

# Cinderella: old and new



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Compare and Contrast " Cinderella" old and new Majority of this world's population has had at least one encounter with a fairy tale whether it is movie or book. Fairy tales are intended to build confidence, self-esteem and hope for brighter futures. The story, "Cinderella" by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm and Walt Disney's animated version of " Cinderella" have some differences whereas the internal values remain the same marriage, prosperity and happiness despite lives triumph will come to those who are pure at heart. Both authors display good conquers evil through symbolism, characterization, and audience. Now, characterization for both " Cinderella" tales have the protagonist, Cinderella good, hard working, and kindhearted in which the antagonist, the evil stepmother a mean jealous out of control villain. The protagonist and antagonist support theme based on their attitudes towards each other throughout both versions of " Cinderella". Grimm's characterization of Cinderella has her committed to going to her mothers grave to cry and pray. This is important because in the beginning her mother on her death bed calls for her and says " Dear child, if you are good and say your prayer's faithfully, our dear Lord will always help you, and I shall look down from heaven and always be with you"(Grimm 115-116). These words of wisdom stay with her. Disney's " Cinderella" was surrounded by singing animals friends in her room. Her father and mother dies so basically she is an orphan. The only inspiration Cinderella had was her faith in her dreams.(Disney) Grimm's stepmother has a evil sense as she has influenced the father to go along with her cruelty making Cinderella a slave. She has to do all the chores and sleep on an ash bed. Disney's stepmother goes to the extent of locking Cinderella away once she realizes Prince Charming is looking for her to be his wife. Characterization in each story

differ but they share one message: good surpasses evil. Significantly, the audience for which the message or theme is formulated plays an important role for authors to keep in mind when writing a motion picture or book. Grimm's audience was for the religious, lower to middle class parents or older children with added bloody details. Life experience, culture, and society help the authors generate theme. The Grimm brothers came through struggles and triumph as growing boys, as so Cinderella in this tale. Based on history, Walt Disney produced "Cinderella" after the Great Depression during the Cold War period. Americans needed to be reminded that good can occur despite bad. Disney aims specifically to the younger aged child by adding singing animals and colorful animations. Both versions of "Cinderella" simply demonstrate to the younger generation how to have proper structure for incidents involving evil dilemmas. Also, Grimm and Disney support each story with symbolism to generate their theme. In Disney's "Cinderella" the fairy godmother gives Cinderella glass slippers to get to the ball to meet Prince Charming. The glass slippers have their significance not only by allowing the reunion of Prince Charming and Cinderella, but they represent her character: beauty, goodness, kindness, and ability to last through a rough situation. Disney's animated motion picture also includes the fairy godmother, as not in Grimm's version of their story. The fairy godmother symbolically represents an angel or faith in God and His love for true Christians' obedience. According to Matthew 4: 1-11 in the Holy Bible, "so the devil left Jesus. And then some angels came to Jesus and help him" (Bible). The fairy godmother figuratively is an angel who helps "Cinderella" during her distressed moment of her life. In the older "Cinderella" by Grimm, symbolism is shown through the evil step mother and step sisters.

Figuratively they are the harsh society and representation of how difficult or cruel the world can be to people. The world does not have sympathy for anyone and this is shown based on how the stepmother and step sisters treat Cinderella. Another symbol in the Grimm's version is the tree Cinderella planted on her mothers grave. This tree represents her dead mothers return from the dead (Grimm 122). The tree provides Cinderella with everything she needs to attend the ball. Case in point the tree is a symbol of Cinderella's belief in what her mother told her in the beginning of the story before she passed away. To conclude in the fairy tale, " Cinderella" both authors use characterization and symbolism to illustrate good conquers evil. Instead of " Cinderella" giving up hope she proved to everyone hard work pays off. Grimm and Walt have similar stories but they grab the audiences attention differently. Everyone wants a successful life from old to new time era. This story gives people hope to overcome hard battles life may bring in everyday life. Works Cited The Annotated Brothers Grimm. Ed. Maria Tatar. New York: W| W Norton & Co., 2004 Cinderella. Dir. Clyde Geronimi. Walt Disney Productions. DVD. 2006