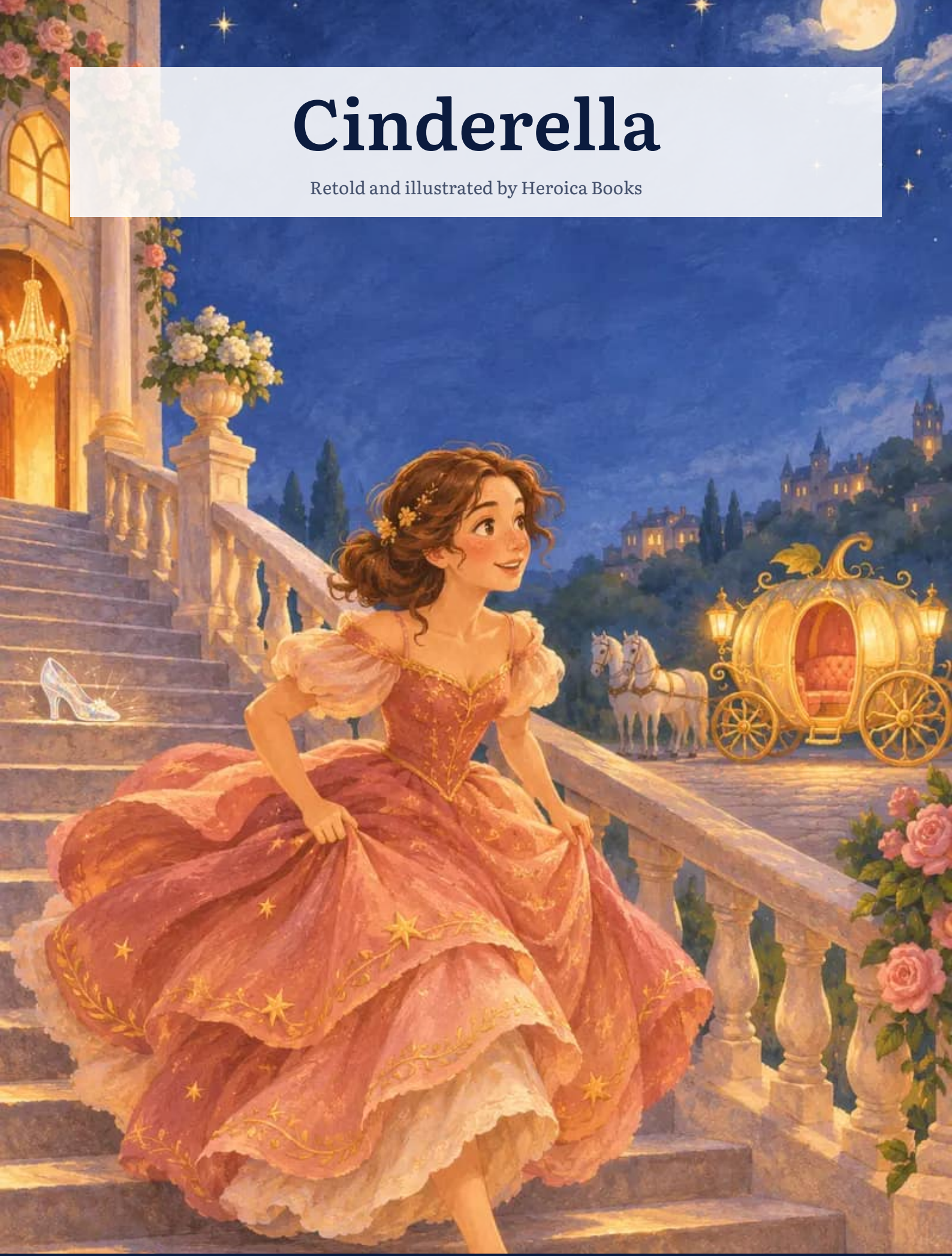
Cinderella

Retold and illustrated by Heroica Books



A gift from Heroica Books

heroicabooks.com

Cinderella

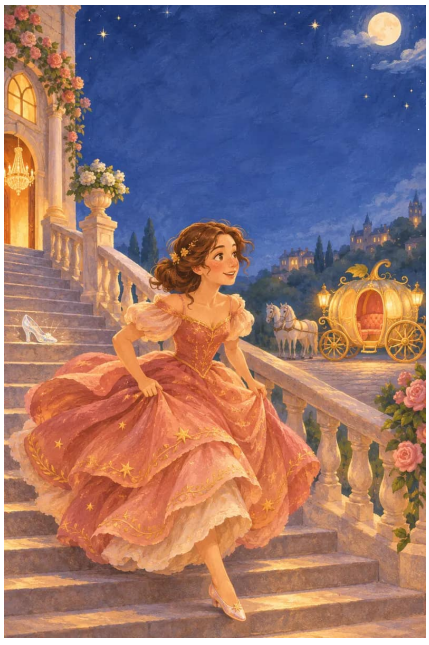
Retold and illustrated by Heroica Books

Where does this story come from?

Charles Perrault published "Cinderella, or the Little Glass Slipper" in France in 1697, and the Brothers Grimm recorded another version, "Aschenputtel", in 1812. This retelling follows Perrault, with the fairy godmother, the pumpkin and the glass slipper, and the ending in which Cinderella forgives her stepsisters.

What is the moral of the story?

Goodness and kindness shine through even the plainest clothes, and forgiving others is the mark of a big heart.



What if the hero of the next story were your child?

With Heroica you create a book with a brand-new story, written for your child and illustrated with their face from a photo.

→ heroicabooks.com

Retold text and illustrations © 2026 Heroica Books. Free to read, print and share for non-commercial use.



Once upon a time there was a very kind young woman who lived with her stepmother and her stepmother’s two daughters. All three were bossy and vain, and they left her all the housework: sweeping, washing, cooking and lighting the stove.

At night, tired out, she sat by the fireplace among the cinders to keep warm. So her stepsisters called her Cinderella. Her only friends were the little mice who lived in a corner of the kitchen.



One day an invitation arrived from the palace: the prince was giving a grand ball. The stepsisters spent days trying on dresses and hairstyles, and Cinderella helped them get ready. "You, at the ball? What an idea!" they laughed, and off they went in their carriage.

Alone in the garden, Cinderella began to cry. Suddenly, in a shower of sparkles, a tall lady with silver hair and a wand in her hand appeared. "I am your fairy godmother. You shall go to the ball too!"



"Bring me a pumpkin," said the fairy. With a tap of her wand, the pumpkin became a golden carriage. Six little mice became white horses, a rat became a coachman and a lizard became a footman.

Then the fairy touched Cinderella’s patched dress, and it turned into a peach-coloured gown embroidered with tiny stars, with a pair of glass slippers. "Have fun, but come back before midnight. On the last stroke, the magic ends!"



When Cinderella walked into the ballroom, everyone stopped to look. No one, not even her stepsisters, recognised the girl from the kitchen. The prince asked her to dance and would not dance with anyone else all night.

They talked, laughed and danced so much that Cinderella didn’t notice the time passing. Then she looked up at the great clock in the ballroom: it was one minute to midnight!



Bong! The clock began to strike. Cinderella ran down the stairs so fast that she lost one of her glass slippers on a step. The prince ran after her, but all he found was the slipper.

On the road, at the last stroke, the carriage turned back into a pumpkin, the horses turned back into mice and the gown turned back into the patched dress. All Cinderella had left was the other glass slipper.



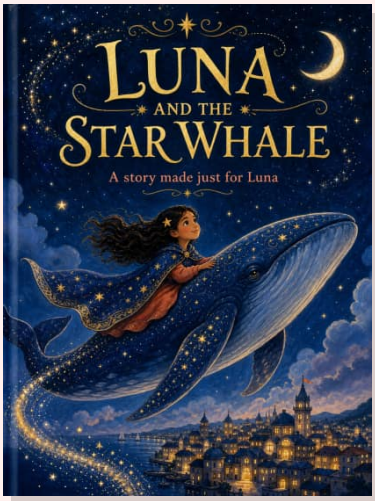
The prince announced that he would marry the young woman whose foot fitted the slipper. His messengers went from house to house. The stepsisters pushed and squeezed, but their feet would not go in at all.

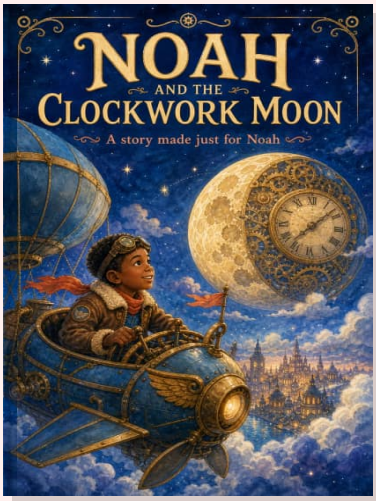
"May I try?" asked Cinderella. The slipper fitted perfectly, and she took the other one out of her pocket. The prince knew her at once. They were married, and Cinderella, with her kind heart, forgave her stepsisters and invited them to the party. The end.

NOW IT'S YOUR CHILD'S TURN

What if the hero of the next story were your child?

With Heroica you create a book with a brand-new story, written for your child and illustrated with their face from a photo.







- A story written for your child's age, from 2 to 12
- Illustrations with your child's face, from a photo
- Free preview with the cover and the text of the first page

Create the free preview

heroicabooks.com/en/create

No account, no card: you only pay if you like what you see.

Retold text and illustrations © 2026 Heroica Books. Free to read, print and share for non-commercial use.