The Nutcracker

Julie Meighan | Drama Start Books

Characters: Two Storytellers, Clara, Godfather, Nutcracker Toy, Three Mice, Mouse King, Six Soldiers, Sugarplum Fairy, Arabian Princesses, Chinese Tea Dancers and Flower Ballerinas.

Storyteller 1: Once upon a time there lived a girl called Clara. It was Christmas Eve.

Clara: (looks out the window) It is snowing. It is dazzling white except for that golden light coming from my house.

Storyteller 2: Her parents were having a Christmas Eve party.

(Clara's godfather walks in and greets everyone.)

Godfather: Merry Christmas, Clara. (He gives Clara a hug and a large Christmas present.)

Clara: Thank you very much. I'll put it under my Christmas tree.

Storyteller 1: That night, when everyone had gone to bed, Clara crept downstairs as quiet as a mouse.

Clara: I'm so excited to open my present from my godfather.

(She opens the present.)

Clara: It is a Nutcracker Toy. What a wonderful present. I'm so tired. (She yawns.) I'll just have a quick nap under this Christmas tree.

Storyteller 2: Bong, bong; the clock struck midnight.

Clara: My goodness, the tree is rising above me.

(Nutcracker Toy comes to life and starts moving.)

Nutcracker Toy: Hello, Clara.

Clara: The Nutcracker Toy has come alive.

Nutcracker Toy: I'm the nutcracker prince.

Clara: What are you doing here?

Nutcracker Toy: I've come to protect you.

Clara: Why do I need protecting?

Nutcracker Toy: The kitchen mice are plotting to kidnap you. (He blows his whistle.) Never mind, these six soldiers are here to help you.

(The soldiers march by. Mice follow the soldiers into the room.)

Mouse 1: There she is.

Mouse 2: Let's get her.

Soldier 1: We must stop the mice.

Soldier 2: Use these lumps of cheese and fire them at the mice.

Soldier 3: Spray them with water.

Mouse 3: Help us, help us.

(The Mouse King enters.)

Mouse King: Is this the best you can do? (He whips out his sword and points it at the Nutcracker Prince. They have a sword fight.)

Clara: I must help the Nutcracker Toy. (She takes off her shoe and fires it at the Mouse King.)

Mouse King: Something has hit me. (He collapses and is out cold.)

Nutcracker Toy: You saved me, Clara. I must thank you.

Storyteller 2: The Nutcracker Toy called his reindeer and sleigh.

Reindeer: Your sleigh awaits, Prince.

Nutcracker Toy: Jump on board, Clara.

Clara: Where are we going?

Nutcracker Toy: It is a surprise.

Storyteller 1: They flew through an open window and into a snow-filled sky. Eventually, they arrived at their destination.

Clara: Where are we? Look, the trees are made of lollipops and the flowers are made of marshmallows.

Nutcracker Toy: This is the land of treats.

(They get off the sleigh.)

Nutcracker Toy: Clara, come. I want to show you something. This is the marzipan castle. It is decorated with every kind of sweet you can imagine.

(He knocks at the door.)

Sugarplum Fairy: Welcome. I'm the Sugar Plum Fairy. I'm so glad you could make it. Please come inside. Make yourself at home and eat anything you want.

Clara: I've never seen so many cookies, cakes and candy.

Storyteller 1: Clara and the Nutcracker Toy ate to their hearts' content.

Storyteller 2: Once they had finished all the food, they were entertained by the Arabian Princesses (they dance to music), Chinese Tea Dancers (they dance to music), and Flower Ballerinas (they dance to music).

Clara: This is an amazing place. I've had an amazing time.

Nutcracker Toy: Clara, it is time to go home.

Clara: Thank you for a wonderful adventure.

Reindeer: Hop on.

Storyteller 1: The next morning, Clara woke up underneath the Christmas tree.

Clara: Where am I? I’m underneath the Christmas tree. (She picks up the Nutcracker Toy.) Where is the prince? It must have been a dream ... unless it was the magic of Christmas Eve.