

The Snow Queen

SCENE 1

NARRATOR:	<p>(V.O.) The First Story, which is about a mirror and its fragments.</p> <p>Now then, let us begin. When we get to the end of the story, we will know more than we do now, for once there was an evil troll, one of the very worst; in fact, he was 'the devil'! One day he was in a very good mood, because he had invented a mirror, which had the strange power to make everything good or beautiful reflected in it disappear to almost nothing, while everything that was worthless or evil looked clearer and even uglier than ever, so that the troll-devil had to laugh at his clever invention.</p>
TROLL-DEVIL:	That is very funny!
NARRATOR:	All the trolls at his troll-school told everyone that it was a miracle; now you could see for the first time, they thought, what the world and the people in it really looked like. They ran around with the mirror until there was not a single country or person that hadn't been distorted in it. Then they wanted to fly up to Heaven itself to make fools of the angels and God himself.
MIRROR:	LAUGHS
NARRATOR:	<p>(V.O.) The higher they flew, the harder the mirror laughed, so that they could hardly hold onto it; higher and higher they flew, closer to God and the angels; then the mirror trembled so terribly in its laughter that it slipped out of their hands and crashed to the ground.</p> <p>It broke into hundreds of millions of billions of pieces and even more, and then it caused more trouble than it had before, because some pieces were scarcely as big as a grain of sand, and they flew round the wide world, and got stuck in people's eyes, and then the people started to see everything in the wrong way, for every tiny fragment of the mirror had the same powers that the whole mirror had; some people even got a little shard of mirror in their heart, and then it was really awful, for their hearts turned to lumps of ice.</p>
TROLL-DEVIL:	LAUGHS
NARRATOR:	<p>(V.O.) The evil troll laughed till his sides split, which tickled him delightfully.</p> <p>But some small bits of glass were still flying about in the air. Now we shall hear what happened to them!</p>