

# SLEEPING BEAUTY

## Cast List

### **Nanny Fanny McWheeze**

My name is Iain Lauchlan and I play the Dame in the panto.



The Dame is one of the comic characters and is a man dressed as a woman. The Dame has several silly costumes to wear and in Sleeping Beauty, this year, she is called Nanny Fanny McWheeze.

Nanny McWheeze is a qualified nanny with many years' experience and has come all the way from Scotland to be nanny to the gorgeous Princess Belle.

She begins the panto as nanny to the baby princess but as we move on eighteen years after the first scene, we find her arranging things for Princess Belle's eighteenth birthday party and then going into the future after Belle has pricked her finger and fallen asleep.

Nanny McWheeze, Muddles and Prince Valiant all travel forward in time one hundred years to save Princess Belle and defeat Carabosse.

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## Muddles The Jester

My name is Craig Hollingsworth and I play Muddles the Jester.



Muddles is the comic in the pantomime and always makes friends with the children in the audience. He is great fun and gets up to all sorts of mischief with Nanny McWheeze.

As Muddles is the palace jester he has to keep everyone entertained and be funny all of the time. Muddles finds this very difficult and would like to be much funnier, in fact he would like to be funny and famous like some of the great comedians that have gone before.

Muddles likes Princess Belle very much and wants to travel into the future to save her.

Although he is not brave like Prince Valiant he tries very hard to help others and do the right thing.

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## Prince Valiant

My name is Joanna Thorne and I play the principal boy in Sleeping Beauty.



He is called Prince Valiant and is the young hero who is in love with Princess Belle. It is the tradition for the principal boy to be played by a young woman just as the dame is played by a man.

Prince Valiant meets Princess Belle when they are twelve years old and they grow up together and becomes very close friends. As they grow older they fall in love with each other and intend to marry.

When Belle pricks her finger on the spinning wheel and falls into an enchanted sleep Prince Valiant is determined to save her. He ends up travelling into the future, fighting a dragon, defeating Carabosse and kissing his princess to wake her from her deep sleep.

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## Princess Belle

My name is Melissa Brown-Taylor and I play Princess Belle who is Sleeping Beauty.



Princess Belle starts the panto off as a new born baby who is born into the royal family of Harmonia.

After the first scene of the panto, we skip forward eighteen years to Belle's eighteenth birthday. By that time Belle has met her true love Prince Valiant but has lost her mother as she died two years earlier.

Princess Belle finds out on the day of her birthday that she was cursed as a baby by Carabosse, the evil fairy, and that she would prick her finger on a spinning wheel and die.

The king, Belle's father, assures her that the curse was altered by the good Fairy Azurial and if she did prick her finger on a spinning wheel then she, and all of the palace, would fall into an enchanted sleep for one hundred years.

The king has banned all spinning wheels from the kingdom as a precaution.

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## Azurial, The Good Fairy

My name is Anna Mitcham and I play Azurial the good fairy in Sleeping Beauty.



I always have a class of little fairies who are learning the art of magic and being good, kind and caring.

I try to do the best for the characters in our story and to help them if they are in trouble. But my evil sister Carabosse is always causing trouble and therefore makes my life difficult sometimes.

King Hugo relies on me to give blessings and to make right some of the wrongs that are done in his kingdom. He is a good man and I always try to help him in whatever way I can.

When Princess Belle pricks her finger and falls into an enchanted sleep for one hundred years I try to help Prince Valiant, Muddles and Nanny McWheeze on their way to travel through time to reach Princess Belle in the future before Carabosse finds her.

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## **Carabosse, The Evil Fairy.**

My name is Laura Judge and I play the evil fairy Carabosse in Sleeping Beauty.



Carabosse is Azurial's sister but we are so very different. Azurial spends her life being a goody, goody fairy trying to help others whenever she can, whereas, I do not have time for stupid, insignificant humans. They bore me and I have far too much evil work to do to care about any of them.

King Hugo and his Queen, I find, are the most irritating and tedious. He tries to ban me from his little kingdom but no one can tell me where I can and cannot go.

I decided to curse that arrogant queen Hyacinth and her pathetic little princess so that they realise, once and for all, that I am indeed a force to be reckoned with.

Be careful not to cross me!!!

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## King Hugo

My name is Declan Wilson and I play King Hugo.



King Hugo is king of Harmonia and is a good and fair king. He is well loved in Harmonia and always tries to look after his subjects.

King Hugo has an ongoing feud with Carabosse and has banished her several times from the kingdom. He knows he is playing with fire when he crosses Carabosse but he wants to keep his kingdom safe and secure so he tries to keep her well away.

King Hugo is married to Queen Hyacinth and his new baby, Princess Belle, has just been born.

King Hugo would do anything to keep his queen and baby princess safe.

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## Queen Hyacinth and Grunge

My name is Vicky Field and I play two parts in our panto. I play Queen Hyacinth in the first scene and then Grunge, Carabosse's stupid sidekick, for the rest of the show.



Queen Hyacinth is queen to King Hugo and they are planning the blessing of their newly born Princess at the beginning of the show.

Queen Hyacinth is very organised and decisive. She keeps King Hugo on the straight and narrow. She is the only one who will stand up to Carabosse and that is why the Queen ends up getting cursed by her.

Queen Hyacinth dies before Princess Belle is eighteen so we don't see her again after Scene One, so I then play the sidekick to the baddie and she is called Grunge.

Grunge is a character of very little brain. Grunge follows Carabosse wherever she goes, is very loyal to her and does her bidding without question. She often gets things completely wrong which drives Carabosse into a rage.

Grunge also is in charge of all the evil Sprites that Carabosse has in her lair. They are her own personal army of evil creatures.

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## The Chamberlain

My name is Ivano Turco and I play the Chamberlain in Sleeping Beauty.



He is a very quiet, organised and calm character who is in charge of running the palace and organising the courtiers who serve the royal family.

King Hugo relies heavily on him to keep the palace and its staff running smoothly. They often have important lunches, dinners, and special occasions and the Chamberlain is always relied upon to make sure nothing goes wrong.

When I am not performing onstage I am often busy doing other useful tasks like being the busy bee in the busy bee gag and helping to operate the dragon.

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## The Lady-in-Waiting and Evil Sprite

My name is Katie Anna-Southgate and I play the Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Hyacinth and also one of Carabosse's evil Sprites.



The Lady-in-Waiting is very important in the palace as she looks after the Queen and sometimes the Royal Princess.

The Queen relies on her Lady-in-Waiting to help her with lots of day to day tasks and to take the burden of the new baby from her.

She also helps with the courtiers and supports the Chamberlain in the running of the palace.

In the second half of the panto I play one of Carabosse's evil sprites who will do anything Carabosse asks of them. The sprites are evil spirits who will not rest and want to spread chaos and evil wherever they go.

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## Morag. A Scottish Alexa.

I am Eileen Macpherson and I play the voice of **Morag** the artificial intelligence device brought from Scotland by Nanny McWheeze. As I play a voice, there is no picture of me here, but you will hear me in the show!



Nanny McWheeze relies on me to give her advice and to answer any questions she may have.

It may seem that I have a mind of my own but I am programmed only to give advice and to help.

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There are also an ensemble of children on stage who play Azurial's fairies.



And there are others on stage playing courtiers – you can see them here behind Muddles!



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Now that you know all about the characters in Sleeping Beauty, we're really looking forward to seeing you at our panto!

