

Music - The melody for "Lovabye Dragon" gently emerges as the lights fade. Music continues under ...

*A Troubadour appears and is joined by a group of Magicals who will help bring the story to life through puppetry and transformation of the set.*

TROUBADOUR

Once there was a girl

A very little girl.

*(A shadow puppet of the girl appears - in the window of a castle.)*

MAGICAL 1

In her own little room

MAGICAL 4

In her own little castle.

TROUBADOUR

and there was a dragon

a very biggle dragon.

*(A shadow puppet of the dragon appears - in a cave.)*

MAGICAL 3

In his big dragon cave

MAGICAL 4

In his big dragon mountain ...

*(Music in)*

TROUBADOUR AND MAGICALS

*THIS WAS A TIME . .  
OF SOLDIERS AND KINGS  
DRAGONS BREATHING FIRE,  
WICKED CLAWS AND WICKED WINGS  
OH BEWARE! YES BEWARE!*

*(As the tempo picks up with the second verse, the Magicals are changing the scene bringing in a table and a tuffit for the Birthday Party and helping Girl arrive on stage unseen.)*

*Troubadour THIS WAS A PLACE . .  
FOR LADIES AND GIRLS  
WHO SAT ON PRETTY TUFFITS,  
HAPPY FACES, HAPPY CURLS  
OH BEHAVE! YES BEHAVE!*

*(spoken)*

MAGICAL 4

But not all are Dragons fierce

MAGICAL 2

and not all girls are happy

MAGICAL 3

Be bold.

MAGICAL 1

Take hold

TROUBADOUR

And listen to their story first.

And so it was.

SCENE ONE - A Birthday Party

*(Music out as Lights come up on GIRL - perhaps illuminated at first just by the lights from her Birthday cake. She is pretty, but not overly so. She is cute, but not cloyingly so. She is earnest and true - wonderfully so. She wears a necklace that holds a large, ornate, shiny key. As she stands on the tuffit to blow out the candles, lights come up revealing the scene. MOTHER and FATHER rush in and spy her standing on the tuffit. The MAGICALS have transformed into castle servants/guards.)*

MOTHER

Oh dear, oh dear. Please sit back down carefully on your tuffit.

FATHER

Indeed. It could slip! You could tip! And -

MOTHER

The very thought gives me a headache.

*(GIRL sighs, and then sits back gently down on her tuffit.)*

MOTHER

Better.

FATHER

Now you may blow out the candles my little ginger snap. *(GIRL inhales to blow out the most powerful of blows ...)* Ah-ah-ah ..Carefully, darling, just as we practiced.

*(GIRL'S excitement fades as she surrenders and carefully blows out the candles.)*

MOTHER

Now what did you wish for my dear?

FATHER

Something practical I hope.

MOTHER

A tooth brush? A serving platter?

FATHER

Quite. Something with a purpose.

GIRL

Ummm... it's a secret.

MOTHER

Well, a secret wish.

FATHER

How very mysterious.

MOTHER

Isn't that cute, dear?

FATHER

Adorable.

MOTHER

Indeed. Now away with the cake and then you may open your present my little precious petunia. *(She claps twice and 2 MAGICALS take the cake away while a third fetches the present.)*

GIRL

But aren't we going to eat my cake?

MOTHER

What? Eat cake right after eating your vegetables? I don't think so my dear.

FATHER

Indeed. Think of your digestion. Not to mention the calories. We'll save the cake for another time.

MOTHER

Or better yet, we'll give it to the servants.

GIRL

Oh...Well ... I suppose that would be nice for them.

FATHER

Now don't be blue my little darling donut. Open your present.

MOTHER

Perhaps we shouldn't have, but we found just what you wanted.

*(Music in (I Want to Dream melody). GIRL is restored by this news and begins to shake the present gently, trying to hear what is inside. She gives in to her curiosity and tears open the wrapping paper.)*

FATHER

I was against it, but your mother insisted.

MOTHER

*(gasps)* Don't rip the paper! If you fold it you can use it again. And do be careful with your fingers. Paper cuts can be terribly painful.

FATHER

True. True. Do you remember when I cut my pinky while we were sending out invitations to the annual ball?

MOTHER

Who could forget?

FATHER

When I think about it, I can still feel the agony. *(wincing)* Why, I could barely manage to sign my decrees! And I'm even left handed! My motto is: Play it safe. Best not to invite guests, or better yet, don't have parties at all.