

Catherine Diamond

Snow White and the Apple's Revenge

Cast

Queen

Mirror

Snow White

Marbete, a hunter

Dwarves 1-7

Prince

Servant 1

Servant 2

Grandchild (could be a doll or puppet)

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 2

(One year later. Queen 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 the 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 do you say?

Mirror Nothing, nothing. *Black out.*

(15 years later)

Snow 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 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 Really?

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

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

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

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

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 3

(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 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 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 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 4

(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! *(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.

Mirror She's still alive.

Queen That hunter betrayed me. I'll kill him!

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

Black out

Scene 5

(in the woods)

Snow 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)

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

(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 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 Well, I can grow vegetables and medicinal plants. I could cure that sneezing.

Dwarf 6 And this cut?

Snow Yes.

Dwarf 1 Grow tomatoes?

Snow Yes.

Dwarf 4 Cucumbers and carrots?

Snow Yes.

Dwarf 7 Snow peas and radishes?

Snow Most certainly.

Dwarf 6 How about this blister?

Snow I can heal it.

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 *(mutters)* 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 works in the garden and grows many 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

(at the hut in the woods; Snow White is working in the garden. Dirt smudges on her face)

Queen Ah my dear, what a lovely garden.

Snow Yes, I enjoy it.

Queen But if it doesn't rain...

Snow Then I must carry water from the river...

Queen Or if it rains too soon...

Snow Then I must put up a cover.

Queen Or if the frost comes too early...

Snow Then I must light a fire.

Queen The seasons become more uncertain.

Snow 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 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 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 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.

(sitting at the table for dinner)

Snow 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.

Dwarf 4 I like mine soft with ginger.

Dwarf 5 I like red bean *dou hua*.

Dwarf 6 I like the soy fake meat.

Dwarf 7 I like hot *dou jiang* for breakfast.

Dwarf 1 I like munching salted soybeans as a snack.

Snow 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! I read the ‘green’ propaganda. It 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)

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

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

Queen You might not even have the river to rely on.

Snow 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.

Dwarf 2 And fresh tortillas.

Dwarf 3 Enchiladas and tacos.

Dwarf 4 Burritos and tamales.

Dwarf 5 All fried in corn oil.

Dwarf 6 With corn soup.

Snow And corn syrup sweetens everything.

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

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

Snow I've only got two hands.

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

Snow Thanks.

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.

Mirror I can.

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

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

Queen Beware the cracks in your own face.
Black out

(in the woods, at the hut)

Queen Oh dear, your garden looks terrible.

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

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

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

Queen Try it.

Snow How do I know it's not poisoned?

Queen Why would I give you a poisoned apple?

Snow I don't know. It happens.

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

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

Queen Don't eat so fast.

Snow I'm afraid it'll turn brown.

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

Snow 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 *(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 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 You already kissed me...without my consent?

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

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

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

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

Prince What? Try to remember.

Snow *(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 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 *(angry)* 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! *(pulls back curtain)* 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. *(Old Queen takes the child and dances in agony with macabre grotesque movements.)*

The End