Libretto & Stage Directions

The Magic Prism

An Original Children's Musical By Stafford Krause

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Summary

Three young sisters find adventure in the netherworld, as they try to free Princess Spring from the cold clutches of the North Wind.

Cast of characters (in order of appearance)

Amy - the oldest sister, 10-11.
Meg (Megan) - the middle sister, 8-9.
Charlie (Charlotte) - the youngest sister, 6-7
Mother (voice) - the sisters' mother
The Glowbees - invisible flying elves that can only be seen when they speak or laugh... and their antennae blink.
Glowbee Leader - leader/spokesman for the Glowbees
Twinkie Glowbee - girl Glowbee accompanying sisters on their adventure
Blinkie Glowbee - boy Glowbee accompanying sisters on their adventure
The Snycles - Honor Guard for the North Wind
The Hugmees - attendants to Princess Spring
North Wind (voice) - the great North Wind
The Backways - netherworld elves who march backwards
Princess Spring - the Sun's daughter, who brings Spring each year

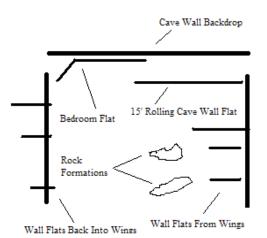
Set

A simple set includes a painted backdrop of rock, like the wall of a cave. Various sized rolling flats, brought in from the wings, would also be painted as cave walls. Styrofoam (or paper machete) roll-around three-dimensional rock formations would be similarly painted. The arch used for the Princess-cell scene (Scene 7) and Return- home scene (Scene 8) is also of painted Styrofoam (or paper machete).

The rolling flats, rock formations and arch would be moved around quickly to different positions (in the blackout between scenes) to depict different chambers (the stage) of the Fairy Caves (as the actors move from chamber to chamber in search of Princess Spring).

Approximately 6 feet downstage of the backdrop there would be a 12-15 foot rolling flat, also painted as a cave wall. The purpose of this flat is, for example, to allow a quick change from the Bedroom scenes (Scene 1 and 2) to the Glowbee cave scene (Scene 3) by sliding the flat in front of the Bedroom scene (for takedown out of view of the audience). The flat also allows a quick change to the Princess-cell scene, by sliding the flat from in front of that setup. And allows a quick change to the final Bedroom scene (Scene 9) by sliding the flat in front of the Princess-cell scene to allow a hidden switch to the final Bedroom scene.

The Bedroom scenes (upstage right - Scenes 1, 2 and 9) have a slide-in or drop flat (to hide the backdrop), with a cutout window in its angled wall to the right wing (for the Sisters to slide out of.)



CURTAIN RISES

SCENE 1

(The curtain rises on the Sisters' bedroom in a home in New England. It is mid-March. The 15-foot cave flat is stage left. The Bedroom flat is in place upstage right, with a large bed and a stool under the window. The rock formations are not onstage and cave wall flats have been moved as far into the wings as possible.)

(The sisters are standing next to their bed. They are dressed in zip-front snugly pajamas with feet.)

(Sisters sing <u>Sisters-Three</u>, acting out key phrases... e.g. "musketeers" swordplay, "duplicate" two older sisters in a row ... "triplicate" Charlie joins them, baseball and football positions, etc.)

All Sisters:

(Sisters-Three: Verse 1)

We're sisters-three. As you can see, we always are together. Through happy times and some sad times, in good or awful weather. So give three cheers for musketeers who stick as close as glue. And if you're friends with one of us you get the other two.

Amy:

(Sisters-Three: Verse 2)

Your Mom and Dad won't ask you which baby to bring home. A boy or girl is really fine, for you won't be alone. But a slight edge goes to the one, who is the same as you.

Amy & Meg:

In duplicate...

All Sisters:

or triplicate there's lots more you can do.

Amy:

(Sisters-Three: (Verse 3) Though you don't have a happahall toop

Though you don't have a baseball team, it's not bad as all that. You still have one who can pitch

Meg:

and one to catch

Charlie:

and bat

All Sisters:

And if football is your best game, you'll still have lots of fun.

Amy:

For one can hike

Charlie:

and one defend.

Meg:

One take the ball and run.

(Meg pretends to run with a football. Charlie tackles her and all laugh.)

(Sisters dance to <u>Sisters-Three</u> music)

(As girls end their dance and music fades to soft <u>rhythm only</u>. Mother calls from the wings upstage left.)

Mother: Girls, it's time for bed. Make sure you have your snugly pajamas on. The North Wind has blown in another storm. The snow has drifted up to the roof under your window and icicles are everywhere. Winter can be fun. But by March I'm ready for Spring.

(*Music comes up again as the Sisters repeat <u>Sisters-Three: Verse 1</u> ... jumping into bed and pulling up the covers on the final line.)*

All Sisters:

(Sisters-Three: Verse 1)

We're sisters-three. As you can see, we always are together. Through happy times and some sad times, in good or awful weather. So give three cheers for musketeers who stick as close as glue. And if you're friends with one of us you get the other two.

(Music fades with the stage lights.)

(Stage lights remain off for several seconds, indicating the passage of time.)

SCENE 2

(It is the Sisters' bedroom a few hours later. Stage lights come up halfway, indicating a darkened room. Soft spotlight on the window. The sisters are standing at the open window, with Meg standing on a stool and leaning halfway out of the window.)

(Meg turns back to the girls and speaks over her shoulder.)

Meg: You have to see this. The snow is up to the roof. And way down there on the ground I can see a hole, with all kinds of twinkling lights down inside it. I can almost make out the lights. If I could only lean out a little bit further.

(Meg wiggles out the window a little bit more to get a better look. She loses her balance and slips all the way out the window headfirst.)

Amy: *(Sticking her head in and out of the window as she speaks to Charlie)* Oh my gosh. Meg is sliding right down the roof and into that hole with all the twinkling lights. Oh! There she goes. She's disappeared ! I have to help her. Charlie you stay here. I'm going to slide down after her.

(Amy mounts the window frame with her feet out in front of her and slides down after Meg. Charlie looks out the window after Amy and back into the bedroom several times. Then she shrugs her shoulders and she too mounts the window with her feet out in front and slides down after Meg and Amy.)

(Stage lights dim out).

SCENE 3

(As the stage lights come up (only slightly, with a dull spotlight on the girls), it is a few moments later in a chamber in the Fairy Caves beneath the earth. The 15-foot cave-wall flat is moved stage right to hide the Bedroom scene. The caves are depicted by the flats leading to the wings and painted as cave walls. The flats are positioned at various angles and placements up and down stage (in each cave scene) to note different chambers in the caves. The stage represents the various "chambers" of the Fairy Caves. The openings to the wings (with walls between them) represent access points to the "tunnels" between chambers. Styrofoam rock formations are around the stage.)

Amy: Oh, Meg I'm so happy that you're safe. And Charlie although I'm not happy that you didn't listen to me and stay back in our bedroom, I'm glad you weren't hurt in the slide.

Charlie: I just couldn't stay behind. You know I don't like to be alone in dark places. And that squiggly slide was kind of fun. Certainly better than what we have at recess.

Meg: But where are we? And where did all the lights go?

(A Glowbee blinks its antennae for a few seconds, then turns them off. Charlie looks in its direction while the other girls look elsewhere.)

(The Glowbees are dressed in pear-shaped black body suits with black stockings and black shoes. There wear tight black hoods with antennae with blinking lights that they can turn on and off. They have bee-like wings on their backs. Their faces are made up with black circles around their eyes, a black tip to there noses and black lipstick. Glowbees stand perfectly still, with hands at their sides unless speaking or involved in action. Where lights are to go on without speaking or singing, Glowbees giggle with right hand to their lips.)

Charlie: I thought I just saw someone or something over there. Now it's disappeared.

(Several Glowbee blink their antennae for a few seconds, then turns them off. Amy looks in their direction while the other girls look elsewhere.)

(Amy stares hard in their direction after the lights go off.)

Amy: And over there I thought I saw a whole bunch of somethings.

(At this point several Glowbees giggle loudly and blink their lights alternately from several points around the stage. The girls swing around toward each Glowbee as his lights blink. Then the stare hard in disbelief as the lights goes off and he apparently disappears.)

Charlie: What are these things? Amy, Meg! I'm afraid.

Meg: How do they disappear like that?

Amy: Who are you? What do you want?

(Antennae lights blink on only Glowbees that are speaking or singing and girls turn toward them).

(A Glowbee with slightly brighter antennae lights speaks)

Glowbee Leader: We're sorry. We didn't mean to alarm or frighten you. We are theGlowbees. Fortunately or unfortunately we are invisible unless we are speaking or laughing... and our antennae blink. Let us formally introduce ourselves

(The Glowbees sing <u>We're Here, We're There</u>) (Glowbee lights are off except when singing. Lights emphasize the music (e.g. "lights blink on", "On and off", etc.) Glowbees also act out lyrics (eg "We're here, we're their.", "sneeky") The girls turn toward those singing.)

Various Glowbees:

(We're Here, We're There: Verse 1)

We're here, we're there, we're everywhere but you-who can not always see us. It's only when our lights blink on that we can really be us.

Now you see us. Now you don't. We Glowbees can be very sneaky.

On and off, and off and on. We're pros at playing hide and seek-y.

Glowbee_1:

(We're Here, We're There: Verse 2)

I'm over here, and you can always see me when I talk to you.

Glowbee_2:

And over here when I "hee, hee", then you can also see me too.

Glowbee_3:

Try to see them without sound. Where have they gone?. To there or here? Watch out. They'll take you by surprise, when suddenly they reappear.

Various Glowbees:

(We're Here, We're There: Verse 3)

Our friends just love our special ways. While other people are not sure. . We're friends with all good-natured folks, and lots of those whose hearts are pure. But if you're mean. Or your unkind. Then we won't make friends with you. We may sneak up from behind and give you a good bop or two.

(Repeat We're Here, We're There: Verse 1)

We're here, we're there, we're everywhere but we can not always be us. It's only when our lights blink on that any one can really see us. Now you see us. Now you don't. We Glowbees can be very sneaky. On and off, and off and on. We're pros at playing hide and seek-y.

Glowbee Leader: And who are you?

Amy: I'm Amy. And these are my sisters Meg and Charlie. We're sisters-three.

All Sisters: (sing Sisters-Three: Verse 1 as they hold hands and dance in a circle back and forth across the stage)

(Sisters-Three:Verse 1) We're sisters-three. As you can see, we always are together. Through happy times and some sad times, in good or awful weather. So give three cheers for musketeers who stick as close as glue. And if you're friends with one of us you get the other two.

Several Glowbees: Welcome sisters. Welcome. Welcome.

Amy: But where are we?

Glowbee Leader: You are in the Fairy Caves.

A vast network of tunnels and chambers under the earth where elves and fairies dwell. Normally it's a warm and happy place. But each year the North Wind and his Snycle Honor Guard move in for several months of Winter. We're happy to see them at first. But the longer they stay the bossier they get. They just take over and the caves become cold and gloomy. It's worse this year because of the Snycles have captured Princess Spring and her magic prism that breaks Winter's hold on the world... Spring may never come this year.

Several Glowbees: (in dejected tones) Yes. Yes.

Glowbee_1: And there will be no flowers.

Glowbee_2: And no beautiful Spring, Summer and Autumn nights. We Glowbees love to fly way up in the sky on those nights and giggle and giggle. That makes us twinkle and twinkle and people think that there are more stars on those nights.

Meg: How can we help?

Glowbee Leader: We are going to try to recover Princess Spring's magic prism and free Princess Spring. You could try also. Perhaps one of us will succeed. We can offer Glowbee guides to help you.

Several Glowbees: Oh! Let me go with them! Let me! Let me!

Charlie: I want to go home.

Glowbee Leader: I'm afraid that we can't help you get home, Charlie. Perhaps Princess Spring could, if we could set her free... or perhaps other elves may know of ways to get you home. I'll give you two of our best guides to help you journey through the Fairy Caves... Twinkie Glowbee and Blinkie Glowbee.

Twinkie Glowbee and Blinkie Glowbee: *(their lights bouncing up and down)* Oh! Good! Oh! Good!

(At this point all the Glowbees grow silent and their lights go off as they hear a Snycle patrol coming through a tunnel, upstage left.)

Glowbee Leader: Quick into this crevice. And don't make a sound. *(At this point the Leader's light goes off too.)*

(The Snycle patrol enters upstage left. The Snycles have pointed heads, pointed ears and long pointed noses. Their faces and hands are a pale ice blue and they are dressed in tight-fitting ,shiny bodysuits that emphasize their skinny bodies. They carry long lances with wiggly, icicle-like tops. They march in a crouched position swaying from side to side with long strides, stopping occasionally to peer around.)

All Snycles: (sing <u>We're The Snycles)</u>

(We're The Snycles: Verse 1)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo. We're the Snycles, love icicles, cold and wind and snow. We spread lots of chills and gloom everywhere we go.

(We're The Snycles: Verse 2)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. Honor guard to the North Wind, we cover all with ice. We prowl 'round in search of those who'd make it warm and nice.

(We're The Snycles: Verse 3)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. If you are one who'd have Spring come we warn you to beware. For we'll surely find you out and catch you in our snare.

(We're The Snycles: Verse 4)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. This year we may never let the world be free from sleet. All bow down to the North Wind, and worship at his feet.

(We're The Snycles: Refrain)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo.

(After marching menacingly around the stage, the Snycles exit upstage right without seeing the hiding sister or invisible Glowbees.)

(The Glowbee lights begin to twinkle all over the stage as they whisper to each other.)

Glowbee Leader: Sisters-three, we must leave you now to set upon our mission to free Princess Spring. Twinkie and Blinkie will stay with you on your journey to find a route home or find and free Princess Spring. Remember that it is most important to recover the magic prism so that Princess Spring may use all her powers given to her by her father, the Sun.

(With this the Glowbee lights fade out as they exit through a tunnel stage left.)

(The stage lights fade out. In the light of a strobe light, the sisters and their Glowbee guides enter through one tunnel, search the stage (chamber) and exit through a different

tunnel. Then they repeat the process from another direction, depicting their search of another chamber.)

(The strobe light goes off.)

SCENE 4

(It is minutes later in another chamber of the Fairy Caves. Set flats and rock formations have been shifted while the lights were off to give the appearance of a different chamber. The 15-foot cave-wall flat has been moved stage right to allow setup of the Princess-cell scene.)

(The stage lights come up as the girls enter a chamber where four Hugmees are in a huddle at center stage. The Hugmees are quite rotund. They wear short brimmed caps and sweatshirts with a "Hug Me" printed in large letters across the chest. They have bright red lips and cheeks and their feet are oversize.)

Amy: Hello. (and upon no reaction from huddled Hugmees, repeats louder) Hello!

Hugmees: (scurrying in all directions) Oh my ! Oh my!

Amy: Please, please come back. We won't hurt you.

(The Hugmees return very cautiously, as if ready to run away again at a moments notice.)

Hugmee_1: You really scared us, sneaking up like that.

Hugmee 2: Yes we thought that you might be a patrol of those awful Snycles.

Hugmee_3: Who are you?

Hugmee 4: Yes. Who? Who?

Amy: I'm Amy *(and pointing)* this is my sister Meg and my sister Charlie. And these are Twinkie and Blinkie our Glowbee guides.

Hugmee_1: Where?

Twinkie & Blinkie: (with lights blinking) Here!

Hugmee 1: Ah yes, there are those invisible Glowbees

Amy: We're three sisters who slid down a hole into this strange land and the Glowbees offered to help us find our way home.

Meg: Or to find Princess Spring, who might help us to get home.

Charlie: Yes. And I do want to go home.

Meg: And who are you?

Hugmee_1: Why, we're the Hugmees. We are attendants to Princess Spring, helping her spread warmth and happiness with lots and lots of hugs.

All Hugmees: (sing Hug Me)

(Hug Me: Verse 1)

Hug me when your happy. Hug me when your weary. Hug me when your feeling sad. Share hugs at the best times. Even at the worst times, things won't really seem so bad. Hugs will make you smile. And they'll cheer you all the while.. Hugs make sunshine. Just look. You will see.

(Hug Me: Verse 2)

Hugs are filled with love, from here and up above. You'll enjoy their special lift. Share them with your best friends and those at their wits ends .You can't give a better gift. Spread love every where. Hugs are meant to get and share Don't miss any opportunity .

Hugs were angel sent for you and me.

(Hugmees dance to <u>Hug Me</u> music)

(Then Hugmees stop dancing to repeat...)

Spread love every where. Hugs are meant to get and share. Don't miss any opportunity . Hugs were angel sent for you and me.

(As the Hugmees finish singing they give the girls lots and lots of hugs.)

Hugmee_2: We were escorting Princess Spring into the Fairy Caves to begin the rites of Spring, when the Snycles captured Princess Spring and her magic prism on orders from the North Wind.

Hugmee_3: Yes. They are holding Princess Spring and her magic prism somewhere in the caves to delay the coming of Spring

Hugmee_4: We have searched and searched for her. We were just huddling together again to devise another plan to find her, when you came upon us.

Amy: You know, we all might have a better chance of finding Princess Spring if we all put our heads together.

Hugmees: (jumping up and down) Yes, yes let's all go together.

(Twinkie and Blinkie giggle happily blinking their approval.)

(Just then there comes a powerful howling sound of wind echoing through the tunnels. All cower together at center stage or alternately run around in panic as....)

The North Wind: (sings | Am The Great North Wind)

<u>(1 Am The Great North Wind: Verse 1)</u> I am The Great North Wind. Whistling, howling, snarling, scowling. I am The Great North Wind. Biting at your toes. Reddening your nose. Blizzard after blizzard. Chilling to your gizzard. I am The Great North Wind.

(I Am The Great North Wind: Verse 1)

I am The Great North Wind. Whistling, howling, snarling, scowling. I am The Great North Wind. Making fingers numb. Freezing your tum-tum.. Covering all with snow and ice. People say I'm just not nice. I am The Great North Wind.

(I Am The Great North Wind: Refrain)

I am The Great North Wind. Whistling, howling, snarling, scowling. I am The Great North Wind.

(The stage lights and singing fade as the group still huddles together shivering.)

I am The Great North Wind. I am The Great North Wind.

SCENE 5

<u>(Sisters-Three</u> music plays as a strobe light shows the group as they move on, around and off the stage from several tunnel positions indicating there search of several chambers.)

(Strobe light stops, music fades and stage lights come up as the group enters a new chamber from downstage right into another chamber in the Fairy Caves. Set flats and rock formations have been rearranged to give the appearance of a new chamber.)

Hugmee_1: I don't think we're ever going to be able to find Princess Spring. These caves are so vast and confusing.

Amy: Don't loose hope. We'll find her.

Charlie: And get home.

Twinkie: Sh!... Do you hear something?

(They all become quiet and listen. From a tunnel mid-stage left they hear the sound of singing and marching.)

Meg: Quick. Let's hide.

(The group squeeze into a crevice upstage right... just as the Backways enter marching backwards, one behind the other. The have double pointed hats like those worn by early naval officers or double cornered paper hats. They have large blue bows under their chins and behind their necks, and up and down their front and back.)

All Backways: (sing and march to March Back)

(The Backways march around the stage, and may do marching formations as they sing. The Backways rock forward on the left foot at the start of each line. Then they march backward until the end of the line. Chalk or tape a trail to follow on the stage floor, so that the Backways know where they are going backwards without looking.)

(March Back: Verse 1)

One step forward, then march back, won't get you anywhere. One step forward, then march back, won't get you here to there. But turn 'round and try it and you'll see a whole new scene. You'll backup where you want to go and still see where you've been (bean).

(March Back: Verse 2)

One step forward, then march back seems like a funny way ... To get us from place to place. But who cares what they say. It's better than not going, and a real reward we've found... Moving at a slower pace gives time to look around.

(March Back: Verse 3)

One step forward, then march back is pretty hard to learn. Eyes are lined up with the nose. At first we had to turn. By practicing and practicing, now we freely roam. Remember that we're experts, so don't try this at home. **Blinkie:** Oh good. It's the Backways. They travel throughout the caves constantly and would probably know where the Snycles are holding Princess Spring and the magic prism.

(All rush out of hiding to meet the Backways.)

Hugmee_1: Oh, please stop.

Backway_1: We can't stop. There are so many places yet to be from.

Amy: Oh please, please stop. We need your help so desperately.

Backway_2: Well OK. But just for a moment.

Hugmee_2: In your travels have you been to where the Snycles are holding Princess Spring prisoner.

Backway_3: No, we haven't.

Hugmee_3: Oh Dear. Now we'll never find Princess Spring and the magic prism.

Backway_4: We don't go to places. We only come from them. We haven't BEEN TO where the Snycles are holding Princess Spring but we have COME FROM there.

(All smile broadly at each other and the Backways and jump up and down with joy.)

Meg: Could you lead us to the place where the Snycles are holding Princess Spring?

(The Backways look at each other in puzzlement, scratch their heads and shrug their shoulders.)

Amy: Meg, they don't seem to understand you. Let me try. Now lets see... Could you come from where the Snycles are holding Princess Spring again, if you were to come there from here?

Backway_1: Yes we could. Just follow us.

(With this the Backways begin to march in place and all rush to line up in the direction they are facing. However the Backways march backward in the opposite direction, exiting upstage right... with the others rushing to catch-up.)

(As the Backways exit, the Backways sing and march to <u>March Back: Verse 1)</u>

(March Back: Verse 1)

One step forward, then march back, won't get you anywhere. One step forward, then march back, won't get you here to there. But turn 'round and try it and you'll see a whole new scene. You'll backup where you want to go and still see where you've been (bean). (Stage lights go dark.)

SCENE 6

(The Backways march in through a tunnel downstage right into another chamber in the Fairy Caves without singing. They are followed by the marching search group. The Backways stop mid stage and march in place. The flats and rock formations have again been rearranged to give the appearance of a different chamber.)

Backway_2: We'll leave you here. Princess Spring is being held in a chamber right down that tunnel. *(points behind him to tunnel mid-stage left without looking.)* Good luck with your rescue.

(*The Backways march off backwards through a tunnel upstage left singing <u>March</u> <u>Back: Verse 1</u>)*

All Backways:

<u>(March Back: Verse 1)</u> One step forward, then march back, won't get you anywhere. One step forward, then march back, won't get you here to there. But turn 'round and try it and you'll see a whole new scene. You'll backup where you want to go and still see where you've been (bean).

Hugmee_4: (*rushing toward the tunnel that Backway_2 pointed to*) Let's go rescue Princess Spring.

Other Hugmees: Yes. Yes. Let's rescue Princess Spring right now.

Amy: Wait! Wait! (*The Hugmees stop and turn toward Amy*)

We're so close. But we have to be so careful or we'll all be captured by the Snycles and there will be no one left to rescue Princess Spring and the magic prism. Let's put our heads together right here and think about how we are going to carry out the rescue.

(The group huddles together to plan their next move.)

(They make it to the safety of a crevice just in time to avoid being seen by a patrol of Snycles coming up the tunnel that Backway_2 had pointed to.)

(The Snycle patrol moves menacingly across the stage and exits into a tunnel midstage right, singing the 1st and 4th verses of <u>We're The Snycles</u> as they go.)

(We're The Snycles: Verse 1)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. We're the Snycles, love icicles, cold and wind and snow. We spread lots of chills and gloom everywhere we go.

(We're The Snycles: Verse 4)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. This year we may never let the world be free from sleet. All bow down to the North Wind, and worship at his feet.

(We're The Snycles: Refrain)

Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo. Woo, woo, woo, woo.

(After the patrol has passed on, Amy peeks into the tunnel that the Snycles came from, and signals the group to follow her. All exit up the tunnel stage left.)

(Stage lights go off.)

SCENE 7

(The lights come up on another chamber in the Fairy Caves. The flats and rock formations have again been rearranged to appear as a different chamber. The 15-foot cave-wall flat has been moved stage left to reveal the Princess-cell scene. The prison cell has bars seemingly made out of icicles. There is a velvet-covered table in front of the cell with the magic prism in the center of the table. There are two chairs for the Snycle guards, stage-left of the table and in front of the cell. Upstage and left of the guards is a large gong with a mallet. Downstage left of center is the Styrofoam arch (the Fairy Cave's opening to the outer world). Downstage right is one of the cave panels for the group to peak around.)

(Princess Spring is in the cell and two Snycle guards are seated in the chairs next to the magic prism table. Amy is peering around the corner of the tunnel.)

Amy: *(whispering back to the group)* There are only two guards. But if they see us they will certainly sound the alarm and we will be quickly captured by the Snycles.

(Just then Twinkie Glowbee's light goes on and she begins whispering excitedly to Blinkie. The group goes into a huddle and whispers are heard as Twinkie and Blinkie blink constantly.) (The group unravels from the huddle and all peer around the corner of the tunnel stacked one above the other.)

(Twinkie sneaks quietly toward a position behind the guards.)

Guard_1: Did you hear something?

Guard_2: Nothing. You're always imagining things.

(Twinkie positions herself behind Guard_1 and her light blinks for a second as she stifles a giggle with her hand. She swings her arm hard as to hit Guard_1 n the back of his head.)

(Guard_1, grabs the back of his head as if hit from behind and sprawls to his knees.)

Guard_1: (looking back at the other guard) Hey cut that out. That's not funny.

Guard_2: Cut what out?

Guard_1: (brushing himself off and returning to his chair) You know. You know. And don't let it happen again.

(The guards sit quietly for a moment. Then Twinkie swings again and Guard_1 who again grabs the back of his head as if hit from behind and sprawls to his knees. This time Guard_1 jumps to his feet and pounces on Guard-2, wrestling him to the ground. As the guards fight, they roll over and over toward upstage left.)

Amy: Now!

(The group rushes out of hiding. The Hugmees run to the Princess and jump up and down with joy in front of the cell.)

Princess Spring: Grab the magic prism and run to the cave's entrance (*pointing to Fairy Caves opening down stage*), where it opens up onto the world.

(Amy scoops up the magic prism just as Guards_1 and _2 stop wrestling and give the alarm by striking the large gong with its mallet. The North Wind's howling sound echoes through the tunnels and more Snycles rush onstage.)

(Amy tries to avoid being caught by the Snycles on the way to the mouth of the cave. But one catches her by her arm. Amy holds out the magic prism as far as her other arm will stretch and Meg takes the prism from her.)

Princess Spring: Run to the cave's entrance and hold up the magic prism.

(Several Snycles have captured the Hugmees and are holding or sitting on them.)

(Meg tries to dodge the Snycles that are not holding other captives, as she makes her way toward the cave entrance. A Snycle catches her, but again she holds out the magic prism and Charlie grabs it from her.)

(Charlie reaches the cave entrance and holds the magic prism high over her head with both hands.)

Princess Spring: *(chants loudly)* Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay. Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay.

(The Snycle guards chasing Charlie back away as if frightened that the Princess' magic will strike them dead. All Snycles stay frozen where they are... staring back and forth between the Princess and the magic prism as the Princess speaks.)

Princess Spring: My father, the Sun, cannot hear me from way inside this chamber. Hugmees, Glowbees, girls help me call the Sun.

All: (*with the Princess*) Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay. Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay.

Princess Spring: The Sun still can not hear us inside this chamber. If there were only others nearby who were pure of heart and willing to help us.

Charlie: (*pointing at the children in the audience and jumping up and down*) There are! There are!

Princess Spring: Oh children of the outer world please help us when I count to three. *(pause)* One.... two... three.

All of the group and children in the audience: Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay. Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay.

(A weak beam of sunlight (a spotlight) hits the prism that Charlie is holding high above her head, but casts little reflected light.)

Princess Spring: Oh Children. Please help us again on the count of three. *(pause)* One.... two... three.

All of the group and children in the audience: Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay. Sun. Sun. Shine... un-say un-say ine-shay.

(A bright beam of sunlight (a spotlight) hits the prism that Charlie is holding high above her head and splits the beam all over the stage.)

(The bars of Princess Spring's cell fall down, the North Wind stops howling, and the Snycles retreat into the tunnels upstage left and right.)

(Charlie just glows with pride as she returns the magic prism to Princess Spring.)

Hugmee_4: We did it.

Hugmees and Glowbees: We did it. We did it.

Princess Spring: I'm so grateful to all of you for rescuing me and the world from several more weeks of chilling winter. And especially grateful to you girls who have come into our netherworld and helped us so much.

Amy: Thank you Princess Spring.

Meg: Thank you.

Charlie: I want to go home now.

(All laugh.)

Princess Spring: And you shall go home little one. And your sisters too. Come here all of you and hold out your right hands.

(The Princess slips a ring on to the right hand of each one of the girls.) These magic rings will allow you to walk on the sunbeams of my father, the Sun, to wherever you want to go... including home.

All Others: (surrounding the girls) Hooray! Hooray! Hooray! For Charlie, Meg and Amy.

(Glowbees enter stage left, whispering and giggling with their lights blinking.)

Princess Spring: Now I see the other Glowbees have joined us. Please all join me in a happy song and dance for the coming of Spring.

Princess Spring: (sings <u>When Spring Comes</u>)

(When Spring Comes: Verse 1) And now it will be Spring. And the birds will sing. The sunbeams warm the earth. Flowers sprout and try to reach to the sky. Soft breezes fan rebirth. Love is all a-round. And angels look down, celebrating with a joyous sound.

(When Spring Comes: Verse 2) Come join in this rebirth. And make a better earth, For all who dwell hereon. Share your heart and mind. Seek out ties that bind and thoughts to build upon. Love is all a-round. And angels look down, celebrating with a joyous sound.

(When Spring Comes: Verse 3)

It's Spring and for this while those near 'n_far can smile, and hold all others dear. Far as one can see, there can be harmony, And precious peace be near. Love is all a-round. And angels look down, celebrating with a joyous sound.

<u>(When Spring Comes: Repeat)</u> Love is all a-round. And angels look down, celebrating with a joyous sound.

(*Princess Spring performs a ballet dance and/or All dance to two verses of <u>When Spring</u> <u>Comes</u> music)*

All: (sing last verse of <u>When Spring Comes</u>)

(When Spring Comes: Verse 3) It's Spring and for this while those near 'n_far can smile, and hold all others dear. Far as one can see, there can be harmony, And precious peace be near. Love is all a-round. And angels look down, celebrating with a joyous sound.

Love is all a-round. And angels look down, celebrating with a joyous sound.

(The sisters end up facing Princess Spring at center stage.)

(pause)

Princess Spring: And now, girls, bless you and remember us wherever you may go.

(pause)

(Lights go out.)

SCENE 8

(A spotlight comes up on the girls still standing center stage. It is the same chamber in the caves as Scene 7 moments later, with the Styrofoam arch (Fairy Cave's opening) to the outer world set mid-wings stage left. All of the others are gone, and the rolling flat has been moved stage right to cover the Princess-cell scene for replacement of that scene and props with the Sisters' Bedroom scene.)

(The girls look around themselves in wonder. Then they look down at the rings on their right hands and hold them up closer and closer to their eyes.)

(As they are staring at their rings, sunbeams pierce the darkened stage through the cave's opening.)

(The girls hug each other and rush off through the cave's opening and into the sunbeams.)

(Lights fade off.)

SCENE 9

(The lights come up on the Sisters' bedroom as in Scenes 1 and 2. The 15-foot cave wall flat has been moved stage left to show the bedroom. The rock formations have been removed and flats slid into the wings as far as possible.)

(The girls are in bed, under the covers.)

Mother: *(from offstage left)* Girls! Girls! It's time to wake up for school. It's a beautiful day. The sun is shining and the birds are singing. Spring is coming after all.

(pause)

Amy: (yawning and rubbing her left eye with her left hand) It must have all been just a dream.

Meg: (dejected) I guess so.

(pause)

Charlie: (looking at her right hand) Look! Look! The ring! The ring!

(Amy and Meg pull their right hands from beneath the covers and stare at the rings on their right hands.)

(The girls laugh, giggle and hug each other.)

(The sisters sing the 1st verse of <u>Sisters-Three</u> ... jumping out of bed and rushing off stage left as they finish the final line.)

All Sisters:

<u>(Sisters-Three: Verse 1)</u> We're sisters-three. As you can see, we always are together. Through happy times and some sad times, in good or awful weather. So give three cheers for musketeers who stick as close as glue. And if you're friends with one of us you get the other two.

(Charlie peeks back from the wings and waves to the children in the audience)

(Stage lights and <u>Sisters-Three</u> music fade out.)

CURTAIN