The Gingerbread Man

A Classic Tales Play developed by Donatella Fitzgerald
from the Classic Tale retold by Sue Arengo.

The story of The Gingerbread Man

There is an old woman and an old man. They don’t have any children.
The old woman makes a gingerbread man in the kitchen. He has a head.
He has arms and legs. He has two eyes, a nose and a mouth. She puts the
gingerbread man in the oven.
Then the woman hears a little voice. It’s coming from the oven.
‘Open the door! I want to come out!’ says the gingerbread man.
The old woman opens the oven door and the gingerbread man jumps out.
‘Stop! Come here!’ says the old woman. But the gingerbread man runs
across the kitchen and out of the house.
The gingerbread man doesn’t stop. He runs faster and he shouts:
‘Run, run. You can run. Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!’
The old man and the old woman run after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man sees a cow. The cow wants to eat him. But the gingerbread man runs faster. And now the
cow runs after him.
The gingerbread man sees a horse. The horse wants to eat him. But the gingerbread man runs faster. And now the
horse runs after him.
The gingerbread man sees a fox.
‘Stop! Come here!’ says the fox. But the gingerbread man doesn’t stop. And now the fox runs after him.
‘I don’t want to eat you. I want to talk to you. I want to be friends with you!’ says the fox.
Soon the gingerbread man sees a river. ‘Oh, no! A river! I can’t swim!’ he cries.
‘Listen,’ says the fox. ‘I can help you. I can swim across the river and you can sit on my tail.’
So the gingerbread man sits on the fox’s tail and the fox begins to swim.
‘You are too big for my tail. Sit on my back,’ says the fox. So the gingerbread man sits on the fox’s back.
‘You are too big for my back. Sit on my nose,’ says the fox. So the gingerbread man sits on the fox’s nose. The
fox swims across the river.
The fox throws the gingerbread man up. Then he opens his mouth and catches him. He eats his legs, his arms,
his head . . . and that is the end of the gingerbread man.

Characters in the play

Old Woman
Old Man
Gingerbread Man
Cow
Horse
Fox
Chorus
**The Gingerbread Man**

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### SCENE 1

**INTRODUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chorus</th>
<th>This is an old woman.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Hello.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>This is an old man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>Hello.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>They don't have any children.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCENE 2

**LET'S MAKE A GINGERBREAD MAN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chorus</th>
<th>The old woman is in the kitchen.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>What are you making?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>I'm making a gingerbread man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>He has a head.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>He has arms and legs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>He has two eyes, a nose and a mouth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Look. He's a little boy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>Yes, our little boy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>In you go!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_She puts him in the oven._

### SCENE 3

**HELLO, I'M THE GINGERBREAD MAN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gingerbread Man</th>
<th>Open the door.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Who's that?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>It's me. I'm in the oven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Oh!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>Hello! I'm the gingerbread man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Hello!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>Goodbye!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Stop! Stop!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>The gingerbread man runs across the kitchen and out of the door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>Stop! Stop!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Come here!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCENE 4

**YOU CAN'T CATCH ME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Man</th>
<th>Stop!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old Woman</td>
<td>Come here!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>Run, run. You can run. Yes, you can!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>But you can't catch me. I'm the gingerbread man!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>Run, run. You can run. Yes, you can!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>But you can't catch me. I'm the gingerbread man!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCENE 5

**HELLO, I'M A COW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cow</th>
<th>Hello, I'm a cow.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>Hello, I'm the gingerbread man!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>Stop! I want to eat you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>Run, run. You can run. Yes, you can!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>But you can't catch me. I'm the gingerbread man!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>Run, run. You can run. Yes, you can!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>But you can't catch me. I'm the gingerbread man!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_She puts him in the oven._

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SCENE 6

HELLO, I’M A HORSE

Horse
Hello. I’m a horse.

Gingerbread Man
Hello. I’m the gingerbread man.

Horse
Stop! I want to eat you.

Gingerbread Man
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Chorus
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

SCENE 7

HELLO, I’M A FOX

Fox
Hello. I’m a fox.

Gingerbread Man
Hello. I’m the gingerbread man.

Fox
Stop! Come here!

Gingerbread Man
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Chorus
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Fox
I don’t want to eat you.

Gingerbread Man
Oh!

Fox
I want to be friends with you.

Gingerbread Man
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Chorus
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

SCENE 8

I CAN’T SWIM

Gingerbread Man
Oh, no! A river! I can’t swim!

Fox
I can help you. You can sit on my tail.

Chorus
Oh, no! Oh, no!

Gingerbread Man
OK.

The fox swims and the gingerbread man sits on the fox’s tail.

Fox
Sit on my tail.

Gingerbread Man
Yes. On your tail.

Fox
No, you are too big. Sit on my back.

The gingerbread man sits on the fox’s back.

Gingerbread Man
Yes. On your back.

Fox
No, you are too big. Sit on my nose.

Gingerbread Man
Yes. On your nose.

The gingerbread man sits on the fox’s nose.

Fox
Here we are!

Chorus
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Fox
Now I can eat you!

Gingerbread Man
No, no. Help!

Fox
The fox eats the gingerbread man.

Chorus
Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Run, run. You can run.

Yes, you can!
But you can’t catch me.
I’m the gingerbread man!

Goodbye, gingerbread man!

And that is the end.

That is the end of the gingerbread man.