

# Egyptian Cinderella

Play script

**Character list:** Narrator, Rhodopis, Servant girl 1, Servant girl 2, Servant girl 3, Old man, Horus, Amosis

In the land of Egypt lives a slave girl named Rhodopis. Her owner is a kind old man but he spends most of his time sleeping. He never notices the other servants who tease Rhodopis endlessly because she looks different to them. Rhodopis has golden, curly hair and fair skin while the other servants' hair is straight and black and their skin glows like copper. They make Rhodopis do all of their work whilst the old man sleeps.

**Rhodopis:** (on knees scrubbing the floor)

**Servant 1:** (shouting) Wash my clothes in the river!

**Servant 2:** (shouting) Mend my robe!

**Servant 3:** (shouting) Bake the bread!

**Narrator:** Rhodopis works until she is tired then disappears down to the river to sing and dance for the animals.

**Rhodopis:** (sits down by the river and wipes brow) Phew! What a long day.

**Old man:** (snoring loudly)

**Rhodopis:** (singing softly and dancing) la laaa la laaaa la laaaa.

**Old man:** (wakes up, looks surprised and talks to himself) My goodness! What a sweet voice she has and what a beautiful dancer she is. I must buy her some shoes so she can dance properly.

**Narrator:** The old man presents Rhodopis with soft, rose-coloured shoes but this only makes the servants jealous and they tease her even more.



**Servant girl 1:** (excitedly) Have you heard? The Pharaoh is holding court and we're all invited!

**Servant girl 2:** (to Rhodopis rudely) Not that you will be able to go, you will be far too busy doing chores.

**Rhodopis:** (sadly to herself) Oh how I wish I had permission to go. There will be singing, dancing and even a huge feast.

**Servant girl 3:** (to Rhodopis) Make the beds and prepare the food for tomorrow.

**Servant girl 1:** (giggling) And don't forget to wash the linen!

**Narrator:** The servant girls sail away on a raft to the court but poor Rhodopis is left behind.

**Rhodopis:** (singing whilst washing the linen in the river) Wash the linen, weed the garden, grind the grain...

**Narrator:** Some water splashes on Rhodopis's new shoes so she puts them in the sun to dry. Suddenly, a falcon swoops down and snatches them. Rhodopis knows this falcon is the god, Horus, so her shoe must have been taken for an important reason.

Meanwhile, the Pharaoh, Amasis, sits on his throne and Horus drops the shoe in his lap.

**Amasis:** (proudly) All maidens in Egypt must try on this shoe and the owner of it shall be my queen! Forget the guests that are due to arrive. We must set sail now!

**Narrator:** Amasis searches on land and sea and does not find the owner of the shoe. Finally, he arrives at the home of Rhodopis.

**Servant girl 1:** (running towards Amasis) It's mine! It's mine!

**Servant girl 2:** (pushing servant girl 1 out of the way) Let me try it on!

**Servant girl 3:** It will fit me!

**Narrator:** Of course, the shoe does not fit any of the servants so Amasis asks Rhodopis to try it on.

**Amasis:** (slipping the shoe on Rhodopis's foot) It fits!

**Rhodopis:** (pulling the other shoe from her tunic with hesitation) Yes, the shoe is mine.

**Amasis:** Then you shall be my queen!

**Servant girl 1:** (angrily) But she's just a slave!

**Servant girl 3:** (with a cross expression) She's not special!

**Servant girl 2:** (crying) She's not even Egyptian!

**Amasis:** (gazing lovingly at Rhodopis) She is the most Egyptian of all because her eyes are as green as the Nile and her skin is the pink of a lotus flower.

