

## Snow White and the Apple's Revenge

*Snow White and the Apple's Revenge* adapts the original Grimm version in which the beauty-obsessed Queen is Snow White's biological mother, not stepmother. When Snow White lives in the woods growing organic vegetables for the Seven Dwarfs, the Queen disguised as a slick saleswoman, persuades Snow White to try her genetically modified corn and soybeans. When neither kills Snow White, she tries the new GM apple. As in the Grimm version, Snow White chokes on the apple and faints. She is not roused by the Prince's kiss, but a Servant's slap. Then she has a child...

### Cast

Queen

Mirror

Snow White

Marbete, *a hunter*

Dwarves 1-7

Prince

Servant 1

Servant 2

Grandchild (a doll or puppet)

### Prologue

Queen:

*(sewing by a window)* Oh, how I long for a child. *(pricks her finger)* Ouch! How pretty my blood looks on the snow. I wish for a daughter as white as fresh snow, as red as my blood, as black as that raven in the tree, and of course, as smart as me! *(sucks her finger)*

*Black out*

### Scene 1 *(One year later. Queen is pacing in her room)*

Queen:

I should be happy, but I'm not. I stupidly I forgot to wish for a child, *and* continue to look like one myself. Since the birth of my daughter, I've felt so old and ugly. Only my mirror will tell me the truth.

Mirror, Mirror in my hand,  
Who's the fairest in the land?

Mirror:

Why, you, my queen, are the fairest.

Queen:

Really?

Mirror:

You doubt my honesty?

Queen:  
No, no. Thank you, now I can relax.

Mirror:  
*(murmurs)* But not for long.

Queen:  
What did you say?

Mirror:  
Nothing, nothing.  
***Black out.***

*(15 years later)*  
Snow White:  
Good morning, Mother. Did you sleep well?

Queen:  
No, I had a dream that I suddenly became so old and hideous I could not bear to be seen by anyone. I hid myself away until I died.

Snow White:  
What a terrible dream! I can't imagine it. You're so lovely nobody believes you're my mother. They think we're sisters!

Queen:  
*(pleased)* Really?

Snow White:  
They say my beauty is just a copy of yours.

Queen:  
Quite right, an inferior copy. Thank you, my bad dream is gone.

Snow White:  
Oh, I'm so glad. *(leaves)*

Queen:  
*(Queen happily looks in the mirror and then frowns and sighs)* I've been deceiving you...with makeup.

Mirror:  
I know.

Queen:  
I've even had a face lift. And botox.

My friend Mirror, tell me can you  
Who's the fairest in your view?

Mirror:  
You, my Queen, are fair; tis true. But now Snow White is more fair than you.

Queen:

*(raises mirror to break it)* Liar!

Mirror:

You can break me, but that won't change the truth.

Queen:

You're right; I need to break *her* not you!

Mirror:

But she's your daughter. You prayed for her.

Queen:

She makes me feel old and ugly every time she says, "mother."

Mirror:

She'll always be younger than you.

Queen:

But I can't stand the comparison. The only thing to do is to get rid of her.

Mirror:

That won't stop time.

Queen:

But it will ease my heart. *(calls offstage)* Fetch the hunter Marbete. As I once gave him my love, I think he'll do what I ask him.

Marbete:

*(enters)* Yes, your Majesty? Do you want me to shoot a duck or deer? Or are you craving some other fleshly pleasures?

Queen:

I want a very special meat, and I can trust only you to get it. Take Snow White into the woods and kill her. Bring me back her liver as proof that you have carried out my wishes.

Marbete:

Your Majesty, I couldn't! She's your daughter! I'm no murderer.

Queen:

You've been my lover, and now I hear the servants say that she's *your* daughter, not the King's.

Marbete:

That's not possible!

Queen:

It's very possible. And if the King ever suspects....

Marbete:

*(frightened)* You know I'm your devoted servant.

Queen:

Prove your devotion.

Marbete:

But she's only sixteen years old!

Queen:

It's you or her. When you return, I'll reward you handsomely. *(she leaves)*

**Black out.**

**Scene 2** *(in the garden, and then into the woods)*

Marbete:

Snow White, I saw a white deer this morning woods. Shall we go look for it?

Snow White:

White deer? Oh yes, let's go. *(as they walk, she picks the flowers and chatters about them but Marbete is silent)*

Marbete:

Stop.

Snow White:

I don't see any deer.

Marbete:

It's deeper in the forest, but further I won't go. The Queen has ordered me to kill you, but I can't do it.

Snow White:

Kill me! But why? What have I done?

Marbete:

She suspects...that I, no, she suspects that you, no, I don't really know why. Poor girl, you must leave and never return.

Snow White:

I'll manage. Thanks to you, I know which plants to eat, where to find the wild onions and berries. But you, how can you go back?

Marbete;

I'll shoot a wild boar and take her its liver.

**Black out.**

**Scene 3** *(In the Queen's room. Marbete enters)*

Queen:

Well?

Marbete:

Here is her liver.

Queen:

You've done well. Take it to the kitchen and tell cook to grill it.

Marbete:

Oh Majesty, no!

Queen:

Here's gold. You'll be safer outside the kingdom. Go now, my devoted lover! *(as he goes, she calls off stage)* Guards, once he has left the castle, kill him.

**Black out**

*(Queen is sitting down, wipe mouth with napkin and burps)*

Queen:

A most delicious meat. Now Mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?

Mirror:

You, my Queen, are fair indeed, but Snow White is fairer still.

Queen:

You're lying. She's dead.

Mirror:

She's alive.

Queen:

That hunter betrayed me. I'll kill him!

Mirror:

You already have. But I remain your truthful loyal servant.

**Black out**

#### **Scene 4** *(in the woods)*

Snow White:

I'll be sick if I have to eat another wild onion. What's that? A hut? *(she opens the door, surprised)* My goodness, seven places, soup on the stove, and fresh baked bread. It smells wonderful. *(she helps herself)* Seven small beds, all look so comfortable...sheets so clean...blankets so warm...pillows so soft...oh, I could sleep seven sleeps *(she falls asleep)*.

*(dwarves enter singing the Heigh-ho song)*

Dwarf 1:

*(inside the house)* Hey, somebody's been sitting in my chair.

Dwarf 2:

Somebody used my spoon and napkin.

Dwarf 3:

Somebody's been eating my soup.

Dwarf 4:

Somebody's nibbled my bread.

Dwarf 5:  
Somebody's been drinking my beer.

Dwarf 6:  
Somebody's used my toothbrush.

Dwarf 7:  
Somebody's is *still* sleeping in *my* bed!

Dwarf 1:  
It's a girl

Dwarf 2:  
Let her sleep.

Dwarf 3:  
Wake her up.

Dwarf 4:  
We'll deal with her in the morning

Dwarf 7:  
That's fine for you to say, she's in *my* bed.

Dwarf 5:  
You'll have to sleep on the floor.

Dwarf 7:  
If she didn't look so pretty, I'd kick her out.  
***Black out***

**Scene 5** (*Next morning they all sit around the table with Snow White*)

Dwarf 2:  
(*coughs*) Well, I'm not sure we believe your story, but it's clear you can't go back to the castle.

Dwarf 6:  
We have to work every day. I don't suppose a princess knows how to work.

Snow White:  
Do you want me to clean house and cook, make beds, wash, sew and knit, and keep everything nice and tidy?

Dwarf 4:  
Can't you see we do that very well ourselves?

Dwarf 5:  
Isn't there anything else you know how to do?

Snow White:  
Well, I can grow vegetables and medicinal plants. I could cure that sneezing.

And this cut?  
Dwarf 6:

Yes.  
Snow White:

Grow tomatoes?  
Dwarf 1:

Yes.  
Snow White:

Cucumbers and carrots?  
Dwarf 4:

Yes.  
Snow White:

Snow peas and radishes?  
Dwarf 7:

Most certainly.  
Snow White:

How about this blister?  
Dwarf 6:

I can heal it.  
Snow White:

Dwarf 1:  
(*whispers, they vote*) All right, you can stay. You'll be safe here.

Dwarf 4:  
But don't talk to any strange Queens that come by.  
**Black out**

### **Scene 6** (*In the palace*)

Queen:  
(*looking in the mirror*) I don't believe it! A pimple. At my age? Mirror, Mirror at whom I gaze,  
who is the fairest dame these days?

Mirror:  
You, my Queen, are fair; it's true.  
But Snow White in the woods,  
Is a thousand times fairer than you.

Queen:  
So she's still alive! I'll have to go and deal with her myself. Let's see. I'll disguise myself as an  
old peddler...

Mirror:

*(mutter)* That shouldn't be difficult.

Queen:

Shut up! I'll sell colorful ribbons and lace.

Mirror:

She is not as stupid or as vain as before. She's not going to balls but works in the garden, growing fruits and vegetables.

Queen:

Ah, then I know just what to do. *(she dresses up in smart suit and modern wig and carries a briefcase)*

**Black out**

**Scene 7** *(Snow White is working in the garden. Dirt smudges on her face)*

Queen:

Ah my dear, what a lovely garden.

Snow White:

Yes, I enjoy it.

Queen:

But if it doesn't rain...

Snow White:

Then I must carry water from the river...

Queen:

Or if it rains too soon...

Snow White:

Then I must put up a cover.

Queen:

Or if the frost comes too early...

Snow White:

Then I must light a fire.

Queen:

The seasons become more uncertain.

Snow White:

I plant many different kinds of vegetables—so if one fails, others succeed. We always have enough to eat.

Queen:

You're an excellent gardener. Perhaps you'd be like to try my new GMO soybeans?



Snow White:

I already have many beans.

Queen:

Soy is very nutritious and delicious. These seeds are so strong and they'll resist any herbicide. I'll even give you a free sample of spray.

Snow White:

I've never used any spray. Won't that kill my other plants?

Queen:

Over there's a perfect empty patch of empty soil for the soy.

Snow White:

All right, I'll give it a try. *(she takes the seeds and the Queen leaves. Snow White plants the seeds and tends the crop. They sprout with magic quickness)*  
*Black out.*

*(everyone is sitting at the table for dinner)*

Snow White:

So, what do you think of this new soybean?

Dwarf 2:

I like this dofu in soup

Dwarf 3:

I like my *dofu gan* to chew. (dried dofu)

Dwarf 4:

I like mine soft with ginger.

Dwarf 5:

I like red bean *dou hua*. (dofu puddings)

Dwarf 6:

I like the soy fake meat.

Dwarf 7:

I like hot *dou jiang* for breakfast. (soy milk)

Dwarf 1:

I like munching salted soybeans as a snack.

Snow White:

And soy sauce goes with everything! The only problem is the herbicide. It makes me cough and some of my other plants have died from it.

Dwarf 7:

*(to himself)* Something smells fishy to me. *(the rest eat with gusto)*

***Black out***

**Scene 8** (*in the palace*)

Queen:

Well, I feel better so I must look better, too.

Mirror, Mirror that I see,  
Today, who might the fairest be?

Mirror:

You, my Queen, are fair I say, but Snow White grows prettier day by day.

Queen:

But how?

Mirror:

Your soybeans are a good source of protein. She and the dwarves are all healthy.

Queen:

Damn! The ‘green’ propaganda said that all GMO was bad for humans and bad for the Earth. She should have become sick by now. I’ll have to try again.  
*Black out.*

(*in the woods at the hut’s garden*)

Queen:

Well young lady, your garden looks quite good, but a little dry. How do you like the soybean?

Snow White:

We like it very much. But not the spray. It makes me dizzy.

Queen:

Never mind. I have another new crop, draught resistant corn—it grows in dry conditions.

Snow White:

That sounds practical. I’m afraid next year will be even drier.

Queen:

You might not even have the river to rely on.

Snow White:

Oh don’t say that. Give me the corn. My ‘family’ might like to eat Mexican food since we’ve been eating Chinese for so long.

Queen:

You can try some East-West fusion. Bye Bye. (*she laughs and leaves. Snow White plants the corn and it grows magically tall*)  
*Black out.*

(*dwarves sit around the dinner table*)

Dwarf 1:

I do love sweet corn on the cob.

And fresh tortillas. Dwarf 2:

Enchiladas and tacos. Dwarf 3:

Burritos and tamales. Dwarf 4:

All fried in corn oil. Dwarf 5:

With corn soup. Dwarf 6:

And corn syrup sweetens everything. Snow White:

Something smells a little fishy. I don't like it. Dwarf 7:

With so much soy and corn, Snow White, you could feed it to pigs and chickens. Dwarf 3:

I've only got two hands. Snow White:

Yeah, don't work so hard; you're losing your looks. Dwarf 3:

Thanks. Snow White:

***Black out***

### **Scene 9** *(in the palace)*

Queen:  
Mirror, Mirror on the wall, am I the fairest or do you want to fall?

Mirror:  
You are, my Queen, long may you stare, but hard-working Snow White is still more fair, except she's too tan to be called Snow White.

Queen:  
How about Dirt Brown?

Mirror:  
Very funny. Snow White still beats you for inner beauty.

Queen:  
Mirrors can't see inner beauty.

I can. Mirror:

I have the perfect gift for the girl. *(smiles)* Queen:

I don't like your smile. It makes your make-up crack. Mirror:

Beware the cracks in your own face. Queen:  
***Black out***

*(in the woods, at the hut)*

Oh dear, your garden looks terrible. Queen:

All the vegetables have died. Only the corn and soy grow. I'm just tired all the time. Snow White:

Take a break. *(hands her an apple)* Queen:

What a lovely apple. It looks so crisp and juicy. Snow White:

Try it. Queen:

How do I know it's not poisoned? Snow White:

Why would I give you a poisoned apple? Queen:

I don't know. It happens. Snow White:

I'll take a bite first. *(bites)* There! Convinced? Queen:

Yes. *(bites)* Oh, it's delicious. Snow White;

Don't eat so fast. Queen:

I'm afraid it'll turn brown. Snow White:

No, my dear. This GMO apple never browns, always fresh. Queen:

Snow White:

Really? *(she gobbles it, chokes, and falls down)*

Queen:

*(surprised)* That was fast! *(laughs)* Finally! My GMO apple killed you. *(exits)*

*(Dwarves enter singing)*

Dwarf 1:

Look, Snow White is napping on the job.

Dwarf 2:

Why didn't she go inside? She has her own bed now.

Dwarf 3:

She's been getting lazy.

Dwarf 4:

No, she's just tired. The garden requires more work.

Dwarf 5:

I don't think she's asleep.

Dwarf 6:

Has she fainted?

Dwarf 7:

Something's fishy around here.

Dwarf 1:

She's not breathing. She's dead!

All:

No!

Dwarf 6:

Here's an apple core. I can't believe she fell for the old "poisoned apple trick."

Dwarf 1:

We told her to beware the Queen.

***Black out***

## **Scene 10**

*(in the palace)*

Queen:

Well Mirror, your duty is almost done. Tell me now who has won.

Mirror:

You, my Queen are fair indeed, but even in death Snow White exceeds.

Queen:  
What?

Mirror:  
They've put her in a glass case.

Queen:  
Damn! She might lie like that forever; her body is so well preserved with modified genes.  
**Black out**

*(the Prince comes with two servants)*

Servant 1:  
Sire, we're supposed to be hunting, not picking flowers.

Prince:  
*(picking flowers)* The wildflowers are so pretty. Alas, I have no love to give them to.

Servant 2:  
I'm sure she'd rather have a duck to eat. I know I would.

Prince:  
Look, there's a cottage. I'm sure we'll get lunch there. Oh, an apple tree. The blossoms are so lovely, so fragrant.

Servant 2:  
Don't stop now, I can smell something more delicious inside.

Prince:  
*(he sees Snow White)* What's this precious fallen flower?

Servant 1:  
I'm sure they've started eating inside.

Prince:  
Oh beautiful girl, why do you sleep under this glass case?

Servant 1:  
She's already had lunch and is taking her noon nap. Uh oh!

Dwarf 1:  
*(coming out)* What are you doing here?

Dwarf 2:  
Stay away from that case.

Prince:  
I am the Prince. I won't leave this woman. She's the love of my life.

Dwarf 3:  
You love a dead girl?

Prince:

I have a feeling she's not dead.

Dwarf 4:

So did we. That's why we put her in the glass case.

Dwarf 5:

She looks as fresh as the day we found her collapsed on the ground.

Prince:

I want to take her home to my castle.

Dwarf 1:

Only if you can wake her and get her consent.

Prince:

A kiss should solve that problem. *(they remove the cover)* With this kiss, open your eyes and say you're mine. *(kisses her)*

Dwarf 4:

Nothing happened.

Dwarf 6:

Maybe you're not a real prince.

Prince:

*(drawing his sword)* No one comes near. She's mine. I'm taking her with me.

Dwarf 2:

You can't do that!

Prince:

I'll slit the throat of anyone who tries to stop me. *(to servants)* Lift her. We return immediately.

Servant 1:

But lunch....

Prince:

Love feels no hunger but love itself.

Servant 1:

*(whispers to 2)* When we cross the bridge, I'll stumble and you drop the case into the river.

Prince:

*(hears him)* Don't get any funny ideas. I'll make you dive in and get it.

**Black out**

## Scene 11

*(At the Prince's castle)*

Prince:

*(servants place Snow White in her chamber)* You will take turns looking after her, in case she suddenly wakes up. *(goes)*

Servant 1:

He's crazy. The king and queen want a grandchild. Perhaps they'll pay us to dispose of this body.

Servant 2:

We could get the dwarves to steal her back.

Servant 1:

I'm fed up with his madness. Oh just wake up! *(he slaps her)*

Snow White:

*(she chokes and coughs up a piece of apple)* Oh, oh!

Servant 1:

Finally! *(looks at the piece of apple)* You choked on a piece of apple?

Servant 2:

That's the darnedest thing I ever seen.

Snow White:

Where am I? Where are the seven dwarves?

Servant 2:

Back in the woods. You were rescued by the Prince who is crazy for you.

Prince:

*(enters)* My dearest Snow White. I'm so happy you're awake. However, I wish you had responded better to my kiss.

Snow White:

You already kissed me...without my consent?

Prince:

Well, it was a polite form of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Snow White:

I see. Just exactly how did it go? *(they kiss)*

Prince:

Now I feel fully resuscitated. Do you agree to marry me?

Snow White:

I'm not sure. I'd better try again before deciding. *(they kiss)* Yes, now we can tell your parents. *(they go off together)*

**Black out**



## Scene 12

*(in the Prince's palace, one year later)*

Prince:

*(looking into Snow White's eyes)* My dear, I see the sadness in your eyes.

Snow White:

And I see it mirrored in yours. I know this childlessness is not natural; something must have happened to me during that long sleep.

Prince:

Perhaps it's my fault...

Snow White:

No, the servants used to say something about my name...

Prince:

What? Try to remember.

Snow White:

*(picks up her sewing)* My mother was sewing near the open window. She accidentally pricked her finger. *(pricks her finger)* Ouch! Her blood fell on the snow. She stared at it and said, I wish for a child as white as snow, as red as blood, as black as the raven sitting in the tree. *(cawing of a raven outside, she faints)*

Prince:

My darling, what's happened?

Snow White:

I felt something stir inside me.

***Black out***

## Scene 13

*(in the Queen's room)*

Queen:

Their wedding was months ago, why wasn't I invited?

Mirror:

Maybe because you tried to kill her.

Queen:

Yes, perhaps.

Mirror, Mirror, my wise sage,  
am I not remarkably good-looking for my age?

Mirror:

So what? You're beautiful....and lonely.

Queen:

Well, that's better than *ugly* and lonely. Snow White is also lonely without a child.

Mirror:

She's pregnant.

Queen:

No! I don't believe it! So all the fear about GMO crops affecting human fertility was a lie. *(phone rings)* What! *(puts phone down)* Snow White has *already* given birth to a girl. She wants me to come. No one will believe I'm the child's *grandmother*.

**Black out**

*(Queen goes to Snow White's palace)*

Queen:

My dear Daughter, thank you for inviting me. Before I see the child, I want to beg your forgiveness. *(she kneels)*

Snow White:

*(angry, holding her baby)* Get up, and beg your granddaughter's forgiveness. Like you, I prayed for a child as white as snow, red as blood, as black as a raven feather, and this is what I got! *(thrusts the child at the Queen)* Red skin, white hair, and horrible black lips. You made this GMO monster. Look into her eyes and see yourself. And now, you will be her servant for as long as you both shall live. *(She forces the child into the arms of the Queen, who then dances with it, in agony with macabre grotesque movements.)*

**The End**