

ANGELINA BALLERINA

"THE SLIPPERY SLIPPERS"

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INT. BALLET STUDIO HALLWAY - DAY

Several MOUSELINGS are leaving the ballet studio and gathering up their things in the front hallway, CHATTERING happily. PENELOPE and PRISCILLA are sitting, taking off their ballet slippers. MISS LILLY holds the door of the studio open.

MISS LILLY

That was wonderful, wonderful.  
Thank you, everyone.

ANGELINA and ALICE walk through the door.

ANGELINA

That was a marvelous class.

ALICE

Thank you, Miss Lilly.

MISS LILLY

Thank you, darlings. I'll see you  
again tomorrow.

ANGELINA

Yes, of course.

Angelina spins around and does a grand jete onto the bench next to Penelope.

PENELOPE

Ow! Be careful, Angelina!

ANGELINA

Sorry.

Alice sits down on Angelina's other side and starts taking off her slippers.

ALICE

Did you like your new ballet  
slippers?

Angelina hops back up to perform an arabesque. The twins look on ill-humouredly.

ANGELINA

Oh, Alice, aren't they wonderful?  
In these I feel like I could keep  
dancing forever.

PRISCILLA

What's so special about those  
slippers?

Angelina stops.

ANGELINA

They're the new Dance-Mouse ballet  
shoes. My Mum said I could have  
them if I paid for them myself.

ALICE

Angelina's been saving for months.

PENELOPE

So what? Our Mum got me some Dance-  
Mouse slippers too, and I didn't  
have to work at all.

ANGELINA

She did not!

PRISCILLA

Yes, she did. And I got a Little  
Mousy Deluxe Doll House with a  
complete dining room set.

PENELOPE

Besides, those slippers aren't that  
special anyway. I didn't even bring  
mine today.

ANGELINA

You didn't bring them because you  
don't have them.

ALICE

Yeah, how do we know you're not  
just making it up?

PENELOPE

Fine. We'll go home and get them  
right now.

ANGELINA

Oh, don't bother. We're leaving.

Angelina quickly takes off her shoes and tosses them into her  
bag on the bench.

ALICE  
Angelina, have you seen my bag?

They look around.

ANGELINA  
Did you leave it in the studio?

Angelina and Alice go back into the studio, leaving  
Angelina's bag next to Priscilla.

INT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY

Alice's bag sits by the warm-up bar.

ALICE  
There it is.

She grabs it and they turn to go.

INT. BALLET STUDIO HALLWAY - DAY

Priscilla and Penelope are standing to leave. Angelina grabs  
her bag and she and Alice walk past.

PRISCILLA  
Enjoy your new slippers, Angelina.

ANGELINA  
Oh, I will.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Angelina and Alice race through town on their bicycles,  
LAUGHING.

ALICE  
Let's take the shortcut! I'll beat  
you to Mrs. Thimble's store.

ANGELINA  
Oh no you won't!

Alice turns down a narrow wooded path, Angelina close behind  
her.

EXT. WOODED PATH - DAY

As they race down a hill, a bump jostles Angelina's bag and the new slippers bounce out and into in a bush. Angelina rushes on, not noticing.

INT. STORE - DAY

HENRY looks through the barrels of sweets. Out the window, Alice and Angelina pull up, dismount, and come in.

ANGELINA

But I would have beaten you if my bag wasn't so heavy. Oh, hello, Henry.

HENRY

Hi, Angelina. Hi, Alice.

ALICE

Whatcha doing?

HENRY

I'm trying to buy a sweet, but there are so many...

ALICE

I know what you mean. We've come from dance class. Angelina got new ballet shoes.

HENRY

Oh, can I see them, Angelina?

ANGELINA

Sure. I have them here.

She looks through her bag.

ANGELINA (CONT'D)

That's funny...

HENRY

What is it?

ANGELINA

Alice! They're gone!

ALICE

What?

ANGELINA  
My ballet slippers! They're  
missing!

ALICE  
Maybe they fell outside? Come on,  
Henry!

All three mouslings run outside.

EXT. STORE - DAY

They look on the ground by the bicycles.

ANGELINA  
They're not here either. Oh no!

She slumps down against the side of the store.

ALICE  
Don't worry, Angelina. They must be  
somewhere.

HENRY  
Everything is somewhere.

Angelina takes courage.

ANGELINA  
You're right. We've got to split up  
and find them. Alice and Henry, you  
keep looking around here and I'll  
go back to the dance studio.

She leaps onto her bicycle and takes off.

ALICE  
I'll check inside the store. You  
start out here.

HENRY  
Okay.

Alice runs back in as Henry slowly walks after Angelina.

EXT. WOODED PATH - DAY

Angelina whizzes past her slippers dangling in the bush.

EXT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY

Angelina brakes hard and jumps off and through the door in two leaps.

INT. BALLET STUDIO HALLWAY - DAY

Angelina searches under the empty bench.

ANGELINA

Oh, they're not here. Maybe I took them inside when we were looking for Alice's bag.

INT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY

Angelina BURSTS in and sees Penelope practicing a wobbly arabesque, with Priscilla helping steady her. On Penelope's feet are two slippers that look exactly like Angelina's.

ANGELINA

<GASP> My slippers!

She runs up to them.

ANGELINA (CONT'D)

Those are my ballet slippers, my new Dance-Mouse ballet slippers!

PENELOPE

They are not! I told you my Mum bought me these. Why would I want to take your silly little slippers anyway?

Angelina fights back her tears.

ANGELINA

They're not silly! I worked for months to earn the money for them. For my Mum . . . and for Mrs. Hodgepodge . . . and . . . and I never spent a single penny! Please can I have them back?

PRISCILLA

That's too bad, Angelina, but they're not yours. You can't get things just by crying, you know. Come on, Penelope.

PENELOPE  
Have fun rehearsing, Angelina.

They strut out the door.

ANGELINA  
Oh! Oh!

She bursts into tears.

EXT. WOODED PATH - DAY

Henry wanders down the path, calling for the shoes.

HENRY  
Slippers. Oh, slippers!

He spies them hanging in the bush.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
Oh!

He yanks them out and spins around, hardly knowing what to do.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
Angelina! I found them! Alice?  
Angelina? I found them, I found  
them!

He rushes off toward the dance studio.

INT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY

Miss Lilly has her arms around Angelina, who is still softly sobbing.

MISS LILLY  
There, there, my dear. I'm sure  
it's all a big misunderstanding.

ANGELINA  
But, Miss Lilly, I saw my ballet  
slippers on Penelope's feet. They  
were mine--I saw them!

MISS LILLY  
Well, you saw ballet slippers,  
darling, but you can't be sure that  
they were yours, can you?

Angelina SNIFFLES and sits up.

ANGELINA

What do you mean?

MISS LILLY

After all, Penelope and Priscilla may be telling the truth. It is always better to believe someone than to accuse them, don't you think?

ANGELINA

But I told them about my shoes then I left my bag with them when Alice and I came in here, and then my shoes were gone--and on Penelope's feet! It's as plain as day!

MISS LILLY

Now, Angelina, you don't know...

ANGELINA

Oh, Miss Lilly!

She starts to cry again and bolts from the room.

MISS LILLY

Angelina! ...Oh, children.

She rises and starts to tidy up the studio when Henry BURSTS in.

MISS LILLY (CONT'D)

Oh!

HENRY

Angelina! Angelina!

MISS LILLY

Henry, darling, what is it?

Henry sees Miss Lilly for the first time.

HENRY

Oh, Miss Lilly, have you seen Angelina?

MISS LILLY

She just left, darling.

HENRY

Oh, thank you!

He rushes out the door. Miss Lilly shakes her head and starts tidying up again.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Angelina pedals her bicycle furiously.

ANGELINA

If they won't give them back then  
I'll take them back myself! They're  
my slippers, after all, and I  
earned them.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Angelina rides past a clearing in the park. Priscilla and Penelope are on the grass, trying to use a hula hoop.

ANGELINA

Ah-ha!

She gets off her bicycle and hides behind the bushes to watch: Penelope can't get the hoop to stay up, and the twins' bags are leaning against a tree.

ANGELINA (CONT'D)

Ah.

She sneaks around the clearing, getting closer to the twins.

PRISCILLA (O.S.)

But you're not doing it right. Let  
me show you.

PENELOPE (O.S.)

It's still my turn. You'll have to  
wait.

Angelina smiles and peers out from behind the tree.

PRISCILLA

That's not fair. I've already  
waited. Give it to me.

She grabs the hoop.

Angelina looks in Penelope's bag. There are the slippers.

PENELOPE (O.S.)

Let go! This is my mouse hoop! Mum  
gave it to me.

PRISCILLA (O.S.)

No she didn't. She gave it to me!

Angelina takes out the slippers and slips away.

PRISCILLA/PENELOPE (O.S.)  
It's mine! Mine! Mine! Mine! Mine!

Angelina quietly runs back over to her bicycle.

ANGELINA  
(to the shoes)  
Oh, am I ever glad to see you  
again! Come on.

She slips them into her bag and rides off.

The twins are still pulling on the hoop.

PRISCILLA/PENELOPE  
It's mine! It's mine! Mine! Mine!

Henry runs up, GASPING for breath.

HENRY  
Have . . . have you . . . seen  
. . . Angelina?

They stop fighting and look at him.

PRISCILLA  
Of course not. Why would we do  
that?

HENRY  
I've found . . . found her  
slippers.

He holds them up. The girls' eyes widen.

PENELOPE  
YOU had them! And they don't even  
look anything like mine.

She reaches into her bag.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)  
They're gone! My new ballet  
slippers are gone!

Henry slaps his forehead.

PRISCILLA  
What?

PENELOPE  
It was Angelina! She must have  
stolen them! Ooooooh!

HENRY

We've got to find her and tell her  
I have her slippers.

PENELOPE

Oh, we've got to find her alright.

Penelope throws her bag over the shoulder and races off.  
Priscilla struggles after with the mouse-hoop and her own  
bag.

HENRY

Um, wait for me!

He trots after them as fast as his legs can go.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Penelope and Priscilla run past a row of shops, looking in  
each door.

PENELOPE

Angelina! Angelina Mouseling!

They're gone before Henry even arrives.

HENRY

Angelina! Alice! I found the  
slippers. <PUFF, PUFF>

EXT. ANOTHER STREET - DAY

Penelope and Priscilla run down another street.

PENELOPE

Angelina, wait 'til I get my hands  
on you.

As they run past a side street Alice pokes her head out.

ALICE

What's that?

Henry drags himself up to her, ready to collapse.

HENRY

Alice. <PUFF>

ALICE

Henry, there you are!

HENRY

I found . . . Angelina's . . .  
slippers.

He shows her.

ALICE

Oh, Henry, that's wonderful.

She sweeps him up in a big hug.

HENRY

But . . . the twins' slippers . . .  
have gone missing . . . they think  
. . . Angelina . . .

ALICE

Just because they've gone missing  
doesn't mean Angelina did it. Come  
on!

She runs after the twins, dragging Henry behind her.

HENRY

More running?

EXT. POST OFFICE - DAY

Priscilla and Penelope stop in front of the post office.

PRISCILLA

Penelope, listen. If you were  
Angelina, where would you go with  
the stolen shoes?

They both think for a moment.

PRISCILLA/PENELOPE

The ballet studio!

PRISCILLA

Let's go!

They race off as Alice and Henry run up.

ALICE

They're going that way, Henry.  
Let's hurry!

HENRY

I am . . . hurrying.

INT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY

Angelina is showing Miss Lilly Penelope's ballet shoes.

ANGELINA

So, Miss Lilly, this proves that Penelope stole them. I got them right out of her very own bag.

MISS LILLY

Oh, Angelina, what have you done?

ANGELINA

I've gotten my slippers back, and shown that the twins were guilty. See?

She sits down and straps on the shoes.

ANGELINA (CONT'D)

That's odd. They're too big.

Indeed, the slipper is much too large for Angelina's foot.

ANGELINA (CONT'D)

Penelope must have stretched them out with her huge paws.

MISS LILLY

Angelina, listen...

The twins come through the door with a BANG.

PENELOPE

There she is! You stole my slippers, Angelina!

Angelina springs to her feet.

ANGELINA

I did not! You stole my slippers and I just took them back again.

MISS LILLY

Girls! Girls!

PENELOPE

Miss Lilly, tell Angelina to take my slippers off at once!

ANGELINA

But they're my slippers, Miss Lilly.

MISS LILLY  
 Angelina, Penelope, you must both  
 calm down. We will figure out whose  
 slippers are whose, no?

The girls both turn contrite.

ANGELINA/PENELOPE  
 Yes, Miss Lilly.

MISS LILLY  
 There. Now, Angelina, if these  
 slippers are too big for your feet  
 let's have Penelope try them on.

ANGELINA  
 But...

MISS LILLY  
 No "buts," my dear.

Angelina slowly removes the slippers and hands them to  
 Penelope, who snatches them away. She puts them on.

PENELOPE  
 See?

MISS LILLY  
 A perfect fit!

ANGELINA  
 How could that be?

Alice BURSTS through the door with Henry on her back.

ALICE  
 Angelina! There you are!

HENRY  
 I found your slippers, Angelina!  
 See?

Hopping off Alice, he hold the slippers up in the air.

ANGELINA  
 You found--?

MISS LILLY  
 Well done, Henry!

Henry gives them to Angelina, who doesn't quite know what to  
 say.

ANGELINA

Thank . . . Thank you.

HENRY

They were in the bushes in the path  
through the wood.

ALICE

They must have fallen out of your  
bag when we were racing.

ANGELINA

Oh.

PENELOPE

So you see, Angelina, these weren't  
your silly slippers at all.

ANGELINA

Oh dear. You're right. And I stole  
them from you. Oh, I'm sorry,  
Penelope. Can you ever forgive me?

Penelope turns up her nose.

PENELOPE

Humph! We'll see. But I'm going to  
tell my Mum first.

PRISCILLA

Me too!

They both march out of the studio.

ANGELINA

Oh dear.

MISS LILLY

Don't worry about them, darling,  
you did the right thing in the end.

ANGELINA

Thanks, Miss Lilly. And I learned  
two things as well. First, you were  
right: it's better to believe  
someone than to accuse them of  
being dishonest without any proof.

ALICE

Or you might not be so honest  
yourself.

MISS LILLY

That's right, my dears.

HENRY

What's the second thing, Angelina?

ANGELINA

Oh, that's easy. To always fasten  
my bag during bicycle races.

They LAUGH.

IRIS OUT.