

Act One

Scene Five

(The castle ballroom. QUEEN ETHEL and her daughters, Princess BAMBIE LOU and PRINCESS BRANDIE SUE, are having a disagreement.)

QUEEN ETHEL: Brandie Sue, Bambie Lou, I've had just about enough from you two. One of you must enter the contest for Prince Norman's hand in marriage.

BRANDIE SUE: Like one of us would want to be married to him.

BAMBIE LOU: As if!

BRANDIE SUE: He's so, like . . .

BAMBIE LOU AND BRANDIE SUE: . . . lame.

BAMBIE LOU: And so, like . . .

BAMBIE LOU AND BRANDIE SUE: . . . BORing.

BRANDIE SUE: And old. He's got to be, like, at least 30.

BAMBIE LOU: Or even 35!

QUEEN ETHEL: I don't care if he's fifty-five. He's a prince, and he's available. One of you is going to enter the contest for his hand in marriage, or you are both grounded. For a month!

BRANDIE SUE: That's so, like, unfair!

BAMBIE LOU: Totally!

QUEEN ETHEL: So which one of you will it be? You two decide.

BAMBIE LOU: Not me. I'm, like, into a prince all right, but not that prince. Prince Douglas and I are, like, perfect together. (To BRANDIE SUE) I'll take Douglas. You take Norman. 'Kay?

BRANDIE SUE: Right! Like I'm going to agree to that! Especially when Douglas is so, like, into me.

BAMBIE LOU: He is not!

BRANDIE SUE: Is too!

BAMBIE LOU: Is not!

BRANDIE SUE: Is too!

BAMBIE LOU: Is not!

BRANDIE SUE AND BAMBIE LOU: (Together) MOTHER!

QUEEN ETHEL: All right, girls. Clearly, we are going nowhere. Let me put this in language you can understand.

(She strikes a teenage-looking pose, imitating BAMBIE LOU and BRANDIE SUE, and begins speaking like they do.) Only one of you is, like, going to be married for, like, love. The other one is going to be married for something even better.

BAMBIE LOU: Like there's something better than love!

BRANDIE SUE: As if!

QUEEN ETHEL: Love is, like, totally cool and all that, but there's something, like, way cooler, and you are going to be so into it when you, like, think it over. Let me explain . . . *(They roll their eyes)* Imagine, like, a mall? *(They perk up.)* A totally upscale mall with the most, you know, like, fabulous things available? Best of all – are you ready for this? – you can have absolutely anything you want!!! *(BAMBIE LOU and BRANDIE SUE look thrilled, just imagining such a thing.)* Anything! Because you're, like, queen!!!! You're married to the man who has become king – King of Idyllia – the richest, most powerful kingdom, for like, miles around – hundreds and thousands of miles around!

BRANDIE SUE: Wow!

BAMBIE LOU: Awesome!

QUEEN ETHEL: You get to, like, buy whatever you want. You get to, like, wear whatever you want. You are, like, the fashion trendsetter for a whole kingdom, and what you wear, everyone will want to wear.

BRANDIE SUE: Wow!!!

BAMBIE LOU: Cool!!!

QUEEN ETHEL: *(Going back to her normal style of speech)* So which is it to be for each of you: a life with Prince Norman, the future king, or a life with Prince Douglas – the prince who will remain a prince forever?

BRANDIE SUE AND BAMBIE LOU: *(Together)* PRINCE NORMAN!!

BRANDIE SUE: I get him!

BAMBIE LOU: No, I get him!

BRANDIE SUE: He's mine!

BAMBIE LOU: No, mine!

BRANDIE SUE: Mine!

BAMBIE LOU: Mine!

QUEEN ETHEL: That's better. Tell you what. Let's flip a coin to determine which one of you will try for Prince Norman's hand in marriage. Heads or tails – the winner gets Prince Norman.

BAMBIE LOU: Heads.

BRANDIE SUE: Tails.

QUEEN ETHEL: *(Flipping a coin)* Heads it is!

BAMBIE LOU: Cool! I can, like, be a queen!

QUEEN ETHEL: First you have to win the contest, dear. And it's time for the others to arrive. Look queenly!

(They stand to the side as FRANK and JUDY enter and go to a microphone.)

FRANK: Goo-ooo-ooo-ood morning, Idyllia! This is Frank and Judy, your number one favorite on-the-air source of everything you ever wanted to know that's worth knowing, coming to you, live on KDOH-FM from the royal Castle of Idyllia. It's 70 degrees this fine, sunshiny morning – a beautiful day for the royal competition, which is about to begin right here at the Royal Castle. Traffic outside is moderate, with just a bit of a delay outside the moat bridge, due to what appears to be a lame horse in the left lane. It looks like, yes, the royal veterinarian is now on the scene.

JUDY: Good. It doesn't look like there are going to be any further delays here. *(“Musical Flourish/KDOH Theme” [#14] plays.)* I see the royal family arriving now and sitting down.

(As she speaks, KING STANLEY, QUEEN LUDMILLA, PRINCE DOUGLAS, PRINCE NORMAN, CHAMELEONS