



Prince Charming

Visual Story



A visual resource for children and adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

This resource is intended to help prepare any visitors for a new experience and to help them to become familiar with the show, surroundings and situation.

The Show

The show lasts for approx. 50 mins and does not have an interval.

There are 2 performers in the show and two characters. The Prince is a puppet and Gomo is played by a performer. The other performer is a puppeteer for the Prince.

The show has recorded music and songs.

Synopsis

Fine today ... can't get out of bed tomorrow. That was three months ago. I've been in these pants ever since.

It's a lot of pressure being Prince Charming. There's all those dragons to fight and kingdoms to save, not to mention being charming all the time. It's enough to make anyone a little worried.

Holed up in his bed, Prince Charming is making a list of his worries – from being struck by lightning or getting stuck in quicksand to the problem of his unfortunate name. Somebody needs to come to our Prince's rescue.

This new musical is funny, endearing and suitable for anyone who's ever felt a bit anxious.



Characters

Prince Charming is a puppet. The other character is Gomo,



Prince Charming



Gomo



The Puppeteer

The Show

In this section special alerts are written in blue ink.

Note: Strobe lighting is used in this production for the lightning.



When you enter the auditorium this is how the stage is set. Regal music plays.

When its time for the show to start the lights dim and music plays.

There is a loud knock on the door and Gomo comes in from the back of the theatre down the aisle. Gomo wants the Prince to get out of bed but he doesn't want to get up.



Each time the Prince tells Gomo to come back 'tomorrow' there is a tik-tok sound of a clock and a ping. The lights go out and come back on again to signify the next day. This happens three times. During the third time Gomo goes back up the aisle and is about to leave, but then finally Prince Charming admits to Gomo that he can't get out of bed because he is too worried.



Gomo asks the Prince what he is worried about and blurts out very quickly—*The Dark, Being Struck by Lightning, The Problem of My Name, The Bermuda Triangle, The Question of my Existence, Quicksand and The Last Day*.

Gomo has a think and decides to try and tackle one worry at a time.

The Prince is scared of the dark so Gomo quickly turns off the lights and it is dark. The Prince screams loudly and the lights come back on again. Gomo turns the lights off and on again 4 times and every time it is dark the Prince screams.

Gomo decides that they will have to come back to that problem later.

Gomo asks the Prince about being scared of lightning. Prince Charming describes how he feels during a storm.

Suddenly there is a flash of lightning (strobe light) and crash of thunder.

The Prince puts on his anti-lightning hat. He also has one for Gomo.

There are 5 more flashes of light and crashes of thunder. The Prince shouts and panics.

As the Prince panics Gomo asks him. 'What's the worst that can happen?' and the Prince sings a song about everything that might happen in a thunder and lightning storm. Gomo sings about ideas of things he can do to help the situation. There are some rumbles of thunder and lightning flashes during the song.



Gomo asks the Prince to picture a place full of light that will make him feel happy.

The lights change and become brighter, They are on a beach!

Gomo gives the Prince some sunglasses to wear.

Soothing tropical music plays and we can hear the sound of seagulls and waves lapping on the beach.



The Prince tells Gomo that when he was doing Dragon slaying training he decided that the world was very dangerous. He decided that he would not leave his bedroom and go anywhere else, especially the Bermuda Triangle!

The neon 'Bermuda' sign in the background flashes and crackles and lights up!



Gomo points to the sign. The Prince realises he has imagined himself in the Bermuda Triangle! He starts to worry—And then he worries even more when Gomo points out that his feet have disappeared. He is sinking in quicksand! One of his other fears!

They shout Quicksand! And Help! Help! As the Prince starts to sink.

Gomo tries to advise the Prince—She's planted helpful notes for him—The final one is helpful—Think!



The Prince thinks and remembers that he has read about how to escape from quicksand. He sings a song and follows the advice he read, while Gomo also sings about not being much help. He frees himself from the sand with a weeeeeeee! He is pleased with himself for dealing with it so well. Gomo is not happy with herself because she couldn't help. The Prince reassures her that adults can't be at everything!

Gomo wants to go and celebrate and find some other children to play with, but the Prince is too nervous to speak to anyone else.



Gomo pretends to be a little girl called Pearl, so that the Prince can practice talking to other children. After some practice the Prince is able to relax, and by using another name instead of Prince Charming the pressure is taken off him.

Gomo feels better that she is getting through the list of things that the Prince is worried about.

She lists each one and says 'tick!' after each worry. The Prince is getting annoyed and shouts 'don't say tick!'

It gradually gets darker. Gomo thinks they should set up camp. The Prince is worried about the dark. He reminds Gomo what happened when the lights went out and screams as he did before.

As it gets darker all we can see is a glow as Gomo sings to the Prince about how magical the dark can be.



During the song Gomo throws light into the air and lights above the audience gradually turn on to represent the stars. The stars glow on and off gently as they sparkle in the sky.

When the song ends The Prince asks how Gomo was able to turn the stars on.



The Prince is shocked to hear that he is in a Fairy tale! He is even more upset as he feels like his character isn't as important as some others. He's just a generic Prince who doesn't even have a Fairy tale of his own.

Gomo tells the Prince that he does have his own play though!

To convince him he asks for the house lights to come on. When they do the Prince screams when he sees the audience!

Before the Prince has time to get over the shock of finding out he is in a play Gomo tells him that he is also a puppet!

When his puppeteer introduces herself to him he moans ugh, ugh ugh! The Prince does not take this news well! He faints! The Prince is put back to bed in shock.

The house lights go off and the theatre lights come back on.

The prince wakes up. He thinks he must have been dreaming, but then he realises it's not a dream. He screams 'I'm a puppet!'

Gomo convinces him to calm down and that he isn't the only one with worries. The Prince sings a song about not being special. He realises that everyone has worries, not just him. He is not alone!



The Prince realises that he doesn't really know who Gomo is. He thought she must be a servant in the castle. Gomo tells him that she is actually his Fairy Godmother! She opens her jacket to reveal her wings! **Mirror ball lights sparkle around the theatre.**

She tells Gomo that today is the last day! He is upset that he hasn't done everything he wants to do. Gomo tells him that it isn't actually THE last day—It's the last day that he is going to worry about anything!

The Prince is so relieved and excited that he decides he wants to go forth.

The lights dim with a spotlight on the Prince and music plays, and in slow motion the Prince leaps forward. He reaches the edge of the stage and suddenly stops. The music stops! Gomo realises he has the power to make it stop! This gives him the confidence to go forth!

The Prince asks if Gomo will be his puppeteer. She is excited to do it. The Prince climbs and dances with confidence as Gomo enjoys being a puppeteer. **They step off the stage and walk up the aisle of the theatre through the audience.** The Prince says hello to audience members. He is going forth out into the world without fear!



The Prince and the performers go out into the theatre foyer, then we hear their voices as they remember that at the end of a play you need to take a bow! They come back into the theatre and take a bow. You can clap if you want to. It is time for the Prince to go forth. They push open the back doors of the theatre and go out into the street. The doors close behind them.

Music plays and the mirror ball sends light spinning around the theatre as the audience leaves.

This is the end of the show, we hope you enjoyed it.