

SNOW QUEEN

PARTS 1 & 2

AS BROADCAST

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - DAY

Camera glides over tops of snow-capped peaks. Camera zooms in on the top of one mountain: close on the Snow Queen. She is resplendent, all in white.

BEGIN MAIN TITLES.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - DAY

Musicians play music from a bandstand as people ice-skate on the lake. Amy watches from a distance. Wolfgang concludes the set to enthusiastic applause from the audience.

WOLFGANG

Thank you! Thank you! The band...

Wolfgang joins Amy and they embrace.

AMY

Mmmmm.

GERDA

Mommy, please don't go.

AMY

Don't worry, Gerda. I'll be back soon. You stay here and make sure Daddy plays all the right notes...okay?

WOLFGANG

Good bye.

Wolfgang goes back to the bandstand.

WOLFGANG (CONT'D)

All right, gentlemen!

The band starts playing in earnest. Wolfgang blows a kiss in Amy's direction--she blows one back as she exits on horseback.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Amy rides on horseback through the forest.

EXT. BANDSTAND - DAY

Wolfgang and his band are playing.

EXT. FOREST - HEAVY SNOW - DAY

Amy stops, as the snow falls harder and is blown by the wind. She hears laughing, but she doesn't know where it's coming from. Her horse rears up, nervously. Inter-cuts show the Snow Queen's face.

AMY

It's all right, Sultan...there's nothing to fear. It's just a little wind. It's all right...it's all right.

Sultan continues to react...to something.

EXT. BANDSTAND - DAY

Wolfgang and his band are playing.

EXT. FOREST - HEAVY SNOW - DAY

Quick cuts of the Snow Queen's face as a heavy, snow-laden branch falls in front of Amy--she falls.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - BANDSTAND - DAY

Wolfgang and his band play enthusiastically until Wolfgang suddenly stops. Amy's horse has returned...without Amy. Everyone pauses...with a sense of forboding.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Wolfgang and all the townspeople search for Amy.

WOLFGANG

Amy! Amy! Amy!

Wolfgang rushes forward. He thinks he's seen something.

WOLFGANG (CONT'D)

Amy!

But it turns out to be nothing.

MAYOR

We have to give up the search for tonight, Wolfgang. Otherwise someone else is going to be lost.

WOLFGANG

No...no! I'll not leave her here! Go home! Go home! Take the child home with you. Everybody go home! I'll not leave her here!

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

The townspeople return. The Mayor leads Gerda by the hand.

MINNA

Oh, Gerda...oh.

(to the Mayor)

Thank you.

Come on...let's get you inside to get you warm.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

END MAIN TITLES.

MINNA

Thank you for all your help, gentlemen.

MEN'S VOICES

Oh of course.

You're welcome!

MINNA

I'm sure Wolfgang will find her.

MEN'S VOICES

He will.

EXT. FOREST -DAY

The townspeople have resumed their search.

VOICES

Amy! Amy!

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - DAY

Gerda runs down the steps of the hotel.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wolfgang awakens from a night spent in the forest. He is exhausted.

WOLFGANG

(hoarsely)

Amy! Amy!

Another angle: Gerda is running through the woods.

GERDA

Mommy! Mommy! Mommy!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Another angle, on Wolfgang.

WOLFGANG

Amy!

On Gerda.

GERDA

Mommy!

Gerda stops...she sees a group of men, with their back toward her...staring at something. Gerda pushes through. It is Amy, lying motionless in the snow.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Mommy?

Wolfgang comes running from another direction. A rose brooch lies in the snow next to Amy.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALCONY - NIGHT

Gerda stands silently.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - NIGHT

Gerda walks down the stairs to the lobby, where she finds Wolfgang alone, spending another sleepless night. Gerda walks back up the stairs.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - NIGHT - LATER

Gerda comes down in her nightgown. Wolfgang sits alone by the fire.

GERDA

Good night, Daddy.

Wolfgang doesn't answer. Gerda walks away.

NINE YEARS LATER

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NINE YEARS LATER

Now a beautiful young woman, Gerda brings her father a morning cup of coffee. It is almost as if Wolfgang has never left his seat by the fireplace. Only now there is no fire lit.

GERDA

Good morning, Daddy.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - DAY

Establishing shot.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

WOLFGANG

Kai, your hours will be from dawn until the last guest to bed. If my guests decide to stay up all night, so shall you. When I summon you, you will be here before this bell...

(hits bell)

...stops ringing. No matter where you are, no matter what you are doing...do you understand?

KAI

Yes, sir.

WOLFGANG

Kai, tardiness, in any shape or form, will not be tolerated. Do you understand?

KAI

I understand, sir.

WOLFGANG

I thought you were supposed to be here yesterday.

KAI

Oh...uh...well, I had no money for the coach, sir so I had to walk over the mountains.

WOLFGANG

Why are you smiling?

KAI

Uh, I'm just pleased to be here, sir.

INT. KAI'S BEDROOM - DAY

Kai rummages about the room, pulling down cobwebs. He pauses to look out the window, and sees Gerda.

EXT. ROOFTOP GARDEN - DAY

Gerda sits, pruning her roses. She is not aware that Kai is watching her.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY

Wolfgang is furiously pounding his bell.

WOLFGANG
Bellboy! Bellboy!

Kai comes down the stairs, buttoning his uniform.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - DAY

Kai moves toward a carriage that has just arrived.

KAI
Good day, sir!

INT. / EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Various scenes of Kai working in the hotel.

WOLFGANG
(ringing bell)
Bellboy!

Kai watches as Gerda passes by, reading her book. On his look, she hurries up the stairs, out of sight.

INT. KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

An exhausted Kai enters his room. He lies on his bed with a deep sigh. He looks out his window, into Gerda's room. Wolfgang enters.

GERDA (O.S.)
Good night, Daddy.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - STAIRWAY

Gerda meets Kai on the stairs.

KAI
I'm Kai.

GERDA
Yes, I know.

After an awkward silence, Gerda passes by him, without another word.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALLROOM - DAY

Kai waxes the parquet floor on his hands and knees. Gerda trims some flowers, as Wolfgang works.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Suddenly, Kai ties some rags on his feet, and he starts skating across the freshly waxed floor. Gerda finally laughs, but then Wolfgang gets up and sees what he's up to.

WOLFGANG

Not acceptable. Not in the White Bear Hotel. Do it in the proper way.

KAI

Yes, Mr. Hunt.

EXT. STREET, OUTSIDE OF HOTEL - NIGHT

Kai is struggling with two heavy buckets as he notices Gerda approaching.

MEN ON STREET

Hello, Gerda.

Kai hurries out of sight. Gerda pauses to look in a store window. Kai pretends to just come upon her.

KAI

Oh, hello!

GERDA

Look at those! Aren't they beautiful?

Kai joins her at the window. Gerda is admiring a beautiful pair of ladies boots.

KAI

They're gorgeous. Why don't you buy them?

GERDA

Oh, I don't need them. I was just admiring them.

KAI

Hey, look, it's the first snow. I hope it settles.

Gerda starts to walk away.

KAI (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

GERDA

Nothing. I just hate winter, that's all.

Kai watches as Gerda walks away.

EXT. STREET - WINTER - DAY

Everything is covered in snow.

PRETZEL VENDOR

Pretzels! Hot pretzels! Best pretzels
in town.

The children pelt the pretzel vendor with snowballs. Gerda watches the action from the veranda of the hotel. Kai watches her from down below. Minna comes up behind Kai and surprises him.

MINNA

I think she likes you.

KAI

I uh...I...

MINNA

It's all right, Kai. You and Gerda would make a splendid couple.

KAI

I'll tell her father that.

MINNA

Ah, he'll come around. You know he's been unhappy for so long, he's bound to sooner or later.

KAI

Minna, why is it that Gerda hates the winter so much?

MINNA

It took her Mother's life, and her Father's joy. All in one night.

INT. HOTEL - KITCHEN -DAY

Gerda and Minna are working in the kitchen.

MINNA

What are you going to do for your eighteenth birthday?

Gerda doesn't answer.

MINNA (CONT'D)

Your father would let you have a party, you know, if you asked him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

Do you think so?

MINNA

I'll tell him he has to. Been far too long since we've had a party here. And you can invite your boyfriend.

GERDA

He's not my boyfriend.

MINNA

Your mother used to look at me like that...and she couldn't lie about her feelings, either. Did I put pepper in this already?

GERDA

Twice at least.

MINNA

Oh!

(pause)

Gerda...why don't you wear your mother's rose brooch? She'd want you to. Do you remember how it was always warm to the touch, when you were a child? She made it magic.

GERDA

I know why it was warm. She used to put it on the stove before she kissed me good night.

MINNA

No! It was magic! And it's not meant to sit in a drawer.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM -- NIGHT

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gerda pulls the brooch out from inside a drawer. She holds it up to the window.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kai holds a coin up to the window.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NEXT DAY

Kai comes down the stairs with a basket. He see's a note on a bench, with a red rose. He hides the rose inside the bench.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - WORK ROOM - DAY

Kai polishes shoes.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KITCHEN - DAY

Minna cooks as Kai polishes shoes.

MINNA

So, how are you liking it here, Kai?

KAI

Well, let me see. Apart from twenty-hour work days, the endless lifting of heavy luggage, the chopping of raw cord firewood, the hauling of heavy laundry, and of course, the cleaning of endless muddy boots...I like it just fine.

WOLFGANG (O.S.)

Bellboy!

MINNA

Sounds like he's coming this way...you better scoot!

WOLFGANG (O.S.)

Where's that bellboy?

MINNA

Kai!

WOLFGANG

Minna! You see that bellboy? The guests are asking for their boots.

MINNA

No...I haven't seen him lately. Although I suspect the boots will be here soon enough. Nice and clean.

WOLFGANG

Minna...you should check that stew. It does not smell up to your usual standards.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MINNA

Likely it just needs a little bit of seasoning...

As Wolfgang moves to open the lid, she almost smashes it on his hand.

MINNA (CONT'D)

Ah! I'll see to it.
Wolfgang...you know, he's not a bad boy.

WOLFGANG

Meaning?

MINNA

Haven't you seen the way he and Gerda look at each other?

WOLFGANG

What?

MINNA

And why shouldn't he? He's a nice young man, and she's a most attractive girl.

WOLFGANG

She's a...

MINNA

(cutting him off)
...a young woman.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY -DAY

Wolfgang watches Kai from the lobby desk.

WOLFGANG

Bellboy!

KAI

Yes sir?

WOLFGANG

What do you know about that?

Wolfgang points to the hotel's stuffed bear. It now sports a striped muffler.

KAI

Ah, nothing, sir.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - NIGHT

Establishing shot.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gerda sits up in bed. The howling wind is unsettling.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kai is also restless.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gerda looks out the window. The swirling snow takes the shape of the Snow Queen.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kai is mesmerized. The Snow Queen is beckoning to him.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gerda can see what is happening. She pounds on the window, trying to get his attention.

GERDA

No! No! No!

The Snow Queen seems to beckon her, now.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING

Gerda awakens to the sound of peeling bells. It was all a dream...or was it?

EXT. STREET, OUTSIDE OF HOTEL - DAY

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

KAI

Oh, Gerda. Uh, listen, do you want to come skating with me after work tonight?

GERDA

No. I'm not really any good.

KAI

Well, I can teach you.

GERDA

I don't skate anymore.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI

Why not?

GERDA

I told you...I don't like winter.

Kai takes her hand and takes her over to a desk. He blows on the calendar pages until they read March 18.

KAI

There you are...winter's finished. As far as we're concerned, it's already Spring.

GERDA

So, if I step outside, there will be daffodils everywhere and all the snow'll be gone?

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

Kai waits for Gerda to arrive at the lake. Finally, she arrives.

GERDA

Didn't you promise me daffodils?

KAI

Oh, they're out there. They're just, uh, just a little shy, that's all. Maybe if you come skating with me, they'll come out.

GERDA

I'm warning you...I'm not very good. I haven't been on skates in years.

KAI

You'll be fine. Come on, try it. It's easy. Come on...hey, maybe one little spin is all it'll take for the daffodils to come up.

GERDA

Well, if the daffodils insist...

Gerda tries a spin, but falls immediately

KAI

Are you all right?

GERDA

I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI

I'm sorry...it's my fault.

GERDA

Really, Kai, it's all right.

KAI

Are you sure?

GERDA

I just don't want to do any more spins.

KAI

All right, agreed then. No more spins.

Kai and Gerda skate hand in hand further onto the lake. Gerda and Kai fall down together. He helps her up.

KAI (CONT'D)

Are you all right?

Gerda and Kai keep skating. Various (low-level) ad-libs under song.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - DAY

Kai is shoveling snow. Gerda approaches.

KAI

You know, for someone who can't skate, you were pretty impressive. And the prettiest girl on the whole lake.

GERDA

I was the only girl on the whole lake. Which, I'd like to point out, was entirely devoid of daffodils.

KAI

They're still just a little unsure about you, that's all. Although...

Kai is interrupted by Wolfgang's bellowing:

WOLFGANG

Bellboy! Bellboy!

Kai runs toward the hotel.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

Gerda and Kai are skating again. As they skate happily together, a mysterious, swirling cloud circles above the lake.

EXT. STREET, OUTSIDE OF HOTEL - DAY

Gerda and Kai are walking together.

GERDA
I'm going to get some chestnuts.

CHESTNUT VENDOR
That's fine, thank you.

GERDA
(to Kai)
What?

KAI
You're nice...

GERDA
Duck!

Kai is pelted by a snowball.

GERDA (CONT'D)
You were saying?

KAI
Well, I was about to say, I think you should give winter a second chance, although now I'm not so sure.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

Gerda and Kai are skating like experts now. Kai pulls Gerda into a snowdrift. She playfully pelts him with handfuls of snow.

GERDA
I bet you used to do this a lot with all the other girls...on the other side of the mountain.

KAI
I did...but they were my sisters. My parents died when I was quite young, so...so it was up to me to entertain my sisters.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

Your sisters were very lucky.

KAI

Listen, I know your father doesn't think
I'm good enough for you but...

(they kiss)

I love you, Gerda.

Just as Gerda starts to respond, the lake surface starts to swirl in an ominous way. A howling gust of wind and snow engulfs them.

GERDA

We better get back.

KAI

It's just snow. It can't hurt us.

No sooner are the words out of his mouth, when something hits him in the eye.

GERDA

Kai! Kai, are you all right?

KAI

I've got something in my eye.

GERDA

Let me see it...Kai...

KAI

I'm fine...it's gone now.

GERDA

Let me look, it's all bloodshot! Let me see...

KAI

(with anger)

Leave me alone! I'm not a baby!

Gerda is shocked by his response.

KAI (CONT'D)

I'm sorry...it just...it just stings,
that's all. It's gone now. I'm
fine...it was just a piece of ice.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Kai strides ahead of Gerda. She almost has to struggle to keep up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI

All right, I think you should go on alone, now.

GERDA

What?

KAI

I'm just thinking of you. You don't want to have to explain to your father when he sees us together, do you?

GERDA

But, Kai...

KAI

Not yet, anyway. Just go on ahead of me. It's for the best...go on.

GERDA

If you think so.

Gerda walks back to the hotel. Kai hangs back, staring at himself in a store window.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM

Kai stares at himself in his mirror.

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

The Mayor and his wife walk down the sidewalk. Suddenly, a great mass of snow cascades off a roof and lands squarely on them. Kai appears from around a corner and hurls a rock at a horse's bottom, sending it racing off.

MAN WITH CARRIAGE

Stop! Stop!

Gerda watches Kai suspiciously.

GERDA

What happened?

KAI

Mischief-makers, I suppose.

GERDA

Kai...the other night at the lake...

KAI

I'm sorry, Gerda...I...I don't know what happened...I just...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

It's all right. You don't need to apologize. Maybe we can go again tonight. I could use another lesson from a certain handsome instructor I know?

Kai turns his back and walks away from her.

KAI

(cruelly)

Well, he better be a skilled teacher because, frankly, your skating is hopeless. And graceless.

Gerda is left in a stunned silence.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai is a changed person. He checks his countenance in a mirror in the lobby.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gerda opens her window and looks into Kai's room.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kai is sitting in the window.

KAI

Amazing things, snowflakes. There isn't a fault in them...they're perfect. If only they didn't melt.

GERDA

Why don't you close the window? It's freezing.

Kai continues, as if he didn't hear her.

KAI

Have you ever been cut?

GERDA

What?

KAI

With something really sharp. Like a blade...like a knife...like a horrible piece of ice. Have you ever been cut?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

I don't know you anymore, Kai. What happened?

Gerda closes her window as Kai continues to stare at the snowflakes in his hand.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KITCHEN - DAY

Minna puts the finishing touches on Gerda's birthday cake as Gerda watches.

GERDA

I don't know what I've done wrong. What have I done to make him dislike me?

MINNA

Ask him.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - DAY

Kai is skating by himself.

GERDA

Why have you become like this? Why are you being so horrible? It's as if you're determined to turn everyone against you.

KAI

They're already against me. Your father treats me like a slave.

GERDA

He respects you, I know he does...

KAI

Yeah, and one day he's going to let me run the hotel, right? I don't think so.

GERDA

It's not like that. Maybe if you were to stick with the job...

Kai skates up to her, holding his face just inches from hers.

KAI

Hey, Gerda, I have an idea. Why don't we follow the mountains up north. Just you, and me...skating and skating and skating and skating...huh? Would you like that? We could go right now, we won't tell anybody..let's go!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

No! I want you to come back to the hotel with me before you get sacked!

Kai turns and skates away from her, without a word.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Kai! I don't understand! You said you loved me.

KAI

You never said you loved me.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Wolfgang is relaxing in front of the fire. The door opens with a blast of frigid air. A woman comes in, dressed elegantly, all in white. She is the Snow Queen. Wolfgang goes to greet her.

WOLFGANG

(flustered)

Oh, Madam...I...I...good afternoon. I do apologize...I, um...we weren't expecting anyone today. Do you mind if I ask you how you made it through the pass to the village, the road's been closed for days.

SNOW QUEEN

Would you be so kind to have someone fetch my bags? They're outside.

WOLFGANG

Yeah...yes...bellboy. Bellboy! Bellboy!

SNOW QUEEN

And would it be possible for me to have a room on the top floor?

WOLFGANG

Yeah...the top floor. How long will you be staying with us, madam?

SNOW QUEEN

Why? Are you expecting a rush of late-arriving guests?

WOLFGANG

No...the storm may continue for another day, I thought that perhaps you might be more comfortable in a suite.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SNOW QUEEN

The storm will be gone tomorrow.
Trust me.

Kai watches from the landing above. As the Snow Queen nears the hotel furnace, her fingertips start to drip moisture.

WOLFGANG

Would you like me to have some hot tea sent to your room?

SNOW QUEEN

No, no tea. Just a jug of iced water.

WOLFGANG

I'll have it sent straight up. Bellboy!
He's...somewhere. Kai?

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - HALLWAY - DAY

Kai pauses outside the Snow Queen's room.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - SNOW QUEEN'S ROOM - DAY

SNOW QUEEN

Well, are you going to stand outside for the rest of your life?

Kai pushes open the door and walks in.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

Do you like mirrors?

KAI

I'm sorry?

SNOW QUEEN

I was just wondering whether you knew or not. And you don't, do you?

Kai starts to light the wood-burning stove.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

KAI

I'm just light a fire for you...it's freezing.

SNOW QUEEN

Think I'm cold? Do I look cold to you?
I'm not cold. I'm not cold at all.
You've got lovely eyes.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

They're the first thing I noticed about you. How old are you?

KAI

Eighteen. I think I'm needed downstairs.

SNOW QUEEN

About a month ago there was a terrible snowstorm here. Just like today...it was a blizzard. Do you know anyone who was...how can I put this...affected by it? Anyone who changed?

KAI

I don't know what you mean.

SNOW QUEEN

for instance, have you noticed what a mean, selfish little person you've become recently? Do you know why that is?

KAI

No.

SNOW QUEEN

It's because you want something from me. You crave it more than anything else. In fact you can't stop thinking about it. Even though you don't know what it is. I'll be on the lake tonight. Why don't you come down and see me?

KAI

I can't tonight.

SNOW QUEEN

What a pity. I'm only here for one night. You like winter, don't you?

Kai starts to leave.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

Kai! Come here. I've got something for you.

She puts something in his hand. It's a coin.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - HALLWAY - DAY

Gerda sees Kai as he leaves the Snow Queen's room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA (O.S.)

Aren't you even going to wish me a happy birthday?

KAI

I'm sorry...yes, Gerda. Happy birthday.

GERDA

Thank you.

KAI

I've been awful, I know...but that's finished. Forgive me, Gerda...I'm just...I've been...sick. That's all. Sick.

GERDA

Then you'll be at my party tonight? Don't let me down. Daddy didn't want you to be there at all after the way you've been.

KAI

I'll be there...I promise.

GERDA

I'll never forgive you if you don't turn up. I mean it, Kai.

KAI

I promise.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - NIGHT

Adlibs of the local children admiring the Snow Queen's sleigh.

CHILDREN'S VOICES

Wow!

Look at it?

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kai prepares for Gerda's party, but he can't stop examining his reflection in the mirror. Suddenly, the window blows open.

SNOW QUEEN (V.O.)

You know you want to. You know you want to come.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - NIGHT

CHILDREN'S VOICES

Look at that!
Wow, I bet it goes so fast!
Wow.

The Snow Queen comes up to the sleigh.

CHILDREN'S VOICES (CONT'D)

Let's get outta here!

The Snow Queen sees Kai on the balcony. She starts up her sleigh. She knows he will come with her.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kai enters his room...and picks up his skates.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Kai encounters Gerda as he is leaving.

GERDA

I didn't want you to see my new dress,
yet. What do you think?
You're not ready! What do you have your
skates for?

KAI

Gerda...just keep these for me until
tomorrow.

GERDA

Why?

KAI

Please...just do it.

Gerda takes the skates.

GERDA

I'll see you downstairs in five minutes.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Gerda pauses to check her reflection in the mirror.

EXT. / INT. SHOE SHOP - NIGHT

The shop clerk pulls the boots out of the window.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Gerda waits for Kai.

INT. SHOE SHOP - NIGHT

Kai throws down a handful of coins.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Gerda throws open the curtains to reveal a festive setting.

VOICES

There she is!
Happy birthday, Gerda!
Doesn't she look lovely!

INT. SHOE SHOP - NIGHT

Kai leaves with the boots.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Kai stops as he sees the Snow Queen pull up in her sleigh.
Kai runs back to the hotel.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Kai's place at the table is empty. Gerda picks at her food.

GERDA

He'll be here. He promised.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Kai walks into the lobby, on the way to Gerda's party. He here's the sultry voice of the Snow Queen.

SNOW QUEEN (V.O.)

I've got what you want, Kai.

Kai scribbles a note and puts it in the shoe box. He catches a glimpse of himself in the mirror. He is like another person.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALLROOM - NIGHT

The guests sing for Gerda as her cake is carried in.

GUEST'S VOICES

*For she's a jolly good fellow
For she's a jolly good fellow
For she's a jolly good fellow*

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Kai punches his reflection in the mirror. The mirror shatters into pieces.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALLROOM - NIGHT

GUEST'S VOICES

Which nobody can deny!

Gerda blows out the candles on her cake. All the guests applaud.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

SNOW QUEEN (V.O.)

Kai...

GUEST'S VOICES (O.S.)

Happy birthday, Gerda!

Kai turns and runs out of the hotel.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALLROOM - NIGHT

WOLFGANG

Forget him!

GERDA

Something must be wrong. I have to go look for him.

WOLFGANG

Gerda...he's a foolish, selfish boy. You deserve better.

GERDA

You don't know him at all. None of you do.

WOLFGANG

Gerda!

MINNA

No...let her go.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Gerda finds the broken mirror...and the shoe box. She reads the note. Her eyes widen with fear.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Gerda rushes out into the street.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

Kai arrives at the lake. The Snow Queen is waiting for him.

KAI
(to boy on lake)
Hey, let me have your sleigh.

BOY
No.

KAI
Just give it to me.

BOY
No, I'm playing with it.

Kai punches the boy in the stomach and steals his sleigh.

KAI
Take me with you!

The Snow Queen tosses him a rope. He is pulled along by her motorized sleigh.

EXT. FROZEN WOODS - NIGHT

Gerda runs through the woods towards the lake.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

KAI
Faster!

SNOW QUEEN
How fast would you like to go?

KAI
As fast as you can go!

Gerda arrives at the lake. There is no sign of Kai.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

KAI
Faster!

Gerda turns and walks away.

EXT. FROZEN BRIDGE - NIGHT

Kai is thrown off his sleigh. The Snow Queen stands over him.

KAI

I think I've broken my arm.

SNOW QUEEN

I don't think so. You know I told you you wanted something from me, but you didn't know what it was? This is what it was.

She kisses him. He falls into a trance.

EXT. FOREST / SKY - NIGHT

Kai awakens. He is in the Snow Queen's sleigh.

SNOW QUEEN

It's all right, Kai. You can hold onto me.

They pass over a group of revelers, dancing around a bonfire.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

See! They love the winter. They embrace it.

They now fly over a small town.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

And up here, they fear the winter. They huddle away from it. Shall we teach them a lesson? I think we shall.

She sends a blast of wind and snow that blows a man over.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

(laughs)

Isn't it marvelous? Doesn't it make your blood run cold with joy?

KAI

I can't believe you just did that.

SNOW QUEEN

I can do anything I want. That's the whole point.

INT./EXT. MONTAGE SEQUENCE - VARIOUS

Various scenes dissolve into one another, depicting the change of seasons.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM

Gerda lies on her bed.

EXT. BRIDGE - EDGE OF LAKE - DAY

Men retrieve Kai's sleigh from the lake, where it has lay since the winter.

MAN #1

He always was a reckless boy. You keep taking chances and you pay the price in the end.

MAN #2

That's the truth...that's the cold hard truth.

Gerda is revealed watching from the bank.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

GERDA

He didn't die, I know it. He was with that woman. Somehow she took him.

WOLFGANG

What woman?

GERDA

She stayed here the night he disappeared.

WOLFGANG

No, the pass was closed. We didn't have any guests that night.

Gerda rushes to the guest book. There are no entries for that day.

WOLFGANG (CONT'D)

I know how much you miss him, but you must face the fact that he is dead. And I know it doesn't seem like it now, but you will come to accept it over time.

GERDA

Like you did?

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - KITCHEN - DAY

Gerda and Minna talk.

GERDA

Minna, when I talk to my father about Kai's disappearance, I can see something hidden deep in his eyes...something he's not telling me. I think you know what it is.

MINNA

It's...it's just that have been a lot of very unusual things going on in recent years. Unexplained things.

GERDA

You mean like my mother's death?

MINNA

Yes. And many others, who just disappeared.
But you know, maybe it's best that we don't talk about this.

GERDA

No, Minna. You have to tell me. Who were the people that disappeared?

MINNA

Young men, mostly. Boys. From villages all across the valley, and beyond. Most of them disappearing without a trace.

GERDA

But how? Why?

MINNA

Well, some think they were taken. Abducted.

GERDA

By whom.
Tell me!

MINNA

The Snow Queen.

GERDA

You mean, winter

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MINNA

No. Winter is merely the Snow Queen's pet.
But it's all just a myth, child. Please, promise me you won't concern yourself with it.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM -DAY

Gerda lies in bed.

EXT. CHURCH STEEPLE - DAY

Establishing shot.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM

Gerda is up and dressed. She puts on her mother's rose brooch.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

PASTOR

Brothers and sisters in Christ...this morning we are gathered to honor and to remember the life of brother Todd. And to celebrate the promise of his sure resurrection. The Lord is my shepherd...

Gerda enters the church, then leaves quickly.

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

Gerda pauses to admire some daffodils.

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

Gerda walks along the bridge and looks down to where Kai's sleigh entered the water.

GERDA

Let me have him back! I'll give you my beautiful boots if you let me have him back.

Gerda tosses the boots into the water. She climbs onto the rail of the bridge.

GERDA (CONT'D)

I'll give you myself for Kai.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Gerda falls into the water. She floats face down along with the current.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FIELD OF FLOWERS / LOWER RIVER - DAY

The Spring Witch wades into the water and grabs Gerda and pulls her to the shore.

SPRING WITCH

Come back little girl. You don't want to go yet. You don't want to go.

The Spring Witch gives Gerda a kiss.

SPRING WITCH (CONT'D)

You're not dead, my little girl, no, no, no, you are just full of water inside of you. Come on! Spit it out! Come back! Come back!

Gerda sputters to life and coughs up the water in her lungs.

SPRING WITCH (CONT'D)

What were you doing in the water?

GERDA

I threw myself in.

SPRING WITCH

Oh...good thing I was expecting you. Your boots arrived a few minutes ago.

INT. ICE HOTEL - DAY

Kai awakens and tentatively explores his new surroundings.

EXT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

The Spring Witch walks with Gerda to her house.

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

SPRING WITCH

Help yourself to the strawberries. Watch out for the juice though...remember the last time, you couldn't get them out of your dress! Threw yourself in, did you? One of those quiet, obedient girls who doesn't say anything until she screams. Oh, the world is full of them.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SPRING WITCH (CONT'D)

Sleepy girls, I call them...sleepy girls.
Do you ever find, when someone combs your
hair, you get sleepy?

GERDA

I can't stay here...I'm looking for
someone.

SPRING WITCH

Lovely hair you've got...it's so long.
And you must be so
tired...beautiful...lovely...sleepy hair.
Dropping off...very sleepy now.

Gerda starts to drop off, but catches herself.

GERDA

I can't stay here. I'm looking for
someone. Kai. Have you seen him?
Please, tell me you've seen him.

SPRING WITCH

Kai, Kai...I'm sure he'll pop by. In a
minute you'll decide you want to go to
sleep.

GERDA

I don't know where he is. But I set off
to find him because I couldn't stand
doing nothing.

SPRING WITCH

Up to bed, then! There's a good girl.

GERDA

No! I must go on.

SPRING WITCH

You must go back, before you can go on.

GERDA

No! Thank you for rescuing me, but I
have to find Kai! I can't stay here.

SPRING WITCH

As you wish! It was nice of you to stop
by, anyway. Quite nice of me to save
your life, as well. You worry too much,
sleepy girl. You're one of those girls
who takes the weight of the whole world
on her shoulders, trying to grow up too
soon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The Spring Witch is all the while turning down the covers on a bed. She manages to get Gerda to lie down on the bed.

SPRING WITCH (CONT'D)

How's the bed? Is it by any chance the softest bed you're ever been in?

GERDA

It's...it's indescribable.

SPRING WITCH

Didn't have any bedtime stories when we were a little girl, did we? My poor old sausage! Well, I'll make up for that, I promise you.

Gerda looks out the window.

GERDA

Roses? Is it that time of year, already? They remind me of something...someone.

SPRING WITCH

Do they make you think of a boy?

GERDA

I think he needed help. Someone to...

The Spring Witch throws a hard look at the roses trailing by the window. They beat a hasty retreat.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Oh, it's so hard to remember.

SPRING WITCH

You need to stop trying so hard, don't you?

GERDA

Yes, I suppose I do.

SPRING WITCH

Now, go to sleep my sweetheart...just like Mummy says.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Gerda's room is empty, and the bed has not been slept in. Minna knocks on the door.

MINNA (O.S.)

Gerda! Gerda! Time to get up.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - STAIRWAY - DAY

Minna runs down the stairs.

MINNA
Wolfgang! Wolfgang!

INT. ICE HOTEL LOBBY - DAY

Kai pulls open doors and finds a solid wall of ice. A large mirror dominates the lobby. He touches a small tower of ice crystals next to the mirror...they are sharp as glass.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR

Kai moves slowly along the hallway. The walls and floor are covered in ice.

INT. ICE HOTEL - KITCHEN - DAY

Kai throws open a door: it is an ice kitchen.

INT. ICE HOTEL -CORRIDOR - DAY

Kai slips on the icy floor.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

He finds his way back to the lobby. He is starting to panic.

INT. ICE HOTEL - STAIRWAY - DAY

He tries to climb the icy stairway.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai finds the Gerda had given him.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR - DAY

The corridor is covered in ice. Icicles hang from the ceiling. He crawls on all fours as the icicles fall and crash on the floor.

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

SPRING WITCH
Lovely girl! Such a lovely girl! You're such lovely company. That's why I like you so much. You're kind, and considerate, and you really help around the house. You are a joy to have around, really.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SPRING WITCH (CONT'D)

Look at you...smiling! You had to grow up too soon, didn't you? It must have been awful.

GERDA

Yes, it was.

SPRING WITCH

You know the best time in your life? It's when you're young, and you've got someone to take care of you night and day. It's what I call the Spring of Life.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai looks all around the room. It starts to snow. The Snow Queen appears, looking resplendent in her icy-white gown.

SNOW QUEEN

So, you're up.

KAI

Where am I?

SNOW QUEEN

Where does it look like you are? You're home. Right down to the last detail.

KAI

How long have I been asleep?

SNOW QUEEN

I don't know...I was away on business. A couple of months.

KAI

Months?

SNOW QUEEN

I'm home now...home for the summer. Did my work for the year.

KAI

I can't stay here. It's too cold.

SNOW QUEEN

Poor Kai. All change involves pain.

KAI

You don't understand. If I stay here, I'm going to freeze to death.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SNOW QUEEN

Well, then I suppose you'll die.

KAI

I want a fire...all right? Just let me get...

SNOW QUEEN

(furious)

No fire! No fire! I hate fire.

(calmer)

Kai...answer me one question. Have you ever...in your whole life...ever felt anything like that first kiss I gave you.

KAI

No.

SNOW QUEEN

No, you haven't.

(indicating the large mirror)

This...this was once the most beautiful mirror in the world. I'm sure an intelligent boy like you could put it back together quite easily. Once you put it back together, then you can go. If you still want to.

KAI

I'm not going to do anything you say. And I'm certainly not going to touch some stupid glass jigsaw.

He starts to walk away. He falls to his knees. His hands start to ice over.

SNOW QUEEN

Do you want to know what real cold is? Real cold can kill you dead. Just like that.

KAI

Stop it, please. Stop.

SNOW QUEEN

You are to stay on the ground floor. I'm a very light sleeper. And if you wake me up during the summer, I'll make you suffer.

I kissed you once and you slept for two months. Think about that. Because one kiss won't last forever, Kai.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

Sooner or later you're going to be coming to me, begging me for a second kiss.

KAI

Why should I want to kiss you again? I don't want anything from you!

SNOW QUEEN

That's what they all say...to start with.

KAI

I won't stay here!

SNOW QUEEN

You're perfectly free to leave, Kai. As soon as you find a way out.

EXT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

Establishing shot.

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - GERDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

GERDA

Mommy...can I ask you a question?

SPRING WITCH

Of course.

GERDA

When will I be old enough to leave home?

SPRING WITCH

Why would you want to leave home? What a horrible thing to say?

GERDA

I'm sorry...I just meant...

SPRING WITCH

No...no, no, no...you've really spoiled my day! You, you've really upset me! Thank you so much for ruining years of happiness with one, unnecessary comment Please, tell me you're not one of those selfish girls who only think about what she wants!

GERDA

I'm sorry.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai fishes through a hole in the ice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI

I know you're not really asleep. But I'm not going to sit here forever. Somebody is coming to look for me. And we're going to walk out of here and go home. What do you think about that?

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

Gerda is writing a note.

SPRING WITCH

Afternoon nap for you, my girl. Sleepy girl, if I'm not mistaken.

GERDA

I was wondering...how long have I been here?

SPRING WITCH

What an extraordinary question. You've been here all your life! Sleepy time, for sleepy girls. Time for your afternoon nap...time to get your beauty sleep. There you go...off to bed. Sleepy girl...

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - GERDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Gerda looks for a place to hide her note. She finds little notes everywhere in the room.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wolfgang and Minna search for Gerda.

MINNA

Gerda! Gerda!

WOLFGANG

Gerda!

MINNA

Wolfgang...just let me catch my breath.

WOLFGANG

Come on, Minna. She must be here somewhere. She knows these woods. Gerda!

MINNA

All right.

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

Gerda quietly leaves her bedroom and goes out the front door.

EXT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

Gerda falls to the ground.

GERDA

Kai...you're here. I know you're here.

Roses leap from the ground and start to wrap around her.

ROSES (V.O.)

What do you want?

GERDA

Is Kai dead?

ROSES (V.O.)

No. We've been in the earth, where the dead are, but Kai is not here. He passed here months ago. He was with the Snow Queen.

GERDA

But where have they gone?

ROSES (V.O.)

They are nowhere. She is winter, and winter has passed. Winter is elsewhere.

GERDA

But she must have taken him somewhere...where did she go?

ROSES (V.O.)

To her great palace in the north, where all hopes die. If you want to find Snow Queen, you must pass through each season before you can reach her. And unless you reach him before the winter solstice, Kai will die there too.

GERDA

No!

The roses retreat...back into the ground.

SPRING WITCH

So you're going to walk out into the darkness of the forest all on your own, a little girl with no food...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

I'm not a little girl! And I don't belong here. You know that! You can't keep me here...let me go!

SPRING WITCH

You're right. Why don't you just pop in for a minute and I'll make you a picnic...

GERDA

No! If I go back in, you will never let out! You'll see to that.

SPRING WITCH

What are you going to do when you find the Snow Queen? You can't defeat her...it's hopeless.

GERDA

How do you know?

SPRING WITCH

Because...because she's my sister. It's true, Gerda. And only I know how truly cold and ruthless she is...at her core. I watched her, year after year, clawing for more power. Her arrogance knows no bounds.

GERDA

However hopeless it is, I must find him.

SPRING WITCH

But why? Why is he worth it?

GERDA

Because he made me want to live again.

SPRING WITCH

Remember how I saved you? Never underestimate the power of a kiss.

Gerda turns and walks out the gate.

EXT. FOREST -DAY

Gerda walks through the forest.

INT. ICE HOTEL - DAY

Kai looks behind the reception desk.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda in forest.

INT. ICE HOTEL - DAY

Kai finds his skates.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda looks tired and lost.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai climbs a rope attached to the ceiling and is able to reach the second floor landing.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda in forest.

INT. ICE HOTEL - DAY

Kai has made it to the third floor. He walks along the icy corridor. He pauses in front of a door, and then opens it. It is the Snow Queen's room.

INT. ICE HOTEL - SNOW QUEEN'S ROOM - DAY

He looks down at the sleeping Snow Queen. He leans in to kiss her, but stops just short. He leaves.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

WOLFGANG

Gerda! Gerda! Gerda! Gerda! No! No!

MINNA

It's just a log, Wolfgang. It's only a log. It's all right. We'll find her. I know in my heart she's going to be fine.

WOLFGANG

I hope...

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda senses she is being followed. Suddenly she is being fired upon. She dodges the volley of bullets.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Kai pauses on the corridor. He finds the ladder that leads to the roof.

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - DAY

Kai opens a hatch, and he finds an icy world.

INT. ICE HOTEL - ATTIC CORRIDOR - DAY

Kai slips and falls down the ladder. He finds himself face to face with a polar bear. The bear knocks him cold and drags him away.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda runs for her life.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF NIGHT ONE

ROLL END CREDITS.

BEGIN NIGHT TWO

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

The polar bear drags Kai down the staircase.

POLAR BEAR

Since you seem to have forgotten the hotel rules, I'll run through them for you. Rule One: never disturb a sleeping polar bear, or you'll get a smack! Rule Two: if a polar bear is not sleeping, he is almost certainly fishing. If you disturb a fishing polar bear, you will get a smack! Rule Three: any attempts at escape will result in a smack. You got that, sonny?

KAI

Absolutely.

POLAR BEAR

Good.

INT. ICE HOTEL - SNOW QUEEN'S ROOM - DAY

The Snow Queen stirs.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR - DAY

KAI

You really hit me.

POLAR BEAR

If I really hit you, you'd be dead.

INT. ICE HOTEL - SNOW QUEEN'S ROOM - DAY

Snow Queen is still sleeping.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

The Polar Bear drags Kai in front of the huge mirror.

INT. ICE HOTEL - SNOW QUEEN'S ROOM - DAY

The Snow Queen awakens.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda runs for her life as the hunters pursue her. She comes upon a bright red box.

CHEN (O.S.)

Help! Help! Please to open the door...somebody!

GERDA

Who's in there?

CHEN (O.S.)

Hapless magician, needing urgent assistance!

Gerda opens the door.

GERDA

But you're not in there!

CHEN

Definitely in here. Box is disappearing type cabinet. Hapless magician inside. Please knock on all surfaces! Harder! Harder!

Gerda finally succeeds in opening a door. A little Chinese boy pops out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHEN (CONT'D)

Endless thanks, kind lady. Chen at your service.

GERDA

My name is Gerda. What are you doing here?

CHEN

Making way to gorgeous palace of Summer Princess full of optimism for post of conjuring entertainer for Royal court.

GERDA

Are you sure you're ready for that? You seem a little uncomfortable with the practical side...

CHEN

Exactly! Chen therefore needing beautiful and smart assistant.

GERDA

Well, I hope you find one.

CHEN

No, no, no, no! Already found! You help Chen get job in Summer Palace.

GERDA

I'd like to help you, but I have to save Kai from the Snow Queen before the Winter Solstice.

CHEN

Ah, Kai. From Snow Queen. Do you know where Snow Queen is?

GERDA

Not exactly... but I'm not going to stop looking till I've found her.

CHEN

Very good! Summer Princess will know. Snow Queen...Summer Princess...relations, got to be. You help Chen find Summer Princess, Summer Princess help you find Kai. Good deal?

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai is working on putting together the shards of ice to repair the mirror. The Polar Bear is fishing in the ice hole.

KAI
This is impossible.

POLAR BEAR
Get back to work!

KAI
Don't you ever want to get out of here?

POLAR BEAR
Why should I? This is a very good fishing spot and I have a nice, cold North-facing room, and...

KAI
And?

POLAR BEAR
And nothing. Get back to work!

KAI
All right.

POLAR BEAR
This is a very stupid way to fish. I can't believe you ever caught anything. I'm glad my father's not here to see thing. Hmrf...four hours without a fish...hmrf...hmrf...oh, what a waste.

The Polar Bear catches Kai as he tries to move out of his sight.

POLAR BEAR (CONT'D)
And you were looking for?

KAI
The way out. And why shouldn't I? You know I don't want to be here.

POLAR BEAR
You haven't finished the puzzle yet.

KAI
I don't care about the puzzle. I want to find Gerda.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

POLAR BEAR

Her Majesty wants you to finish the puzzle, and I'm here to make sure you do.

KAI

Don't you have a will of your own?

POLAR BEAR

Yes. It's to do whatever she wants.

KAI

What about what I want?

POLAR BEAR

Not really important.

The Polar Bear sticks his huge paw into the ice hole, and comes up with a fish.

POLAR BEAR (CONT'D)

Ha, ha! My way is better!
What are you looking at? Get back to work!

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Wolfgang sits alone. Minna arrives with a large tray.

MINNA

I made you a nice dinner. Oh, come now, Wolfgang...you really must eat. It's your favorite dish.

Wolfgang removes the cover from the tray, and there is his clarinet.

WOLFGANG

I...I appreciate what you are trying to do, Minna...but I don't play...anymore.

EXT. FOREST -DAY

GERDA

Have you been traveling a long way, Chen?

CHEN

Oh, very far. All available Royal palaces turning Chen down.

GERDA

You must have to practice very hard to become a good magician.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHEN

Problem with practice...Chen always getting self stuck. That's why young magician so glad to find you.

Gerda sees the beautiful Summer Palace in the distance.

CHEN (CONT'D)

Chen taking this place by storm!

GERDA

It looks very grand!

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Kai kneels before the mirror.

SNOW QUEEN

Hello, Kai. How are you settling in?

KAI

Fine, thank you.

SNOW QUEEN

Well, that's certainly progress, considering the last time we talked you were cold and miserable and wanted nothing more than to go home. How are you getting on with my mirror?

KAI

Quite well.

SNOW QUEEN

You call that "doing well", Kai?

KAI

No, ma'am.

SNOW QUEEN

What was that? I didn't quite hear you.

KAI

No, ma'am. It's hard.

SNOW QUEEN

Hard?

She grabs his ear, and it starts to freeze.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

Too difficult, Kai?

KAI

No. I should've tried harder.

SNOW QUEEN

Yes, you should. So, how should I punish you for not trying hard enough?

KAI

I'm not your prisoner.

SNOW QUEEN

Come here. Don't make me tell you again.
(indicating the marks from the
Polar Bear's attack)
Does that hurt?

KAI

What do you think?

SNOW QUEEN

Does it hurt now?

KAI

No.

SNOW QUEEN

Have you missed me, Kai? I've missed you terribly. Have you thought about me at all? Or has your mind been on that girl?

KAI

Yes...I mean, no. I mean I don't know what I mean.

SNOW QUEEN

Your hand's shaking. Why is that?
Oh...I guess it's been a while, hasn't it, since I last kissed you.
Better get busy on that mirror, Kai.
What you're feeling now is nothing, trust me. Before long you'll be climbing those stairs, desperate for another kiss.

EXT. SUMMER PALACE - NIGHT

Gerda and Chen sneak by a guard, looking for a way into the palace.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - NIGHT

Gerda and Chen enter the Palace.

GERDA

Couldn't we just tell them we're here and ask for an audition?

CHEN

Truth is, Chen already auditioned at Summer Palace. Thrown out two, three times. Only trying again because to smart and beautiful assistant. We set up now. When Summer Princess comes down in the morning, we are amazing her before she's throwing us out.

GERDA

I'm not sure how good of an idea this is, Chen.

Gerda sees shadows dancing on the walls.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Are they ghosts?

CHEN

No, no. Just dreams.

GERDA

Dreams?

CHEN

Royal dreams. None of our business. Please help find magic deck of cards.

Gerda climbs the stairs. The dancing shadows turn into roses.

GERDA

Roses...roses, talk to me about Kai.

Gerda follows the roses as they move along the wall. She wanders farther and farther into the palace until she finds the Summer Princess, asleep in her room.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - PRINCESS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Projected on the wall, like a movie is Gerda herself.

GERDA

Me! That's me!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Summer Princess awakens.

SUMMER PRINCESS
Intruders! Intruders!

CHEN
Not intruders! Chinese magician and
smart and beautiful assistant!

SUMMER PRINCESS
You again!

CHEN
This time with complete new show, all
tricks at highest perfection, and best
available back-up. We do audition now?

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Grab the intruders!

CHEN
No! Entertainers! Here for Royal
audition!

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Royal audition my foot! We've thrown you
out three times this summer!

SUMMER PRINCESS
You! It's you!

GERDA
I'm very sorry, Your Highness. I know we
shouldn't be here, but I was wondering if
you could tell me...

SUMMER PRINCESS
You're the girl! I've been dreaming
about you for months now!

GERDA
What?

SERGEANT AT ARMS
What shall I do with them, your Highness?

SUMMER PRINCESS
Do with them? Why, give them everything
they want!

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Including the conjurer, Your Highness?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SUMMER PRINCESS

(to Gerda)
Is he with you?

GERDA

Oh, yes. He's been very helpful.

SUMMER PRINCESS

Then the conjurer too.

CHEN

You will not regretting this, Your
Highness. Chen soon delighting entire
court with all his tricks.

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Kai kneels before the mirror, hard at work. Kai notices the
Polar Bear as he moves out of the room and down a corridor.
Kai follows.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Kai runs down the slippery hallway.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Kai returns to his post by the mirror just as the Polar Bear
returns.

KAI

Where were you?

POLAR BEAR

Nosy boys tend not to live too long
around here.

EXT. SUMMER PALACE - DAY

Establishing shot.

EXT. SUMMER PALACE - GROUNDS - DAY

Gerda strolls the palace grounds.

CHEN

Best news ever! Princess letting Chen do
magic show without audition, thanks to
you!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

Chen, that's wonderful! And you were right, she has promised to tell me the way to the Snow Queen's palace.

CHEN

Even more excellent news!

GERDA

All I have to do is agree to attend some ball she's giving.

CHEN

Perfect! That's where Chen's putting on show!

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai is busy working on the mirror. The Polar Bear seems lost in thought.

KAI

What are you thinking about?

POLAR BEAR

Nothing.

KAI

Come on, you can tell me. Then do you mind if I go in the luggage room to look for something?

POLAR BEAR

There's no way out from there.

KAI

I'm not looking for a way out. I'm just looking for something.

POLAR BEAR

What?

KAI

You'll see.

Kai looks among the icy suitcases. The Polar Bear appears in the doorway.

KAI (CONT'D)

Here we are!

Kai holds up his skates.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - PRINCESS' BEDROOM - DAY

Gerda is standing on a chair, as a dressmaker works on a new dress for her.

DRESSMAKER
(speaks in Chinese)

SUMMER PRINCESS
The peasant look is so last year, darling. It's light, classic fabrics and heavy jewels at the moment: a lot of money and plenty of weight on the fingers and face. Look in the mirror, pumpkin. Mirrors don't lie. Tell me what you see.

GERDA
I don't know...nobody special.

SUMMER PRINCESS
Yes...well, that's what we're going to change, darling.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - HALLWAY - DAY

SUMMER PRINCESS
Promise one thing, poppet, just don't leave the grounds. The woods are full of the most terrible robbers and I'd hate to see you become yet another unfortunate victim.

She pauses in front of a mirror.

SUMMER PRINCESS (CONT'D)
Do I look a porker in this dress? I haven't got time to change...we've got such a full day ahead of us.

GERDA
What are all those me doing outside?

SUMMER PRINCESS
Oh, they're queuing for tickets, darling. It's the Engagement Ball tonight, the biggest night of the summer! All the eligible bachelors will be there. And, if we're going to get you married, we have to make you absolutely beautiful!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

Married? But I don't want to be married.
I've told you, I'm looking for Kai.

SUMMER PRINCESS

And I've promised to tell you where to
find him, but first you have to check out
the field. Just to see how many
wonderful young men there are out there
waiting for you.

GERDA

But Princess, it's Kai I love...only Kai.

SUMMER PRINCESS

Oh, yes. That cute, coy thing you do,
that little girl lost look...keep that,
it's very provocative. You'll have the
men drooling! What a peach! What a
catch! You'll be engaged before
midnight.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

A customer rings the bell impatiently. Minna comes running.

MINNA

Just a minute! Just a minute!

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - BALCONY - DAY

Wolfgang sits in a rocking chair, wrapped in a blanket.

MINNA

Wolfgang, come downstairs. You've got
guests to be seen to.

WOLFGANG

Why should I care, Minna?

MINNA

Because you've got a hotel to run, and
it's the best hotel in town...now come
on!

WOLFGANG

What's the point?

MINNA

The point is...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WOLFGANG

The point is...it's over, old friend.
The point is I barely have the strength
to live anymore.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

Kai is skating around the lobby. The Polar Bear has skates
on, too.

POLAR BEAR

I can stand upright, but that's about it.

KAI

All right, come on now, lean forward.
Now, if you want to turn, you have to
lean on one side of the skate.

POLAR BEAR

Polar Bears don't do a lot of leaning.
Oh, whoa!

KAI

Easy...I've got you. All right...just
try. Push forward.

POLAR BEAR

Oh...

KAI

Go a little faster? Try to go a little
faster.

POLAR BEAR

Hey, I think I'm getting the hang of
this.

The Polar Bear skates away, picks up speed and heads straight
into the luggage room.

KAI

Easy...

POLAR BEAR

Whoa!

A giant crash as the bear runs into a wall.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Couples are dancing as Chen tries his magic tricks. The
Summer Princess and Gerda enter. A young man walks up to
Gerda.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REGINALD

Hello, my name is Reginald. I have an excellent pedigree and several university diplomas.

GERDA

Is that so?

REGINALD

One of them is in dancing. May I show you a few steps?

Reginald and Gerda dance. He is a very good dancer.

REGINALD (CONT'D)

Summe cum laude in the waltz...and honorable mention in the Flamenco...

He proceeds to demonstrate his prowess in the Flamenco.

REGINALD (CONT'D)

My other diplomas included horsemanship, sportsmanship...and awfully nice manners.

SUMMER PRINCESS

Oh dear...I thought he was your type. Very nice cheekbones. And all those diplomas.

GERDA

But Princess, I'm really not looking for anybody.

SUMMER PRINCESS

No, of course. You're a shy girl, aren't you? Except that shy girls don't break into palaces at night...do they? With wandering conjurers? Hmmm! Oh! Things are looking up! Eyes left...coming straight towards us. Get a load of the dimples on this one!

DELFONT CHALFONT

Major Delfont Chalfont, at your service. I would willingly lay down my life if your honour was at stake. Would you like to dance?

GERDA

Thank you, but I'm really not a dancer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DELFONT CHALFONT

No, neither am I, my darling...but do you know, I like to put on a rather good show.

They dance.

DELFONT CHALFONT (CONT'D)

Did I ever tell you all about my exploits with the 35th Hose Brigade in the Battle of Tompkins Bay?

GERDA

You couldn't have. We've only just met.

DELFONT CHALFONT

We were absolutely surrounded, you know. On all sides, by these strapping Circassian warriors. Great scimitars flashing...there was a cannon to the left of us...a cannon also to the right of us...hmmm. Do you know what my colonel said when he walked up to me?

Gerda manages to escape...Delfont doesn't seem to notice.

DELFONT CHALFONT (CONT'D)

One of the most amusing anecdotes I think I've ever heard in all...

Now he notices that Gerda isn't there anymore.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - BALCONY - NIGHT

Gerda takes refuge on the balcony, away from the Ball.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

KAI

How big is this place?

POLAR BEAR

As big as you want it to be.

Kai light his candles as the Polar Bear glides across the icy floor.

KAI

I think you've got natural ability.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

POLAR BEAR

Do you really? Or are you just buttering me up before trying to escape again?

KAI

No..I'm simply having fun.

POLAR BEAR

All right, as long as it's just that.

Kai eyes the corridor.

KAI

Actually, I wouldn't be surprised if she kissed me again tonight.

The Polar Bear pins Kai against the wall with his huge body.

KAI (CONT'D)

I'm sorry...I didn't mean it...I'm sorry...I can't breathe.

The Polar Bear releases him.

KAI (CONT'D)

You're in love with her yourself, aren't you?

Just let me go...then it would be just you and her. Please let me go. I'm not meant to be here.

POLAR BEAR

No.

KAI

I'm not going to hold out much longer. Please let me go home.

POLAR BEAR

No! No! No!

KAI

Why are you so angry? Is it because you're in pain? How long have you been in pain? Let me guess...since you met her, perhaps?

INT. SUMMER PALACE - BALCONY - NIGHT

A young man approaches Gerda on the balcony.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HANDSOME HELMUT

I've been watching you all evening, my darling. And I'm head over heels in love with you. They call me Handsome Helmut.

GERDA

I'm sorry, Helmut. I'm not in the mood for...

HANDSOME HELMUT

Would you look at my profile? Just for a moment? Paying particular attention to the angle at which my nose relates to my forehead.

GERDA

Yes, they go together very well.

HANDSOME HELMUT

Is that all you have to say? Are you aware that young ladies generally lose consciousness when they see my profile?

GERDA

Perhaps they do, Helmut, but I for some reason am able to resist it.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - BALLROOM - NIGHT

SUMMER PRINCESS

She's not showing interest in any of the men! If she doesn't fall in love, Summer will come to an end!

Count Rothstein, go to her and don't come back until she's fallen in love with you!

COUNT ROTHSTEIN

I've tried twice already...she just looks the other way.

SUMMER PRINCESS

All right. This calls for real firepower. Send in Charles D'Amour!

COUNT ROTHSTEIN

Charles D'Amour?

SUMMER PRINCESS

If anyone can make her forget about this silly little boy she's dotting on, it's Charles D'Amour! Come on, let's find him!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHEN

Hmmm...

INT. SUMMER PALACE - BALCONY - NIGHT

HANDSOME HELMUT

You leave me no choice! I'm going to kill myself unless you agree to marry me this very moment.

GERDA

Helmut...

HANDSOME HELMUT

That's it. It's over. Hold these, would you?

Suddenly a dashing character drops down in front of Helmut, decapitating the flowers in one swoosh of his sword.

CHARLES D'AMOUR

I am Charles D'Amour, Prince of Burgundy. I have ridden bareback from France, to find beauty...mon amour. My search, is over.

Charles reaches over and with one hand, throws poor Helmut over the balcony. He turns his attention back to Gerda.

CHARLES D'AMOUR (CONT'D)

Enchante.

But the hand he is kissing belongs not to Gerda, but to Chen.

CHARLES D'AMOUR (CONT'D)

Who are you?

CHEN

I'm Chen the Magician...and the Lady has vanished!

CHARLES D'AMOUR

Why you little...

CHEN

Conjurer has also vanished! Good night!

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

SNOW QUEEN

Kai? What's the word to describe you? Willful. Willful would be a good word. You're testing my patience.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI

I'm working really hard. I just needed a break. I mean, I can't work forever.

SNOW QUEEN

You know what I think the problem is? Your mind is on other things, like that silly little girl.

The Snow Queen holds up Kai's rose. He reaches for it...but it's not there.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

What's she like, my rival? Your kind of girl, I bet. Doe-eyed and obedient. A little bit bland.

KAI

Please give it back to me. It's all I've got.

SNOW QUEEN

It's all you've got? It's all you've got? I laid out everything for you...I pampered you and that's what you say to me? Do you have any idea how insulting that is? Never mind. I'm going away tomorrow, to start my work again. Bring a little snow to the mountain tops...to remind people winter is coming.

KAI

Give it back!

SNOW QUEEN

Come up and see me when you're ready for that second kiss.

INT. SUMMER PALACE - GERDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Gerda dreams of walking hand in hand with Kai.

SUMMER PRINCESS

That was lovely! Everybody, wasn't it?

Gerda is applauded by a group of people, who apparently had been "watching" her dream.

GERDA

You...you watched my dream?

SUMMER PRINCESS

Of course! It was wonderful.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

But that's spying!

SUMMER PRINCESS

Didn't you watch my dream that first night?

GERDA

And didn't you promise me you'd tell me where to find the Snow Queen's palace? And all you've done is try to keep me here?

SUMMER PRINCESS

All the information you need is here, dear. And tonight it'll be yours.

GERDA

No. I have to find Kai.

SUMMER PRINCESS

But you have found him. He's here, in your dreams...whenever you wish. And he'll always be perfect! What could be better than that?

GERDA

This.

SUMMER PRINCESS

What you don't seem to realize, dear, is that I'm quite serious about finding a husband for you.

CHEN

Smart, beautiful assistant wanting to leave palace?

SUMMER PRINCESS

Stay out of this, conjurer. It's no business of yours.

GERDA

Let's go!

SUMMER PRINCESS

Stop her! Guards! Stop her!

INT. SUMMER PALACE - HALLWAY

Gerda and Chen run from the guards. Then, on an upper terrace:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

Hey! Here I am!

The guards turn toward the image of Gerda.

GUARDS

There she is!
This way!

Chen and the real Gerda hide behind a screen.

CHEN

Wow! First time that trick ever worked!

GERDA

Thank you, Chen. I'll never forget you!

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda runs through the forest.

INT. ICE HOTEL - SNOW QUEEN'S ROOM - DAY

The Polar Bear brings a tray to the Snow Queen.

POLAR BEAR

I'm not sure the boy's going to get the
mirror finished.
Not in time, anyway.

SNOW QUEEN

Well, it's your job to see that he
does...before the Winter Solstice. Am I
clear?

POLAR BEAR

As ice. I just don't see why you're
pinning so much hope on this one.

SNOW QUEEN

Love. True love. Kai's seen it, felt
it, had it...has it.

POLAR BEAR

He's not the only one.

SNOW QUEEN

What did you say?

POLAR BEAR

Nothing.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda races through the forest. She notices a falling leaf. The Robber Girl drops down on her like a ton of bricks.

GERDA

Who are you?

ROBBER GIRL

The reason Princesses shouldn't go strolling about alone in the forest, my dear.

GERDA

I'm not a princess, and I'll walk where I like, thank you very much. Get out of my way!

ROBBER GIRL

Oh! Get out of my way, is it? What do you think about that, boys?

2ND IN COMMAND

We think that's a bit of a giggle, Robber Girl!

GERDA

Leave me alone.

ROBBER GIRL

Shut it, princess. You're coming with us!

2ND IN COMMAND

Yes!

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

The robbers have torn Gerda's dress into pieces and are parading around the camp.

ROBBER GIRL

(mockingly)

I'm the Summer Princess now! Look at me! What a ransom we're going to get. Oh, yes! Come and meet my Mom! Mom! The princess is here!

AUTUMN ROBBER

What have you brought me today, girl?

ROBBER GIRL

I've brought you the Summer Princess.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AUTUMN ROBBER

Ohh...what have you got in your hand?

The Autumn Robber grabs Gerda's rose brooch out of her hand.

GERDA

Give it back to me!

AUTUMN ROBBER

Hmmm...Pretty, but very sharp. She's not the Summer Princess.

ROBBER GIRL

She is! She was in a complete Summer Princess outfit!

GERDA

She's right! I'm just a poor, ordinary girl. No one will pay any ransom for me.

AUTUMN ROBBER

Hah...might as well throw you in the cooking pot then.
Is the water boiling yet? I've got quite a hunger on me tonight, and she'll do just nicely. And make sure you add some onions.

GERDA

Wait! The palace might pay something...you never know.

Two burly robbers pick Gerda up and start carrying her to the pot.

GERDA (CONT'D)

No!

ROBBER GIRL

No!

Robber Girl dukes it out with the burly robbers, and wins. Autumn Robber can't conceal her pride, but enough is enough when Robber Girl says:

ROBBER GIRL (CONT'D)

You're not cooking her!

AUTUMN ROBBER

What do you think you're doing? That's my dinner, that is.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBER GIRL

No! I need a playmate! There's no one
my own age to play with!

AUTUMN ROBBER

Haven't I always told you not to play
with your food?
Throw her in the pot!

GERDA

I don't think I'll taste that good,
really.

ROBBER GIRL

I need a peer group.

AUTUMN ROBBER

She's not a peer group, she's supper.

Robber Girl and Autumn Robber have a brief tussle.

ROBBER GIRL

So, can I keep her?

AUTUMN ROBBER

Do we have any rabbits?

ROBBER (O.S.)

A couple of sacks full.

AUTUMN ROBBER

All right. You can have her. We'll do a
curry. See if you can rustle up some of
that Basmati rice.

ROBBER GIRL

(to Gerda)

There you are, I didn't let them kill
you, did I? And if I do get cross with
you, I'll do it myself.

Go on, there's nothing to it. Go on!

Gerda climbs the ladder into the roost.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai collects his skates.

INT. ROBBER GIRL'S ROOST - NIGHT

GERDA

You must have robbed a lot of people.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBER GIRL

Oh, they deserved it. The former owner of this hat...he was a pompous twit.

She puts the hat on Gerda.

ROBBER GIRL (CONT'D)

That hat suits you.

GERDA

I'm not sure I believe in stealing things. Or killing people.

ROBBER GIRL

I don't believe in it either. I just do it.

Hey, want an apple? Don't worry. I'll teach you everything I know. Then, when something comes along in life that you want, you'll be able to take it. Just like that.

C'mon...time for bed.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Kai skates down the corridor. It seems endless.

INT. ICE HOTEL - GARAGE - DAY

He opens a door and finds the Snow Queen's sleigh. He throws open the door and hops into the driver's seat. The memory of her kiss is too strong. He doesn't leave.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai returns. The Polar Bear is waiting for him.

POLAR BEAR

I knew you'd be back.

Kai climbs the rope up to the third floor landing.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

AUTUMN ROBBER (O.S.)

Dance, damn you! Come on, dance!

INT. ROBBER GIRL'S ROOST

Robber Girl holds her knife at Gerda's throat.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

AUTUMN ROBBER

That's not dancing, that's looking stupid to music! I want real dancing like...the Conga! Yes, that's what I want!

2ND IN COMMAND

She's getting uppity, the Robber Girl.

AUTUMN ROBBER

There's nothing wrong with my daughter. She's a fine girl in a fine robbing tradition.

2ND IN COMMAND

She spat in your eye today, didn't she?

AUTUMN ROBBER

Shows she's got what it takes, that's all.

2ND IN COMMAND

You going to put up with that?

AUTUMN ROBBER

All right, now through the fire...not just around it...through the fire!

INT. ROBBER GIRL'S ROOST - NIGHT

Gerda carefully lifts Robber Girl's hand away from her neck.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

The party is finally dying down.

INT. ROBBER GIRL'S ROOST - NIGHT

Gerda carefully slips out of Robber Girl's grasp and climbs down from the roost.

EXT. ROBBER GIRL'S ROOST - NIGHT

Gerda slips and falls onto the sleeping robbers below.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Kai walks along the corridor, towards the Snow Queen's room.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

Robber Girl is furious with Gerda.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBER GIRL

I trusted you! I knew you'd let me down!
Everyone does! I ought to slit your
throat!

AUTUMN ROBBER

Exactly what I'd hoped you'd say, girl.
You're growing up. Go on, do it.

ROBBER GIRL

I ought to cut your head off and use it
for a football.

AUTUMN ROBBER

Hahahaha! That's the spirit! Come on
lads, form two teams. We're going to
have a game. Teamwork...essence of good
robbing.

Autumn Robber offers Robber Girl her machete.

AUTUMN ROBBER (CONT'D)

Want to borrow this? Make a nice, clean
job of it?

ROBBER GIRL

No, thank you Mom. I have my own way of
dealing with this.

AUTUMN ROBBER

Hahahaha! What are you going to do, saw
it off? Good idea. Teach her a lesson
she won't forget.

ROBBER GIRL

You don't want to be with me, you can be
in my jail!

EXT./INT. ROBBER'S CAMP - JAIL - NIGHT

Robber Girl throws Gerda in a cell.

ROBBER GIRL

I hate you! You can rot in there
forever!

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

Robber Girl returns to the camp after depositing Gerda in her
cell.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AUTUMN ROBBER

You really disappointed them, you know that? They were really looking forward to a little bit of some clean, healthy fun. And you just spoiled it.

ROBBER GIRL

Tcha!

2ND IN COMMAND

Anybody fancy some mahjong? Roulette?
Russian Roulette?

INT. ROBBER'S CAMP - JAIL - NIGHT

Gerda tries to rest.

EXT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - DAY

Wolfgang is nailing boards across the front of the hotel.

MINNA

Tell him, Mr. Mayor...tell him he can't do that!

MAYOR

What do you think you're up to, Wolfgang?

WOLFGANG

I'm closing the White Bear Hotel, that's what I'm up to.

MINNA

But you can't, Wolfgang, you can't do that!

WOLFGANG

I can...I don't care if I never see a guest as long as I live.

MAYOR

But think of the town, Wolfgang! Think of what this means to the town!

WOLFGANG

I don't care about the town! I don't care about this hotel, and I don't care about you...any of you. Now go away...and leave me alone!

EXT. ICE HOTEL - ARCTIC LANDSCAPE - DAY

The Snow Queen and Kai look out over the landscape.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SNOW QUEEN

Describe it.

KAI

I can't.

SNOW QUEEN

No, you can't. Do you know what winter is, Kai? Winter is me.

KAI

What's happened to me? Everything looks so perfect...so mathematical. I mean, look at this...perfect patterns, perfect shapes...

SNOW QUEEN

It's nothing, Kai. Even this, everything you're feeling in this moment, is just a snowflake on an iceberg. This is just the start of your change. We're at the end of the world, Kai. No one can ever come here. Just you and me.

KAI

Kiss me again. I'm ready.

SNOW QUEEN

Would you like to ride a storm with me? Would you like to ride on the wind and the snow? You know what you could do, now that you can see like this?

KAI

Tell me. I'll do anything.

SNOW QUEEN

You could finish the little mirror puzzle. I bet you could do it in a month if you didn't sleep.

KAI

A month? I could stay awake for a year.

EXT. / INT. ROBBER'S JAIL - DAY

ROBBER GIRL

I've told you a thousand times, you don't have to actually rob on your first time. You can just watch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

No.

ROBBER GIRL

Why not?

GERDA

Because it's wrong.

ROBBER GIRL

They'd kill us given half the chance.
How do you think I got this? Shot at, I
was!

GERDA

No, you weren't. I've seen you without
your eye-patch. There's nothing wrong
with your eye.

ROBBER GIRL

But I might have been shot at!

GERDA

Except that you shot at them first.

ROBBER GIRL

Exactly.

GERDA

Well, I'm not going to go out shooting at
people just in case they shoot at me and
wearing an eye-patch to make people feel
sorry for me.

ROBBER GIRL

What about the benefits...I mean, the
proceeds?

GERDA

Well, I'm sorry. I'm not going to be a
robber, and that's that. I have to find
Kai.

ROBBER GIRL

The boy? The boy who left you?

GERDA

He didn't leave me. The Snow Queen took
him.

ROBBER GIRL

She didn't take him...he left! He went
off with another woman.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBER GIRL (CONT'D)

An older woman, at that. What are you thinking of, trailing on after him like a love-sick calf?

GERDA

I have to rescue him.

ROBBER GIRL

How do you know he wants rescuing?

GERDA

Because I love him. And he loves me.

ROBBER GIRL

If he loves you, then why did he go off with her?

GERDA

She hardened his heart.

ROBBER GIRL

Oh...and you think you can soften it, do you?

GERDA

I will try.

ROBBER GIRL

Have you any idea how powerful the Snow Queen really is? Have you any idea how cruel and cold and wonderful she can be? How can you even think you can stand up to her?

GERDA

Because I love him, that's why. With all my heart.

ROBBER GIRL

Well, you're kidding yourself, and I'm going to make sure you stop kidding yourself and you stay here until you see sense and take up a useful career like robbing!

Robber Girl walks angrily away. Gerda pounds her fist on the wall in frustration and is surprised to hear a voice in response.

VOICE

Do we have to just tap, or can we talk as well?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

GERDA
Who's in there?

RUTGER (O.S.)
I'm Rutger. Who are you?

GERDA
Gerda! Are you in a cell as well?

RUTGER (O.S.)
No, I'm in a shed. I can see the
daylight...I could escape if only I
wasn't chained to the wall.

GERDA
How long have you been in there?

RUTGER (O.S.)
I'm not sure. I think about two years.

GERDA
No!

RUTGER (O.S.)
Oh, yes. Once they catch you they never
let you go.

GERDA
If only I could get to you...

RUTGER (O.S.)
You could unchain me, and then we could
get out. I could kick the door down.

GERDA
Kick your way out? Do you really think
so?

RUTGER (O.S.)
Well, we have to look on the bright side,
don't we?

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai stands in front of the mirror.

KAI
They're all different. That's the
amazing thing. Why did I have trouble
distinguishing between them before?
Each one of them has its
own...personality.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI (CONT'D)

I can see the patterns. I can see the patterns in front of my eyes.

SNOW QUEEN

Oh, I meant to ask you. Do you remember that girl you used to talk about?

KAI

I do, yes.

SNOW QUEEN

You're sure?

KAI

Yes...yes. Just remind me...what did she look like?

SNOW QUEEN

Well, I wouldn't exactly call her ugly, but...a boy like you, you're one in a million. You deserve the best.

KAI

And that's you?

SNOW QUEEN

And that's me.

POLAR BEAR

Why don't you show him the others?

SNOW QUEEN

You don't want him to like me, Bear? Well?

POLAR BEAR

You know I don't.

SNOW QUEEN

And why would that be?

POLAR BEAR

You know the answer to that as well.

SNOW QUEEN

But I like to hear it.

POLAR BEAR

Because...because I love you.

SNOW QUEEN

What was that? I didn't quite catch that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

POLAR BEAR

Because I love you.

SNOW QUEEN

Because you love me. How wonderfully absurd. He loves me.

The Polar Bear groans in disbelief, and dismay.

SNOW QUEEN

(to Kai)

You're not like the other boys, are you Kai? No at all. They were just pieces.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - DAY

AUTUMN ROBBER

She has become far too big for her boots. She needs taking down a peg or two, before the whole year is covered with snow!

INT. ICE HOTEL - ICE CATACOMBS - DAY

SNOW QUEEN

All my frozen failures.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - DAY

Establishing shot.

INT. ROBBER'S CAMP - JAIL - DAY

A bucket of cold water is dumped on Gerda.

AUTUMN ROBBER

There's magic in this. I want to know about it.

GERDA

It was my mother's. And now it's mine.

AUTUMN ROBBER

It's mine.

GERDA

You've got it. But it's not yours, and it never will be.

AUTUMN ROBBER

Is that so?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

It's the only thing I have of hers, and she's dead. So I think you should give it back to me.

AUTUMN ROBBER

People die, all the time. They blaze red as if they're going to live forever, but they all fall, sooner or later. And there's nothing you can do about it. People don't just come back because we want them to, princess. The world moves on. Even I can't stop the leaves from falling.

GERDA

I know she won't come back..but I just want to keep a piece of her with me. Wouldn't you want your daughter to keep hold of something of yours, when you're gone?

AUTUMN ROBBER

There's heat in this brooch...that's what she fears, you know.

GERDA

What who fears?

AUTUMN ROBBER

The one you want to see. The one who's got your man.

GERDA

Do you know her?

AUTUMN ROBBER

Know her? She's my sister.

GERDA

But...but she's a Queen!

AUTUMN ROBBER

And I'm just a robber, eh? Well, it shouldn't be like that, should it? Is it right? Is it just? Of course it isn't. She's gotten far too powerful.

GERDA

Yes.

AUTUMN ROBBER

She needs taking down a peg or two.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GERDA

But your daughter said I wasn't strong enough.

AUTUMN ROBBER

What does she know?

GERDA

Will you let me go? Will you let me go find her, so I can go save Kai?

AUTUMN ROBBER

Oh, you are no threat to her. But, she'd never forgive me.

GERDA

Who, the Robber Girl? Of course she will. You're her mother.

AUTUMN ROBBER

Do you think girls ever forgive their mothers? Of course not!

Autumn Robber tosses the brooch into Gerda's cell. Gerda pins it on.

GERDA

Please help me, Mother. Please help me to find Kai, and get him back.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

Another party is in full swing.

INT. ROBBER'S JAIL - GERDA'S CELL - NIGHT

Gerda continues to make a hole in the wall of her cell.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

Autumn Robber is dancing wildly.

INT. ROBBER'S JAIL - GERDA'S CELL - NIGHT

RUTGER (O.S.)

Keep going! Keep going! I can see the wall buckling!

GERDA

It's hard!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RUTGER (O.S.)

I know it's hard, but believe me, when you're through, it will be worth it.

Robber Girl surprises Gerda.

ROBBER GIRL

Who's that? Who are you talking to?

GERDA

Myself! I'm talking to myself because I'm lonely.

ROBBER GIRL

You can come out whenever you want, as soon as you agree to join the band.

GERDA

No!

ROBBER GIRL

Fine. Stay in there and rot. We're having paella tonight, and you're not going to get any.

GERDA

Stolen paella!

ROBBER GIRL

Still tastes delicious, though. Let me know when you want to come out...and you can get some!

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

Party shot.

ROBBERS

Hey! Hey!

INT. ROBBER'S JAIL - GERDA'S CELL - NIGHT

Gerda continues working on the wall.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

The party is over.

INT. ROBBER'S JAIL - GERDA'S CELL - NIGHT

Gerda finally breaks through the wall.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RUTGER (O.S.)
Well, hello!

GERDA
I...I thought you were a person!

RUTGER
No, more of a reindeer, really. It's the antlers, you know. You wouldn't by any chance have any acorns on you, hmmm?

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - DAWN

Robber Girl gets up and walks sleepily over to her mother's tent.

ROBBER GIRL
Is anyone going to do anything about breakfast?

INT. RUTGER'S SHED - DAWN

Gerda slides through the hole into Rutger's stall.

RUTGER
Hey, watch your head! Watch your head!

GERDA
Winter's almost here. I can see the snow on top of the hills.

RUTGER
It's good for sledding.

Gerda shakes the locked gate. She spies the harness hanging on the wall.

RUTGER (CONT'D)
Wonderful having hands. Hooves aren't much use for that kind of thing.

GERDA
No. But they're be good to race away from here faster than the wind when we get out of here. Do you know the way to Lapland?

RUTGER
Lapland? Like the back of my antlers. I was born there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GERDA

I need to find the Snow Queen before the winter solstice.

RUTGER

Yes, I think I can get you there in time.

GERDA

I think we should run through huge zigzags through the forest so the robbers won't know which way we're going to go.

RUTGER

Zigzags, yes. But not the running, of course. Not at my age. Have you ever had arthritis?

GERDA

Why did I spend all of this effort, digging through this wall, if...

RUTGER

...if there was just a poor old reindeer on the other side, hoping you'd help him?

GERDA

I'm sorry. That was very selfish of me. I'm very glad to have met you, Rutger, even if you do have some...mobility problems.

Robber Girl discovers them.

ROBBER GIRL

How very touching!

RUTGER

Uh oh!

ROBBER GIRL

You were about to steal my reindeer! Not too many scruples about robbing when it comes to something you actually want, huh?

GERDA

This is completely different. In fact, if you think robbing's so fine, you won't have any problem with me robbing you!

ROBBER GIRL

Hoo, saucy! Well, take that, saucy girl!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Robber Girl punches Gerda.

ROBBER GIRL (CONT'D)

Nobody steals from the Robber Girl! And
nobody gets away from the Robber Girl!
Or they feel this!

Robber Girl pulls her knife.

RUTGER

Or not, depending on the reindeer!

Rutger knocks the knife out of her hand.

ROBBER GIRL

What do you think you're doing, you
rheumatic old fool?

RUTGER

Fighting for freedom.

ROBBER GIRL

What do you think you're doing?

GERDA

What you taught me to do, Robber Girl.
Standing up for myself.

ROBBER GIRL

Standing up for yourself?

GERDA

Yes. You only think about what you want.
And now, I'm going to think about what I
want. And that's to get out of here and
find Kai.

Gerda knocks Robber Girl out cold.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Gerda and Rutger rush out of the shed and into the
countryside.

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - RUTGER'S SHED - DAY

Robber Girl staggers out.

ROBBER GIRL

Mommy! Mommy!

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

GERDA
Faster, Rutger!

RUTGER
This is faster!

EXT. ARCTIC LANDSCAPE - DAY

Establishing shot.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai stands in front of the mirror.

SNOW QUEEN
Clever boy. No one has ever gotten close to what you've done. I knew when I first saw you that you were special. It's magnificent, and I applaud you. To come so close.

KAI
What do you mean, so close? It's complete. I've done what you're asked me to do.

SNOW QUEEN
Well, maybe there's something wrong with my eyesight, but there seems to be one piece missing.

KAI
Where is it? I've looked everywhere. You've hidden it from me, haven't you? Look, you must be missing the piece, because that's all there is, all right? It's not there!

SNOW QUEEN
You're not quite ready for that last kiss. You haven't worked it out yet.

KAI
It's not here. I've looked for three days. I've crawled on my hands and knees. I can see everything in this room, every tiny speck, and it isn't here!

POLAR BEAR
It is here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI
It's not! Why can't I finish the puzzle?

POLAR BEAR
You're not going to like the answer.

Snow starts to fall as Kai stares at himself in the mirror.

EXT. SNOWY COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Rutger pulls Gerda in the sled. They leave the sled and walk along without it.

RUTGER
Listen!

GERDA
What?

RUTGER
The story is being told! Can you hear it, on the wind?

The Polar Bear in voice-over:

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
Thousands and thousands of years ago,
deep down in hell...

INT. HELL - ETERNITY

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
...the devil made a mirror.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

POLAR BEAR
(to Kai)
The devil gave this beautiful mirror to
the Four Seasons, so that they could
admire their work.

INT. MIRROR SHOT

The Four Seasons stand in front of the mirror.

INT. SPRING'S REFLECTION

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
And when the Spring stood in front of the
mirror, it reflected the essence of Her
season and the promise of life.

INT. MIRROR SHOT

The Four Seasons stand in front of the mirror.

INT. SUMMER AND AUTUMN'S REFLECTION

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
And so it was for Summer. And Autumn.

INT. WINTER'S REFLECTION

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
And when the Winter stood in front of the mirror, the world was reflected cold and covered in snow, and that was as it should be...

EXT. ARCTIC LANDSCAPE - DAY

POLAR BEAR (CONT'D)
for each season has its power and its time...

INT. WINTER'S REFLECTION

POLAR BEAR (CONT'D)
...and there was harmony.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

POLAR BEAR
(to Kai)
But the Devil had made the mirror twisted, so as Winter gazed at her own face, she longed to be the Queen of the Seasons.

EXT. SNOWY COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Gerda and Rutger listen to the Voice.

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
And one day she took the mirror, and took it to the Arctic wastes for herself.

EXT. ICE HOTEL - MOUNTAIN TOP - DAY

The Snow Queen gazes in the mirror.

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
Now she was the Snow Queen, and the world became a colder place.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai listens.

POLAR BEAR (O.S.)
But not cold enough for her...

EXT. SNOWY COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Gerda and Rutger listen.

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
...because Autumn and Spring and Summer
still existed, however diminished. So
she took the mirror...

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

POLAR BEAR
(to Kai)
...and flew with it up into the sky, to
demand of Heaven itself that winter
should rule the earth, unchallenged.

EXT. SKY - DAY

The Snow Queen rises to Heaven, holding the mirror.

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
But as she approached Heaven, the mirror
shook and shook, as if good and evil were
wrestling for control.

The mirror breaks into a million pieces.

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
And the pieces fell to earth, and flew
round and round until they flew into
people's eyes.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

POLAR BEAR
And when those people looked at the
world, they saw it as cold and ugly.

EXT. SNOWY COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Gerda listens.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

POLAR BEAR
And each winter, looking for all the
missing pieces...

EXT. SNOWY COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

POLAR BEAR (V.O.)
...dreaming...

GERDA
(finishing the sentence)
...that one day she'd be able to put the
mirror back together...and again become
all powerful.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

POLAR BEAR
So you see why you can't finish the
puzzle? Hmm?

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

Kai remembers when the shard flew in his eye.

GERDA
Kai! Kai, are you all right?

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

KAI
It's inside me. I am the missing piece.

Quick cuts between shots of Gerda and the icy chandelier in
the Ice Hotel. The Snow Queen enters.

KAI (CONT'D)
How can I ever leave, if I can't complete
the mirror?

SNOW QUEEN
You can't.

KAI
How can I get it out of me?

SNOW QUEEN
Just one last kiss.

EXT. SNOWY COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

RUTGER

We're too late! I'm never going to be able to get you there in time!

GERDA

Yes, you can. I know it.

RUTGER

Gerda, I'm sorry. I'm just too old. It's just over those mountains. Do you think you can get there without me?

GERDA

Nothing's going to stop me, Rutger.

RUTGER

So long, Gerda!

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - DAY

Various shots of Gerda slogging through the snow.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai stares at the mirror.

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - DAY

Various shots of Gerda slogging through the snow.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Kai stares at the mirror.

EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN RANGE - DAY

Various shots of Gerda slogging through the snow.

EXT. ICE HOTEL - DAY

Gerda discovers the turret of the ice hotel. She opens the attic hatch.

INT. ICE HOTEL - DAY

Gerda climbs down the ladder into the hotel.

INT. ICE HOTEL - CORRIDOR/HALLWAY

Gerda moves cautiously through the corridor and along the hallway. The Polar Bear discovers her and pins her to a wall.

GERDA
No, please!

POLAR BEAR
Please what? Please don't kill me?

GERDA
No...please let me take Kai away.

POLAR BEAR
Why should I do that?

GERDA
Because I love him.

POLAR BEAR
Why should I care about that?

GERDA
Don't you love anybody?

She has guessed the Polar Bear's secret.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Gerda falls down onto the lobby floor.

GERDA
Kai? Kai? Kai! Kai...

KAI
Who are you?

GERDA
What's happened to you? What's happened to your eyes. You must remember me...you must.

KAI
Please go before she finds you here.

GERDA
No! I've come to take you home with me!
You must remember me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KAI

I'm sorry. I don't seem to know anything anymore. Those boots...I know those boots...I bought them.

GERDA

Yes, yes you did!

KAI

For you. Gerda!

GERDA

Yes!

KAI

I gave up hope.

Just as they are sharing an embrace, Gerda is forcefully pulled from Kai and is thrown on the floor. Kai rushes to her.

KAI (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

GERDA

I feel so cold...

KAI

Where are you? Where are you? Stop doing this!

SNOW QUEEN

Please don't tell me you thought I'd let her come in and just take you. Because that would be such an insult to my intelligence.

KAI

Stop it..she's dying.

SNOW QUEEN

I will stop. And I'll let her live. All you have to do is kiss me a third time.

KAI

No.

SNOW QUEEN

I don't want her. I want you. What's more important, Kai? Your life or hers? One kiss from me, and she'll live. Take all the time you want. Even though she's dying.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GERDA

Don't...

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

She's going, Kai. Just like her poor mother.

Gerda is slowly being encased in ice.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

How well I remember her last breath.

KAI

I'll do it. Just don't kill her.

SNOW QUEEN

I knew you would.

Kai kisses the Snow Queen. The shard falls out of his eye and into her hand. Kai falls to the floor. The Snow Queen takes the shard and places it in the mirror. She is empowered by her glowing reflection.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)

Let the whole world be as I am. Let Winter rule, always.

INT. SPRING WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

SPRING WITCH

Wake up, sleepy girl, wake up!

INT. SUMMER PALACE - DAY

SUMMER PRINCESS

Wake up! Come on darling!

CHEN

Come on, wake up! Wake up!

SUMMER PRINCESS

You know what to do!

EXT. ROBBER'S CAMP - NIGHT

ROBBER GIRL

Wake up! You know what to do!

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Gerda lies motionless.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Gerda as a little girl wanders in the forest.

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Gerda lies motionless.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

LITTLE GERDA
Mommy's dead.

AMY
Get up, darling.

LITTLE GERDA
Mommy!

AMY
It's all right. It's all right.
(Gerda becomes grown up)
You don't have to cry for me anymore.
It's time to move on. You can do it!

Her mother gives her a kiss.

AMY (CONT'D)

INT. ICE HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Gerda's ice casing starts to melt. She awakens to find the Snow Queen admiring herself in front of her mirror.

SNOW QUEEN
What are you doing? I froze you.
Oh, so you think you're strong
enough...hmmm. You're such a fool.

The Snow Queen starts to hurl icicles at Gerda, like spears.
Gerda is pinned to the wall.

SNOW QUEEN (CONT'D)
Did you really think you could take Kai
away from me? I'm the Snow Queen.

GERDA
You're not the Snow Queen. You're just
Winter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Gerda reaches for the Rose Brooch, just as the Snow Queen reaches for a last icicle. Gerda presses the brooch to the Snow Queen's breast.

SNOW QUEEN

Ah!

The Snow Queen falls back, wounded.

GERDA

And Winter passes.

The Snow Queen is mortally wounded.

GERDA (CONT'D)

It passes.

Gerda runs to Kai.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Kai! Kai! I love you, Kai. I love you.

Gerda kisses Kai.

KAI

What did you say?

GERDA

I love you.

KAI

That's what I thought it was.

SNOW QUEEN

Help me. Help me. I can't stand.

The Polar Bear tenderly picks up the Snow Queen.

POLAR BEAR

It's all right. It's all right. I'm here.

The reflection in the mirror shows the Polar Bear to be a handsome young man. Gerda and Kai watch as the mirror melts into the ground.

GERDA

Come on.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - LOBBY

Gerda and Kai walk through the hotel. They see the entrance is boarded up. They break through the boards.

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

Gerda and Kai see Minna.

MINNA

Gerda! Kai!
You came back! I knew you would! I knew
you would!

GERDA

Minna, it's so good to see you again.
Where's Daddy? Minna, what happened?

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - DAY

Gerda and Kai enter the hotel.

INT. WHITE BEAR HOTEL - GERDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Kai opens the door to Gerda's old bedroom. Wolfgang is
there.

WOLFGANG

Go away, whoever you are. Leave me
alone. I've told you often enough.

GERDA

Daddy? It's me, Gerda. Daddy?

WOLFGANG

Not true.

GERDA

Yes, Daddy, it's true. I'm back.

WOLFGANG

Gerda...Gerda!

GERDA

I've found Kai, Daddy. He's come back
with me. We're never going to be apart
from one another again.

Wolfgang hugs both of them.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - BANDSTAND

Gerda and Kai skate together as Wolfgang plays with his band.

MINNA

(teasing)
Tardiness of any shape or form will not
be tolerated...now get on with you! Get!

ROLL END CREDITS.

Song plays over end credits.

THE END

**SONG LYRICS FOR
"THE TWO OF US WILL ALWAYS BE ONE"**

*COLOURED PICTURES OF THE FALLEN YEARS
DISTANT MEMORIES THAT ARE FILLED WITH
TEARS
JUST REMEMBER WHEN A DREAM APPEARS
THE ONE THAT LOSES IS FILLED WITH FEAR
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THERE'S SUN OR RAIN
WE'LL BE SEARCHING FOR A SILVER PLANE
AFTER ALL THAT IS SAID AND DONE
THE TWO OF US WILL ALWAYS BE ONE
THE TWO OF US WILL ALWAYS BE ONE*

Song plays over night skating sequence, at the funeral scene and over the closing credits.