

Music theatre piece
"The Dreamprince of Roses"
Lyrics & Music:
Claudia Luno

Cast of Characters

Principal Characters

Narrator - Fairy ÁINE

The Fairy of the Solstice, gentle and mysterious, dwelling on the hill of Knock Áine in Ireland. She guides the story and leads the characters through the magical realm.

Princess Florales

Delicate yet determined, deeply connected to nature. She loves Aaron and refuses to abandon that love. Despite family expectations and royal pressure, she follows her heart unwaveringly and searches for her beloved even when all seems lost.

Bard Aaron

A warm-hearted musician of honest spirit. His sincere love for Florales places him in danger. His music expresses his truth – and it is precisely this truth that makes him vulnerable to court intrigue.

Prince Henry

Jealous, impulsive, and inwardly conflicted. He loves Florales, yet his insecurities drive him toward harsh decisions. His jealousy of Aaron leads to injustice and ultimately to the bard's condemnation.

Royal Families

King Eugen

Florales' father. Strict, unyielding, and duty-bound. He has arranged his daughter's marriage and expects obedience and loyalty to royal obligations.

Queen Eleonora

Florales' mother. Warm-hearted, concerned, and inwardly torn. She feels her daughter's pain but stands between loyalty to her husband and the desire to protect Florales.

King Arthur

Henry's father. An experienced and honorable king who values tradition and duty above all. He expects his son to fulfill his role and show strength, without truly seeing Henry's inner conflicts.

Queen Elisabeth

Henry's mother. Elegant, intelligent, and diplomatic.

Magical Beings**Owl**

A watchful and wise creature of the night. She recognizes Florales' inner distress and points her toward the ritual that will shape her path. The owl gives her a feather that must be burned during the ritual – a quiet yet crucial catalyst of the story.

Fairy

A fairy being less playful than one might expect. She tests

Florales' determination and grants her immortality through a fairy potion. The fairy eventually guides Florales into the fairy realm, though not without clear conditions and consequences.

Seer

Mysterious and insightful. She offers clear clues to aid Florales in her search and to uncover the hidden secret.

Goblin

Cunning, deceitful, and unpredictable. He exploits Florales' desperation and deliberately leads her astray. His actions bring tension and danger, revealing the darker side of the magical world.

Rose Woman

Guardian of rose magic. She teaches Florales and Aaron the meaning of the rose and gifts Florales a rose quartz as protection and remembrance.

Villagers & Market Characters

Fruit Seller

Warm-hearted and colorful, bringing life and vibrancy to the marketplace scene.

Cheese Seller

Pragmatic, humorous, and at the heart of the action.

Cloth Merchant

A skillful trader with an eye for colors, fabrics, and stories.

Guard

Duty-bound, loyal, and ever watchful.

Violinist

A quiet artist whose music carries the emotional undercurrent of the scene.

Listeners**Older Woman**

Wise, experienced, and open to the magic of the story.

Young Girl

Curious, dreamy, and full of wonder.

Man (middle-aged)

Thoughtful, grounded, and receptive to the tale's message.

Ensemble**Monks (7)**

A strict and powerful collective. They take Aaron into their realm of the dead. Unwavering, stern, and without compassion, they act according to their own laws. Their presence marks the moment when the magical realm becomes threatening and irreversible.

Wedding Guests (4)

Joyful witnesses of the celebration, bringing life and festivity to the scene.

Production Details

Scenes: 17

Running Time: approx. 75 minutes

Stage Design

The production uses a single stage set for all scenes.

The atmosphere is fairy-tale-like, slightly otherworldly, and poetic.

Stage Left:

A space reminiscent of a royal living chamber. A long table (also used for marketplace scenes) stands at the center, topped with candelabras. Two chairs beside the table are reserved for the royal couple.

Stage Right:

Two to three stylized trees, a bench, and a small campfire that can be shown as "lit" when needed.

ACT I

MUSIC

Song begins: "The Rose Remembers"

The curtain remains closed while the song is heard.

At the end of the song, a gentle glow appears behind the curtain and mist begins to rise. With the final note, the curtain slowly opens. The stage is revealed in half-darkness, mist drifting between the trees.

*From the mist, **FAIRY ÁINE** steps through a suggested gateway (a light arch or an opening in the fog), as if emerging directly from a dream world. She pauses for a moment, as though listening to the fading song. Then she walks slowly forward and takes her place beside her small stony setting with the burning torch.*

MUSIC

Song ends.

Scene 1

NARRATOR - FAIRY ÁINE

Welcome. I am ÁINE – Keeper of the Solstice. Guardian of those hours when dreams find the courage to be remembered. When the light lingers longest, and the mist still knows our names, gates open that otherwise remain closed. And so this tale begins. It is old... and yet it does not sleep. It is known as the story of the Dream Rose Prince.

(brief pause)

More than five hundred years ago, in a steadfast castle, there lived a child of winter. Her name was Florales – like a flower touched by frost. The years passed, and the child became a young woman, kind of heart and beloved by all who met her.

But before she had learned to choose her own path, her fate had already been decided. While still in her cradle, she had been promised to Prince Henry of Malahide.

And one day, as summer drew near, her father, King Eugen, declared that the time had come. The marriage was to take place.

Scene 2

MUSIC

Song begins: "*Majestic Bagpipe Overture (Instrumental)*"

KING EUGEN and QUEEN ELEONORA enter the stage and sit majestically in their chairs.

MUSIC

Song ends.

A loud KNOCKING is heard.

PRINCESS FLORALES enters and walks toward her parents.

PRINCESS FLORALES

Father, you wished to speak with me?

KING EUGEN

My dear child, now that you have become a young woman, I have decided it is time for you to marry Prince Henry. Pack your belongings – tomorrow at dawn the carriage will take you to Ireland.

PRINCESS FLORALES

You cannot do this. I don't understand why you would do this to me. You do not love me... why else would you want me to marry a man I do not love?

(Tears roll down her cheeks; angrily, she wipes them away with the back of her hand.)

KING EUGEN

(unyielding)

I have made my decision, Florales... now go and pack your things. Tomorrow at dawn the carriage will take you to his castle.

PRINCESS FLORALES

Why... why do you try to convince me that sending me away is good for me? This marriage is nothing but an arrangement – a matter of law and duty. It has nothing to do with love...

KING EUGEN

(interrupting harshly)

Florales, my decision is final. Now go.

PRINCESS FLORALES

(stomping her foot)

You villain! You don't want me anymore? Very well – then I don't want you anymore either!

Florales remains still for a moment, as though she wishes to say more – then turns away and exits in anger.

QUEEN ELEONORA

Eugen, did you have to be so harsh with our daughter?

KING EUGEN

I had no choice. And now... I do not wish to speak of it any further.

NARRATOR – FAIRY ÁINE

And so begins a path that no one would choose willingly.

MUSIC

Song begins: "*Majestic Bagpipe Overture (Instrumental)*"

During the music, King Eugen and his consort exit the stage.

MUSIC

Song ends.

NARRATOR - FAIRY ÁINE

The road carried Florales away from the shadow of the castle and into a foreign land. Before the day had even begun to fade, she reached Killarney in Ireland. Voices filled the square – colors, laughter, the scent of spices. People crowded together, merchants called out, and Florales let herself drift among them, wide-eyed, free for the first time. And there – among all the unfamiliar faces – her path crossed that of a wanderer. A poet. A flute player. And more than even he himself yet knew.

Scene 3

A small bustle of market activity – MARKET WOMEN loudly praise their wares. Florales strolls through the marketplace and approaches a fruit seller.

CHEESE SELLER

(calling out)

Fine cheese, rich and fresh, made from the morning's milk! Taste, taste – a piece for every palate!

CLOTH MERCHANT

(calling out)

Silken cloths, vibrant colors – fit for queens
and princesses!

FRUIT SELLER

Fresh apples, sweet pears, straight from the
tree!

CHEESE SELLER

Taste, taste – a piece for every palate!

PRINCESS FLORALES

Good day, fruit seller. I would like four of
those wonderful apples there.

FRUIT SELLER

Good day, Your Highness. Oh yes – will these do?

PRINCESS FLORALES

Yes, perfect.

*Florales notices the ROSE WOMAN approaching. A basket
filled with roses hangs from her arm.*

PRINCESS FLORALES

Oh – the roses are beautiful!

ROSE WOMAN

Would you like one? I will give you a rose.

PRINCESS FLORALES

Gladly. That is very kind of you.

*The conversation is interrupted by the sound of BARD
AARON's flute as he approaches them while playing.*

MUSIC

Song begins: "Anam an Gaoithe (Instrumental)"

*Florales is fascinated. Aaron stops when he reaches the
two women.*

MUSIC

Song ends.

Aaron slips the flute into his cloak.

BARD AARON

(to the Rose Woman)

I would like to buy a rose.

ROSE WOMAN

With pleasure, my boy.

The Rose Woman hands Aaron a rose.

BARD AARON

What do I owe you?

ROSE WOMAN

Nothing at all, my boy. Love is not something
one pays for. It is something one gives.

The Rose Woman turns to Florales.

ROSE WOMAN

And to you as well, fair princess, I wish to
give something.

*The Rose Woman reaches into her apron and takes out a
large piece of rose quartz.*

ROSE WOMAN

Here — the stone of love. It will bring you
fortune. Keep it well, and love will be assured
to you.

She hands the stone to Florales and moves on.

PRINCESS FLORALES

(calling after her)

Thank you, old woman.

Aaron offers the rose to Florales.

BARD AARON

For you, *Sercc masse*.

PRINCESS FLORALES

Sercc masse? What does that mean?

BARD AARON

(smiling)

Aye. In your language, it means: beloved beauty.

PRINCESS FLORALES

Who are you?

BARD AARON

Bard Aaron Balinasloe, Princess.

A brief glance. They smile at one another. The rose begins to glow softly.

CHEESE SELLER

(calling out)

Bard! Play us a tune!

Some of the market folk join in, laughing and clapping. Aaron begins to play his flute.

MUSIC

Song begins: "*The Smile of the Wind (Instrumental)*"

Playing the flute, Aaron exits the stage together with Florales. The market folk follow them.

MUSIC

Song ends.

NARRATOR – FAIRY ÁINE

The young wanderer had touched Florales deeply – so deeply that she fell in love with him. The rose became the beginning of a fateful encounter, a great love destined to endure endlessly – yes, even beyond death.

A profound yet secret romance began. Despite her forthcoming marriage to Prince Henry, Florales met Aaron in secret.

They met in the evening hours, beyond the high castle walls, where only the wind and the stars bore witness to their togetherness. In Aaron, Florales found her true happiness. And with every meeting, he brought her a blooming red rose – a sign of his love for her.

Scene 4

MUSIC

Song begins: "Two Hearts in the Wind (Instrumental)"

The music plays softly in the background throughout the entire scene. Gentle moonlight falls into the garden. The night is still, almost magical.

During the narration, Florales enters and sits on the bench. She appears expectant, slightly nervous.

Aaron appears carrying a rose. He pauses for a moment, watching her lovingly. Then he walks to her, greets her with a kiss on the hand, and offers her the rose. They hold hands.

PRINCESS FLORALES

I have thought of you all day. Even floating on clouds could not feel more beautiful. No sun shines as brightly as my heart does for you. Oh, my beloved... I live only for you.

BARD AARON

And I counted every step until I could see you again. Florales... as long as my body lives, and yours as well – we are one. And when my body ceases to be, my soul will still be yours.

He gently brushes a strand of hair from her face. She rests her forehead briefly against his.

PRINCESS FLORALES

When I am with you, I forget the world.

BARD AARON

And I find mine.

*He takes her into his arms. They rise and slowly stroll
off stage together.*

MUSIC

The music slowly fades out.

*As soon as Florales and Aaron have left the stage, a
brief silence follows. An OWL appears at the edge of
the stage.*

OWL

Ooh-hoo... two hearts in the light... yet the shadow
draws near... ooh-hoo... cherish the hour, lovers...
for time runs swifter than the wind... ooh-hoo...

NARRATOR – FAIRY ÁINE

As so often happens in fairy tales, the happiness of Florales and Aaron was not meant to last. The day drew near when Florales was to marry Prince Henry.

And because her heart longed for one final moment with Aaron, she sought a way – bold, yet foolish.

The castle had always been a place of music. Artists from near and far were welcomed there; people listened to their songs and instruments, allowing themselves to be enchanted by their melodies.

And so Florales invited her Aaron to the wedding celebration at the castle – not knowing, not even in the slightest, what sorrowful fate she was calling forth.

Scene 5

Wedding celebration. A GUARD enters and strikes the floor three times with his spear.

MUSIC

Song begins: *"The King's Piper March (Instrumental)"*

A ceremonial entrance. KING ARTHUR, QUEEN ELISABETH, Florales, PRINCE HENRY, and two additional couples

(wedding guests) enter the stage in pairs, one behind the other.

The royal couple take their seats. Florales and Henry stand to the left, the guests to the right, facing the audience.

MUSIC

Song ends.

KING ARTHUR

Artists from near and far – delight us with your art!

A short performance by a VIOLINIST.

VIOLINIST

(stepping forward, bowing before the royal couple)

Your Majesties!

MUSIC

Song begins: *"The Silent Violin of the North (Instrumental)"*

MUSIC

Song ends.

Applause.

Aaron steps forward. He smiles at Florales. She smiles back.

BARD AARON

(He takes up his flute and begins to play)

MUSIC

Song begins: "Anam an Gaoithe (Instrumental)"

The audience is deeply moved.

MUSIC

Song ends.

Soft, emotional applause. Aaron walks toward Florales.

BARD AARON

(kneeling before Florales)

*To the bird of paradise
that has now seen the sky,
I send my dreams with it,
that they may stand like dawn-red roses
at your window.*

Aaron presents Florales with a rose and kisses her hand.

PRINCE HENRY

(shouting harshly)

You miserable worm! You dare to give my bride a
rose – and with such a pitiful poem!

*He pulls Florales toward him and throws the rose to the
ground.*

KING ARTHUR

(rising)

Dear son, dear Florales – begin the wedding
dance!

MUSIC

Song begins: *"The Celtic Wedding Reel (Instrumental)"*

Dance choreography:

*Florales and Prince Henry begin the dance. They move
toward one another and away again, cross hands, and
turn in a small circle.*

*After several measures, the other couples join and
repeat the same movements.*

*All couples join hands and form a large circle. The
circle moves inward in a lively, rhythmic step and then
opens outward again.*

The figures begin again and repeat until the song ends.

MUSIC

Song ends.

MUSIC

Song begins: "The Piper's Gentle Spell (Instrumental)"

Dance choreography:

Florales draws Aaron toward her and begins a slow, dreamlike dance with him. The other couples dance slightly apart in small, gentle movements, allowing Florales and Aaron to remain at the center.

Florales and Aaron move softly with the rhythm – a light turn, a gentle circle. Prince Henry watches them closely, growing increasingly tense. He steps between them, separating them, and discreetly slips an amulet into the hood of Aaron's cloak.

PRINCE HENRY

(raising his hand)

MUSIC

The music STOPS.

A shocked silence falls.

PRINCE HENRY

(shouting)

I have been robbed. Guard!

The guard enters hurriedly.

PRINCE HENRY

(pointing at Aaron)

This man has stolen from me! Whoever steals from
a prince risks his life! Search him!

*The guard searches Aaron, finds the amulet in the hood
of his cloak, and shows it to Prince Henry. A MURMUR
runs through the guests.*

GUARD

Your Highness – the amulet.

PRINCE HENRY

You dare steal from me and court my bride? For
this you will rot in the dungeon – until your
death!

BARD AARON

I did not steal! Florales – please, you must
believe me!

PRINCE HENRY

(roaring)

Take him away! At once!

The guard leads Aaron away.

BARD AARON

(calling desperately)

I did not steal! I swear it!

PRINCESS FLORALES

(horrified)

No... Aaron...!

Silence.

PRINCE HENRY

(coldly)

Continue the dance!

No one moves.

PRINCE HENRY

(furious)

I said dance!

MUSIC

Song begins: *"The Celtic Wedding Reel (Instrumental)"*

Henry takes Florales' hand – almost too forcefully – and leads her back into the dance. The guests follow, somewhat unsettled but obedient. (Choreography as above.) They dance off the stage.

MUSIC

Song ends.

NARRATOR - FAIRY ÁINE

As no one dared to contradict Prince Henry, the dancing continued – deep into the night. When the servants had left the hall and silence finally settled over the castle, Florales remained behind alone. A soft, sorrowful sobbing filled the chamber and echoed like a lament through the dark corridors.

Scene 6

Florales enters the stage sobbing. She sees the rose on the ground, carefully picks it up, and slowly sits down.

PRINCESS FLORALES

(sobbing, sorrowful)

I hold your rose before my eyes. Your words still echo in my ears. You said you would always love me. Yes – and I you. You swore we would never be parted. A love that is immortal – that is what we are.

(brief pause, her voice breaking)

How am I to live without you... if they mean to kill you...?

Florales weeps, pressing the rose to her heart, and remains seated.

NARRATOR - FAIRY ÁINE

The guards threw Aaron into a dark, airless dungeon – a place without light, without hope, a place where no soul could survive for long.

While Florales shed tear after tear, a quiet sound rose within the stillness of the night: Aaron's flute. It slipped through corridors and walls, through stone and shadow. And for a moment, the castle seemed filled with an ancient enchantment.

While the narrator speaks, the Guard roughly brings Aaron onto the stage. He shoves him against the stone wall, chains him by the foot, and exits. Aaron remains motionless for a moment. Then he slowly rises, takes out his flute, and begins to play.

BARD AARON

(plays flute)

MUSIC

Song begins: "Echoes in the Dark Cell (Instrumental)"

Florales looks up. She listens. Her tears pause. Slowly she reaches out her hand – as if she could touch the

sound itself.

PRINCESS FLORALES

Aaron... I hear you...

MUSIC

Song ends.

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