



THE STRANGE UNDOING OF PRUDENCIA HART

Synopsis

ACT 1

During the show Joanne will play the part of Prudencia Hart. The other five actors play many different roles throughout the play.

The show begins in a pub with the six actors in the show playing songs. During the final song the stage is transformed into the town of Kelso in Scotland using miniature model buildings. We meet Prudencia Hart, a 28 year old postgraduate student. The story begins on the night she drives to a conference in Kelso.

It is December 21st and it is snowing heavily as she drives to Kelso. When she arrives in Kelso she meets her colleague Dr Colin Syme. Prudencia finds Colin 'flashy' and Colin thinks Prudencia is old fashioned and behind the times.

Prudencia and Colin go to the conference but her speech goes badly & she wants to go home but her car is buried under all the snow. So, she and Colin go to the local pub while they try and find somewhere to stay for the night. The pub is very quiet and the music is not very good. Colin's phone rings and he has found somewhere to stay but it has only got one room. Prudencia is not happy and wants to find somewhere else to stay.

A loud Hen party from Kent arrive dressed in larger than life bird costumes and tell the story of the crazy night they have.

Prudencia comes back and is surrounded by the hen party who tell her that tonight is midwinter's eve - the night of the Devil's Ceilidh - where the devil lures the soul of a maiden into hell to keep her there forever.

Pru feels miserable and hides in the toilet. Suddenly there is a power cut. She takes out a head torch from her handbag and on the wall finds a business card advertising a B&B just outside Kelso and so she goes out into the night to find it.



Prudencia gets lost and ends up on a council estate where she meets a mysterious woman who sings a haunting folk song and disappears. Prudencia retraces her steps and end up back where she started outside the pub. Suddenly a man appears. He introduces himself as Nick the owner of the B&B. Although she is a little nervous Prudencia follows him to the B&B.

They go into his B&B, it looks miserable and Prudencia is a bit disappointed. But then Nick shows her the library. It is full of all her favourite writing, amazing collections of papers on ballads, philosophy, and history. Prudencia says she could spend eternity here just reading. She looks at Nick and realises that he is not in fact the kind owner of the B&B but is the Devil. At the end of his arm instead of a hand he has a hoof!

ACT 1

The stage has altered and we are now in hell. The Devil is dressed in a red fur coat with three devil creatures around him and we learn that he has killed Prudencia, and she is trapped in hell. As soon as she realises this the stage begins to revolve. Prudencia cries for help.

We see Prudencia and the Devil in scenes over many hundreds of years.

Prudencia keeps herself busy organising the library.

A swing set is lowered onto the stage. Devil wears red high heels shoes and sunglasses. He says he can change his appearance into anything he wants and shows Prudencia some of these including sexy halloween outfits, a lady with balloons with Prudencia's faces on them, a giant head, a giant moth and a teddy bear.

Prudencia is bored of this life, she stares out of the window at the ASDA car park where she spots a dog. She longs to escape. Devil sings Robert Burns' song to her, and at the end of the dance Pru says that she wants to go home.

Prudencia tries to escape but the Devil tell her that she can never leave.

Prudencia and the Devil watch TV, the show I'm a Celebrity, get me out of



here!

We see Prudencia giving the Devil a massage where he is relaxing and complaining about the difficulty of his work and being evil. No matter what he tries to do he will always have to face being evil.

We see Pru alone on the swing. The devil creatures are now dressed as Prudencias. 400 years go by. The devil creatures push her on the swing. The Devil appears dressed in a suit, Prudencia asks him to stay, but once again he leaves.

Prudencia confronts the Devil and says that her PhD is missing, but she finds a quote from her work in a book written by Colin Syme. When people describe Hell they often talk about the Devil being attracted to his human captive. It is the story of unrequited love. Prudencia encourages the Devil to talk in rhyme; he attempts to resist but in the end he surrenders and the scene finishes with them making love on the swing.

As the Devil sleeps Prudencia escapes. The chase begins, with screams, flashing lights, and intense music. The Devil transforms into his true form of Lucifer with huge red wings. Two of the devil creatures attempt to grab Prudencia and drag her back to hell. She suddenly sees a crack in time appear in front of her - she remembers that in classic ballads every fair maiden needs a knight to save her. She screams for help, she is desperate and suddenly Colin Syme appears.

We are back in the bar in Kelso. Colin Syme is the star of the night. He invites the entire audience to chant for him. Suddenly, he notices that Prudencia is missing and he sets off in search of her. He reaches the ASDA car park. The ASDA sign explodes, sparks fly and he sees the crack in time where Prudencia is trapped. He is scared but he knows Prudencia is in trouble so he decides to be brave. He grabs her hand as she tries to escape from hell.

Prudencia and Colin are on the swing and the devil creatures swing them with great force. The screams of the Devil surround them. Trying to make Colin let go of her the Devil transforms Prudencia in all sorts of forms: an eel, into fire,



ice and even Colin's mother but Colin holds on. The Devil finally enters the stage, and asks if Prudencia will stay with him. She refuses. Prudencia and Colin jump through the crack of time, and find themselves in the now-silent carpark. Prudencia kisses Colin, and they both collapse.

They wake up in the ASDA car park in 2021 and try to remember what happened but cannot seem to remember. They return to the pub where it all began. Prudencia asks one of the locals about the woman she met at the council estate who sang the sad song. They tell her that it must have been the ghost of a woman who had died in a fire after having an affair with Nick. Professor Macintosh asks Prudencia to sing a karaoke song. She hesitates but suddenly sees the Devil in the window. Pru agrees and sings Kylie's "Can't Get You Out of my Head".

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Cast Page



Joanne Thomson
Prudencia Hart



Amelia Isaac Jones
Corbie & Cast



Malin Lewis
Musical Director & Cast



Lawrence Hodgson-Mullings
Corbie & Cast



Paul Tinto
Devil & Cast



Oliver Wellington
Colin Syme & Cast