

Fairytale High

By Michael Riotto

Characters

FROG

WOLF

CINDERELLA

BOY

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

LITTLE PIG

PINOCCHIO

HUMPTY DUMPTY

Bell Rings. Fantastical creatures, Princes, and Princesses fill the lunchroom. Blink-182 plays from a radio somewhere.

FROG, wearing a polo shirt, walks awkwardly as he holds a lunch tray looking for a seat. He walks past the Prince table, where Prince Charming and Beast in Varsity Jackets are chest bumping. He scowls.

Frog then passes a table where all the Princesses are sitting. He attempts to wave at CINDERELLA, but she doesn't notice. Frog puts his head down.

Just then, a foot trips Frog out a nowhere. It belongs to a student named BOY, who's wearing a Trucker hat and a short-sleeve shirt over a long-sleeve shirt.

BOY

(Holding in laughter) Oops. My bad. Ahaah!

The room points and laughs. Frog shamefully stands up and keeps walking.

From across the room, Frog spots his friend, WOLF, signaling for him. Frog sits next to him. Wolf sports crooked dorky glasses, and a shirt that has a picture of the moon on it.

WOLF

Hey, bro. Friday night. Still down for D&D at my place later? Like usual?

FROG

Yeah, sure, whatever.

WOLF

I'll make sure to buy some more dice after school.

FROG

(Not focused) Okay.

WOLF

Oh, and don't forget the soda! You always forget the soda.

FROG

Mhm.

WOLF

Hey, is uh everything okay, man?

Frog is staring off somewhere else. Wolf faces the direction Frog is gazing at. It's towards Cinderella, still sitting on the other side of the room. She's texting on a pink, sparkly flip-phone.

FROG

Cinderella. I need her.

WOLF

Okay, bro. What's stopping you? Go say something to her.

FROG

(Scoffs) She's not into nice guys like me. She's into fucking Princes.

WOLF

Then why can't you just tell her that you can turn into a prince after one smooch?

FROG

I shouldn't have to resort to that. I need to know if she can love me, even if I was a frog forever.
Besides, Princes are dickheads. I don't want to be like them.

Just then, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD approaches their table with a clipboard. She's dressed in a preppy school outfit with big round glasses. She wears a red beret.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

(Kind of nervous around Frog) Hey, Frog, hehe. Do you wanna sign up for the blood drive? You don't have to if you don't want to, it's like whatever.

FROG

Sure, Red. I'd love to.

Little Red Riding Hood hands Frog the clipboard. He signs, and hands it back to her. She looks at his signature.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

(Struggling to read) Uh... okay. This is your signature?

FROG

Yeah.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Sorry but this is like the worst handwriting I've ever seen.

FROG

Sorry.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Oh, Frog, are you going to the party later at Boy's place? Everyone's going. Humpty Dumpty, Pinocchio, Cinderella—

FROG

Cinderella's going?!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Uh, yeah. You should totally come. I would... you know... love to see you there. Hehe.

WOLF

Hey, Red.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Ahhhh!!! Wolf!!!

Little Red Riding Hood runs away.

FROG

Did you hear that?! Cinderella's coming to this party. We have to go!

WOLF

Frog, it's D&D night. We never miss it. Also, we don't go to parties, bro. This isn't us.

FROG

Please, Wolf, please! We have to go. I need to show her who I am. I can make her love me.

Wolf ponders.

WOLF

Fine, alright, fine, we'll go. Just don't leave my side, okay? I get nervous.

FROG

I won't, dude. I promise. After school, I shall purchase a pair of shoes for her, cause she's Cinderella and she's into shoes, I guess. Then, I'll make a little song to perform for her. I will express everything I feel through music. She'll have to give me a chance!

...

Later. Outside Boy's average suburban home. Party music is roaring from inside. There's a front door; and to the left of that, a window, with the silhouettes of people dancing inside.

Frog and Wolf approach the front door.

Frog holds a shoebox, guitar, and a pile of notes together tightly.

FROG

Okay, I think I got everything I need here. Now be honest, when I played you this song earlier, did you like it?

WOLF

Now, and I'm not just saying this, I loved it. Like genuinely. It represents you perfectly.

FROG

Thanks, man. It came from the heart. I call it: *Cinderel-la-la-la*.

Frog knocks on the door. Boy answers.

BOY

What's up, assholes? What are you dorks doing here? You weren't invited.

FROG

Look, I know you and I don't get along. But Cinderella's inside, and I need to plead my case.

BOY

No can do, Kermit. You see, I've been eyeing her for a while now. And seeing how she and Prince Charming are no longer an item, this party was a strategic plan for me to hit that.

FROG

No, no, but you don't understand. (*Holds up shoebox, guitar, and notes*) I bought these shoes for her, and I wrote a song for—

Boy quickly snatches the shoebox, guitar and notes.

BOY

Thanks. I can use this.

Boy shuts the door. Frog and Wolf stand dumbfounded.

FROG

Fuck! I can't believe he just did that!

WOLF

Stand back, Frog. I got this.

Wolf gets real close to the house, breaths in, and blows. Nothing happens. The house is still there.

WOLF (Con't)

Brick. Goddamnit. You see, Frog, I told you. We don't belong here. We're outcasts, the weridos.
We're not Princes.

FROG

I'm not giving up. We can't let Boy perform my song and give my gift.

Frog walks away from the front door, towards the window to the left that looks into the kitchen of the house. Frog gets close and peers through. He spots the back of LITTLE PIG talking to PINOCCHIO inside.

Frog taps on the window, getting Pig's attention. Pig approaches and opens a window.

LITTLE PIG

Hey, Frog. What are doing outside? There's a party in here.

FROG

We're locked out. You gotta let us in.

Wolf walks over.

WOLF

Hey, Pig.

LITTLE PIG

Ahhhhh! Wolf!!!

Little Pig runs away from the window. Pinocchio approaches.

PINOCCHIO

Hey, guys.

FROG

Pinocchio! Can you unlock the front door!?

PINOCCHIO

Okay.

Frog and Wolf go back to the door. Pinocchio opens it and lets the two in.

...

The party is bumping, and the music is blasting. The mythical creatures and fantastical characters are all drinking and dancing.

In the Kitchen, after finally being let inside the party, Frog and Wolf frantically looking around for Cinderella.

While he's searching, Frog accidentally bumps into Little Red Riding Hood drinking from a red solo cup.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

(Awkwardly) Oh! Hey, Frog! You made it! Wow, you look good. Um, how are yo—?

FROG

Red! Red, do you know where Cinderella is?!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Uh, no. I'm not sure.

FROG

Damn! I'm running out of time! I can't have Boy take her away from me!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

(Disappointed) Oh... so, um, you have a crush on *Cinderella* then?

FROG

Uh, yeah. Yeah, that's why I'm here. Who else would I have a crush on?

Little Red Riding Hood looks devastated.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

I guess I thought, you and I could maybe... nevermind it's dumb. I'm dumb. So stupid. Hehe.

Little Red Riding Hood laughs and crushes the red solo cup in her hand like a psychopath.

FROG

Uh, Red, are you okay?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

(Clenching teeth) I'm good. I'm fine. Just... excuse me.

Little Red Riding Hood exits the room. Just then Frog spots Pinocchio walking by.

Frog gets ahold of Pinocchio.

FROG

Pinocchio, do you know where Cinderella is?

PINOCCHIO

Uh, no, I don't.

Pinocchio's nose grows.

FROG

Liar!

Frog grabs Pinocchio by the collar.

FROG (Con't)

You know where she is! You have to tell me!

Pinocchio pushes Frog away.

PINOCCHIO

Don't touch me, man! I'm not gay!

Pinocchio's nose grows again. He quickly covers it.

PINOCCHIO (Con't)

(Sighs) Look, okay, fine! I don't wanna get involved in anything, but she's in the living room with Boy.

...

Meanwhile, in the living room, Cinderella sits by herself on the couch. Boy strolls in and sits next to her.

BOY

Hey, C-dog. You having a good time?

CINDERELLA

Yeah, I'm having fun.

BOY

I, uh, actually need to come clean about something. Promise you won't make fun of me?

CINDERELLA

Uh, sure.

BOY

Basically, like, I've been having some pretty strong feelings bout you. I actually got you a gift.

Boy takes out the shoebox that he stole from Frog.

CINDERELLA

Wow... you actually got these for me?

BOY

If I could, I would give you the world, baby girl.

Boy hands the shoebox to Cinderella. She opens the box and looks at the beautiful high heels.

BOY (Con't)

What do you think?

CINDERELLA

They're pretty... but I don't think these are my size?

BOY

What?

CINDERELLA

Yeah, these definitely aren't going to fit.

BOY

Oh, uh, shit. My bad.

CINDERELLA

Well, that's okay. It's a lovely gesture. I mean, I'm sure you still have the receipt so.

BOY

Uh, no, I don't. Nope.

CINDERELLA

Oh.

BOY

Yeah... but you know what, that isn't my only gift.

Boy takes out the guitar and notes.

BOY (Con't)

I wrote a song for you.

CINDERELLA

Oh my God, you did? Really? How sweet.

BOY

(Holding guitar) It goes a little something like this.

Boy strums a chord, then looks at the notes. His face looks puzzled.

BOY (Con't)

Okay, now this is the worst handwriting I've ever seen.

Boy struggles to play the song for Cinderella.

Just then, Frog and Wolf enter!

FROG

Stop!

Record scratch. Music stops. Everyone in the party looks at him.

BOY

Hey, I thought I told your ass to stay out!

Boy attempts to attack Frog, but Wolf blocks him.

CINDERELLA

Woah, woah. What's going on?

FROG

Look, Cinderella. Everything Boy's been saying tonight has been a lie. He didn't buy you the shoes, and he didn't write you the song.

CINDERELLA

Okay, then who did?

FROG

...Me.

Crowd gasps.

BOY

That's a damn lie. I did those things! Not him!

FROG

Then how come I have the receipt for the shoes?

Frog takes out the receipt. The crowd is stunned.

FROG (Con't)

You seriously didn't think I would keep the receipt?

BOY

Ugh, okay fine whatever! You caught me! I'm a liar! But who gives a fuck!?

FROG

You see, I give a fuck. I care. I keep the receipt if my lady doesn't like the thing I buy for her. I write songs for her to tell her I appreciate her. I do these things because I'm thoughtful.

Cinderella is impressed.

BOY

(Cracks knuckles) You're dead, you fucking dork!

Boy attempts to attack Frog again, Wolf holds him back.

WOLF

(Holding Boy in headlock) Alright, why don't we step outside for a minute.

Wolf drags Boy through the house. As they walk by, the crowd boos and yells "liar" at Boy.

Cinderella approaches Frog.

CINDERELLA

Did you... really do that stuff for me?

Frog and Cinderella get to chatting. Wolf drags Boy off stage. Audible sounds of the two scuffling.

BOY (O.S.)

Bro, you can't just kick me out of my own house! Let me back in!

WOLF (O.S.)

I'm not done with you yet!

BOY (O.S.)

(Struggling) Hey, wait! W-what are you doing?! Put me down! Put me down!

More sounds of Boy struggling are heard from off stage. Just then, we hear the violent chomps of Wolf eating Boy.

BOY (O.S./Con't)

(In pain) Ahhhh!!! Wolf!!!!!!! Wolf!!!! AHHHHH Oh my God!!!! He's eating me!!!! Help me!!!! Oh my God!!!! Oh my GAHHHHHH!! Wolf!!!!

Pinocchio and Humpty Dumpty hear the shrieking coming from off stage. Humpty Dumpty sports a gym headband and is drinking a protein shake.

HUMPTY DUMPTY

Did you hear that? Sounds like Boy is crying about a wolf eating him?

PINOCCHIO

Nah, nah, he's definitely lying. He lies a lot. Anyways, what were you saying?

HUMPTY DUMPTY

Oh, yeah, right. Someone once told me I fell off. Ooh I needed that.

Humpty Dumpty flexes his impressive biceps.

Wolf reenters the house, wiping his mouth with a napkin. He finds Frog and Cinderella walking towards a bedroom.

WOLF

Woah, man, where are you going?

FROG

It's pretty loud so I'm gonna play my song for her in another room.

WOLF

Well, what am I supposed to do?

FROG

Just hang out for a while. Go party. I don't care.

WOLF

Dude, you said you wouldn't leave me.

FROG

I won't be long. Just wait a bit.

WOLF

I don't know anyone here, man. I don't know what to do.

FROG

Then go home, bro. You don't have to be here.

Frog attempts to walk away with Cinderella.

WOLF

Hey, don't walk away from me like that. I'm your best friend. You know how much shit I do for you? I just swallowed a man for you!

Pinocchio, sitting on the couch, puts a pillow over his lap.

FROG

I can't keep being held back by you, man. I'm sick of it. I can't play fucking D&D with you every night. There's shit I want to do. Just head home, okay? I'll talk to you later.

Frog and Cinderella enter the bedroom. Wolf stands shamefully.

WOLF

(To himself) Don't bother.

Wolf puts his head down. Pinocchio approaches and pushes his hair behind his ear awkwardly.

PINOCCHIO

So, you single now, huh? Interesting. Now, what were you saying about swallowing a man?

...

In the bedroom, Cinderella sits on the bed while Frog equips his guitar.

FROG

Sorry you had to witness that.

CINDERELLA

It's fine. Weird people bother me all the time too.

FROG

Well... no, he's not "weird". He's my best friend.

Frog strums a note.

FROG (Con't)

You ready?

CINDERELLA

Yeah! I wanna hear it!

FROG

Okay, here I go.

Frog plays a beautiful chord, then begins singing.

FROG (Con't)

(Singing) I may not be a very manly man/

But I can be the frog to your lily pad/

And if you get to know me personally/

I can be the shoe that fits perfectly/

Cinderel-la-la-la/

Cinderel-la-la-la/

Cinderel-la-la-la/

Cinderel... la... la... la...

Frog stums the final note, then takes a deep breath.

FROG

So... that's me. That was a piece of my soul. What do you think?

Frog stares at Cinderella, desperately longing for her astonished reaction.

CINDERELLA

Um, nah, I didn't really like it.

FROG

...oh.

CINDERELLA

Yeah.

FROG

Well, Wolf really liked it.

CINDERELLA

Okay.

Frog takes off the guitar.

FROG

I guess I... I just thought we could've had a connection.

CINDERELLA

Sorry. I'm kinda into Princes.

Frog thinks for a moment. He shuts his eyes in disgust of what he's about to say.

FROG

Well, did I mention I can turn into one?

This peaks Cinderella's interest.

CINDERELLA

Really?

FROG

Yeah... I just need one kiss, but—

CINDERELLA

Alright. I'm down. As long as you turn into a Prince.

FROG

So... maybe you *do* like me then?

CINDERELLA

Well, not now cause you're gross. But I will once you turn into a Prince.

FROG

...oh.

Cinderella closes her eyes and inches towards Frog, lips puckered. Frog does the same.

They get closer, almost about to touch, until Frog comes to a realization. He quickly opens his eyes and moves away last second.

FROG

Okay, but that song was sick. Like there's no way you didn't like it.

CINDERELLA

What are you doing?! I don't understand.

FROG

You know what? I can't do this. We're not a fit.

CINDERELLA

What?! What are you talking about? Everything was fine. I'm not about to be rejected by a frog!

FROG

I'm sorry, Cinderella. I really am. But we're not a match. I can't be with someone who expects me to jeopardize who I truly am. Handsome prince or not, I will always be a Frog. There's no running away from that.

Frog turns away and heads towards the door.

CINDERELLA

Well, fine! Goodbye then! Have fun being a gross ass slimy frog forever! You missed your chance here! Now, no one's ever gonna treat you like a prince!

Frog pauses, then faces her.

FROG

I have someone in mind.

Frog turns back around and leaves the bedroom.

...

Frog storms through the house and approaches the exit. He bumps into Little Red Riding Hood.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Woah, Frog. Is everything okay?

FROG

Everything's fine, Red. Turns out I'm not who Cinderella wants me to be.

After hearing this information, Little Red Riding Hood tries to contain her excitement. She then puts a hand on Frog's shoulder.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Well, Frog, sometimes when you try to be someone you're not, you end up blocking out those who *actually* care about you. You don't see the ones who were there the whole time. Right in front of you. Ready to love you for *you*.

Little Red Riding Hood takes off her glasses and swooshes her hair around like a model.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD (Con't)

Maybe one day, you'll find another girl. Perhaps like, hypothetically, and this is just hypothetically, a girl who likes to wear the color red and rides her bike around. And is kinda dorky, but in a cute kinda way. And maybe she's speaking to you right now. I don't know. Hint, hint. The point is, we need to cherish those who love us for simply being ourselves.

Frog ponders this.

FROG

You know what, Red. You're right.

Little Red Riding Hood smiles and stares at Frog intensely. She closes her eyes and leans in for a kiss. Before she can make contact, she opens her eyes and spots Frog running away.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

(Outraged) Huh?! What?! Where are you going?!

FROG

You're right, Red! I gotta go set things right with Wolf! Thanks for the talk, *buddy!*

Frog leaves the house in a determined sprint.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

No, no, Frog, I was talking about me! I was talking about me!

...

Outside Wolf's house. Frog approaches, holding a grocery bag. He knocks on the door.

Wolf answers, with a stern look on his face.

WOLF

(Scoffs) What do you want?

Frog reaches into the bag and takes out a 6-pack of soda.

FROG

Brought the soda! You still wanna play D&D?

WOLF

You sure I won't "hold you back"?

FROG

I'm sure. And I'm sorry. Still bros?

Wolf thinks for a moment, then smiles.

WOLF

Still bros.

The two hug, then Wolf lets Frog inside. Both share a laugh.

Across the street, Pinocchio watches this sadly in the rain. He throws a bouquet of flowers on the ground, then stomps on them. He walks away into the night.

The End.