, Were looking for a beautiful castle we’ve been told is in these woods. Can you tell us where it is?

Pinocchio: I cannot tell a lie. But I have heard of it too. You can ask the Blue Fairy.

Tina: How do we find her?

Pinocchio: You need to wish upon a star. *(Girls sit on the floor and watch)*

Dance #11 “When you wish upon a Star” Ballet Combo I Cindy

Blue Fairy: I can tell you’re looking for something.

Girl 6 Tina: *(Stepping forward)* Yes, the beautiful Castle in the woods.

Blue Fairy: To tell you the truth, it is not so beautiful. Why do you wish to go there?

Girl 4 Drew: We heard there is a beautiful girl there who needs to be rescued. We’re hoping to find her.

Girl 1 Emma: And maybe also treasure.

Blue Fairy: To tell you the truth, I don’t know about treasure. But, there is a girl who found the castle, and has never returned. Here take my wand*. (Gives it to Emma)* It will help you out of some rough places. Head down that path*. (Emma, Melinda & Bella exit first)*And be sure and tell the truth. Honesty is most important if you want to stay alive in these woods. *(Girls turn for a final look and exit off the stage.)*

Dance #12 “If We’re Honest” Inter Lyrical/ “Alive” Team lyrical

Julie: Listen everyone. I think we may have a better chance of reaching the castle if we split up. Emma & Bella you take this path to the west. You have the wand to protect you. Melinda, Drew & Tina you go east.

Drew: We’ve got the beans if we need help.

Melinda: I’ve got the beans.

Julie: And Sandy and I will go North. The book may give us another clue.

Sandy: Everyone can take a picture of the map. It may help you later.

*(Everyone pulls out their phone and takes a photo)*

Julie: We’ll be in touch by phone. Let’s make contact in about 3 hours.

*(All girls head off in different directions)*

Narrator 1: The girls head deeper into the woods.

Dance # 13 Wolf song Jazz Dance Marie’s Jazz 2-3 & 2

*(Enter Drew, Melinda & Tina. A wolf is resting against a tree. Crosses to them)*

Wolf: Hello ladies. Can I help you? Are you looking for Grandma’s house?

Drew: Not really. Were looking for the Castle on the Rock. Can you point us in the right direction?

Wolf: Well, I’ve heard of the castle, but have yet to see it. *(Xing behind)*

Tina: Do you know which direction we should go? *(Shows him the map on her phone. Wolf reacts, shaking head)*

Wolf: *(Sniffs the air)* I suggest we walk this way a bit. Perhaps we’ll find it*. (Hooks arms with Drew & Tina)*

Melinda: There’s a beautiful girl trapped in the castle.

Wolf*: (Lets go of two girls, Xing to Melinda) I* could help you. *(Sniffs the air)*Maybe later. *(Sensing something)* Right now I’m expecting Little Red Riding Hood to pass. *(On the wolf howl, the three girls exit running SR)*

Dance #14 Hey There, Little Red Riding Hood Tita’s Tap IV

Wolf: You can’t win ‘em all. But look, another chance is approaching.

Dance #15 Marie Boogie Woogie Piggy song Jazz I

*(At the end the Wolf grabs one of the piggys, who screams. The three girls run back in)*

Drew: *(to Wolf)* What do you think you’re doing? Leave that piggy alone. (He sets her down)

Wolf: Oh, so you’re the brave one, eh? Just let me get a hold of you. *(Steps toward Drew holding on to the Piggy)*

Tina: You shouldn’t be mean to little creatures, like that poor piggy. *(Wolf freezes)*

*(Melinda pulls out a bean and puts it into the ground and chants)*

Melinda: “Magic Castle on the rock, help the mystery to unlock”

*(Puff of smoke or noise or lights and the wolf lets go of the piggy and both run off. A witch appears in his place.)*

Miranda the Witch: Ha, Ha ha *(Laughing loudly)* You believed that old man? Now you’re in worse shape than before. *(Other witches appear and circle three girls)* But I must say, you’re very brave. And that might help you in the end. But no more riddles. Sit a spell and see what I have done to your friends.

“Dance #16 “The Witches” Tap VI Lindsay

Witch: *(To Drew)* Where are your little friends now? Scared?

Drew: On the contrary, they’re just as brave.

Melinda: You don’t scare us.

Witch: You win for now, but I’ll be back! *(Miranda exits SL, Girls sit in SR Alcove)*

Dance # 17 “Forest Spirits”. Joanna’s Lyrical Jazz Beg & Inter

*(Enter Julie & Sandy finding the other 5 girls)*

Julie: We’re so glad to see you. Have you found anything?

Drew: I stood up to the wolf.

Melinda: and we used the beans…

Emma & Bella: And we were turned into witches.

Melinda & Tina: and we saved them.

Julie & Sandy: Wow! We’ve just been following the map. No excitement at all.

Melinda: I have more beans. Should we try again and see what happens?

Everyone: Yes! Do it.

Melinda: *(Pulls out a bean, puts it on the ground and chants)* Magic Castle on the Rock, help the mystery to unlock.

*(Poof or sound or black out and girls disappear.) (Enter Afro-Circus Polka-dot)*

Dance #18 Afro-circus Polka-dot - Joanna’s jazz/tap & Pre-jazz.

Dance #19 Dark Circus- Corie’s Hip Hop

Dance # 20 Gypsy’s Bollywood *(7 girls get drawn into the dance. Ends in a tableau)*

Act II

*(Xing to front of the Main curtain)*

Rumple Stiltzkin: Miranda, what are you doing here?

Miranda the Witch: Making sure those silly girls don’t reach the castle. Certainly you don’t want them messing with the status quo.

RS: Well, maybe it is time to let those girls know. Someday everyone will find out about the Castle. What’s the point?

Miranda: You’re such a kill joy! I’m not giving up yet. *(They both exit. Main out)*

Dance #21 Forest on the Way There -Marie’s Contemporary

*(At the end the witch returns but is swept away with the magic wand.)*

Tina: What happened there?

Emma: I’m not sure.

Julie: I think it’s time to look again at the Book of Fairy Tales and see what we need to do next. *(All girls walk downstage and open book)* It seems like we have discovered honesty, bravery and imagination.

Sandy: That crazy circus got my imagination going.

Melinda: Oh no, here comes Red Riding hood. I hope we don’t see the wolf again. *(All Exit SR)*

Dance #22 Hey there, Little Red Riding Hood -Chad’s tap 6

*(Miranda & Blue Fairy enter and scare Red Riding Hood off. Sandy wanders on reading the map)*

Miranda: Are you using your imagination now? *(Surrounding Sandy)*

Sandy: What do you mean?

Miranda: Imagine you were in this part of the woods in 1990. *(Exits SR Alcove)*

Sandy: My father was here, back then, building the road. There is something I am missing on this map. *(Sits in DSR Alcove)*

Blue Fairy: Don’t stop now you’re closer than you think. *(Exit SR)*

Dance # 23 Wildflower Chad’s tap 4-5

Blue Fairy: (Enters alcove) Head that way. *(Points SL)* You’ll find more of what you need ahead. *(Sandy runs off SL)(Mine Scene drops in)*

Dance #24 Heigh-Ho Tap III /Move Mini Team

(Mine flies, Snow White and dwarfs push on house)

Bella: Look ahead. Who do you think that is? *(pointing SL)*

Snow White:  *(Entering SL)* Hello, what brings you to these woods?

Tina: Wow! It’s Snow White. We’re supposed to learn something about hard work. Any suggestions?

Snow White: No one works harder than the 7 Dwarfs. Follow me and I’ll show you.

Dance #25 Whistle while you work. Tita’s Ballet 2

*(House is pushed off SL by Snow White and the dwarfs)*

Bella: Well girls, where do we stand now?

Tina: We’re no closer to finding the castle, or the beautiful girl.

Melinda: Look, It’s Sandy!

Sandy: *(Wandering on SL talking to herself)* There’s something strange about these woods and this map!

Tina: Check this out. I can get Pac man on my phone.

Melinda: Game on. (All Exit SR)

Dance #26 Game On -Chad’s Boys

Dance #27 “King”- Marie’s Adv Lyrical

Dance #28 We Didn’t Start the Fire - B’way Jazz/ Where No One Goes By -Jazz 2

Narrator 2: *(Enter SL)* The girls keep travelling deeper into the forest.

*(Girls enter from SR)*

Sandy: (Running back on) Look here. We keep going deeper and deeper into the forest, but the map shows us getting closer to the highway.

Julie: Where have you been? Let’s stick together from now on.

Melinda: It can’t be much further, can it? I’m roasting.

Julie: Girls, does it feel hot to you?

Bella: Too Darn Hot. Let’s go back this way. *(Drift back off SR)*

Dance #29 Too Darn Hot -Jr. Comp Team both

R Stiltzkin: *(Enters SR calling)* Miranda, *(She appears SL)* did you start this fire?

Miranda: Possibly. They’re getting too close!

R Stiltzkin: Let’s not burn down the whole forest. It’s time for a bit of rain.

Dance #30 Singing in the Rain- Adult Tap both

*(Girls wander through end SC wet in a circle)*

Melinda: I’m tired and wet. I want to go home. *(Sits down)*

Drew: We can’t quit now. I know we’re close. *(Everyone sits)*

Emma: *(Standing)* I have the wand. I’m going to ask for help. *(Twirls)*

Dance #31 Forest Fairies Tita’s Ballet 1-2 & 2-3

*(Fairies circle them and pick up the pace. Julie, Drew, Bella exit SL. The others end in the dance circle. Fairies exit. Tina, Emma, Melinda & Sandy remain)*

Tina: What happened to Julie? Now they just disappeared.

Emma: Who knows? I guess I’m the leader now.

Sandy: *(Shaking her head)* Lead on.

Dance #32 Fancy- Joanna’s hippity hop

*(Cinderella, dressed in rags, enters.)(Girls: M, T, E & S enter & get excited again)*

Melinda: Hello, We’re lost. Can you help us find the Castle?

Cinderella: I’ve never been to the castle. But some day I hope to. What will you do there?

Tina: We’re looking for a beautiful girl who may be trapped.

Emma: And a treasure. If you help us find it, we could give you some.

Cinderella: Why would I need a treasure? I’m just a poor girl who lives among the cinders.

Sandy: But you look so happy.

Cinderella: I have many little friends and a simple life. But in my mind, I love my little home. Perhaps you will visit me.

Melinda: *(To all the other girls)* Maybe we don’t need a treasure after all. I just want to find our friends. *(All exit SL)*

Dance #33 Build a Home -Joanna’s Contemporary both

Dance #34 The Work Song from Cinderella- Cindy’s Tap Combo I

Dance #35 Ballet Team Fairies/ Bibbity Bobbity Boo- Cindy’s Ballet Combo II

*(All 7 girls enter at the end of the dance. Move DSC) (Castle drops in. Trees stay in)*

Emma: Where have you been? We were worried about you.

Drew: That’s nice to know. We missed you too.

*(Cinderella enters dressed as a princess)*

Cinderella: Maybe it is my time to see the castle. And find your treasure.

Emma: The treasure doesn’t seem so important any more. It’s our friends that really count. *(Group hug)*

Drew: There it is. Let’s head for the castle.

Cinderella: Follow me. We’ll have to get past the guards.

*(All exit SL)*

Dance #36 Radetsky March- Castle Guards

Dance # 37 Castle- Marie’s Jazz IV*(Trees fly as the song progresses)*

Julie: There it is. But we need the magic words to get in. I couldn’t find them in the book.

Emma: I’ll try the wand. (Spins around but nothing happens)

Melinda: Let’s try the beans. *(digs a hole to bury)* “Magic Castle on the Rock, help the mystery to unlock.” *(Rumple Stiltzkin, Miranda & Blue Fairy appears)*

R Stiltzkin: Well girls, you made it this far.

Miranda: But what have you learned?

Tina: I’ve learned about honesty from Pinocchio & the Blue Fairy.

Melinda: I’ve learned to be brave from Red Riding Hood & the Wolf.

Sandy: We had to use our imagination to get away from the crazy circus.

Bella: I learned about hard work from the dwarves.

Emma: And to be humble like Cinderella

Drew: And, I learned that nothing is more important than our friends.

Julie: But, we haven’t yet learned how to get into the castle and rescue the beautiful girl. And how we get Out of the Woods!

Blue Fairy: You’ll find out soon. It’s not far

Drew: Follow me *(She runs up to the castle followed by Melinda and Tina)*

Tina: Oh, my gosh, It’s not real. *(Everyone moves upstage and clears center)*

Miranda: Don’t you see? The Writing’s on the Wall! (Fri & Sat night only)

Dance # 38 Writing’s on the Wall” Fri & Sat night only

Melinda: It’s just painted on. *(Knocks on wall)(Lights flash)*

Talent Agent/Mrs. Darling: Welcome girls, Congratulations! You’ve discovered the Castle on the Rock Talent Agency. And, I’m ready to take you all under contract.

Miranda: What a crazy way to recruit.

Julie: *(Skeptical)* Wait a minute. Is that you Mrs. Darling? What’s this all about?

Mrs. Darling: About 20 years ago the county decided to put a road through the enchanted woods, and build a large shopping center.

Sandy: *(To everyone)* That’s what I have been trying tell you.

Mrs. Darling: In honor of the folklore about the castle they painted it on the backside of the building.

Emma: But what about the woods? It was crazy in there.

Miranda: Don’t kid yourself, those woods are enchanted.

Bella: But what happened to the beautiful girl we came to rescue?

Mrs. Darling: The girl who won the contest last year and travelled through the woods was a bit older than all of you. So we sent her immediately to an audition and she got booked on a cruise line. She’s been travelling the world ever since. Listen girls, you have all the qualities to become great dancers. Talent, you did win the dance contest, tenacity, imagination, humility and so much more. What do you say? We can make you Happy!

Julie: All for one! *(Puts hand in the center)*

All girls: *(adding hands)* One for all. We’re in!!

Dance # 39 Happy –group, then Everyone