

DVOŘÁK

RUSALKA

CONDUCTOR

SIR MARK ELDER

PRODUCTION

MARY ZIMMERMAN

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RUSALKA

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FOREIGN PRINCESS

KATARINA DALAYMAN

JEŽIBABA

JAMIE BARTON

PRINCE

BRANDON JOVANOVICH

WATER GNOME

ERIC OWENS

ACT I The water nymph Rusalka, daughter of the Water Gnome, has fallen in love with the Prince and longs to become human. The witch Ježibaba agrees to help her but warns Rusalka that she will lose her power of speech, and if she doesn't succeed in finding love, she will be damned and the man she loves will die. Convinced that her feelings can overcome all spells, Rusalka drinks Ježibaba's potion. When the Prince finds her in the forest, he is captivated by her beauty and takes her to his castle.

INTERMISSION

ACT II Preparations are underway for the Prince and Rusalka's wedding. She has not spoken a word, but he remains determined to win her. A Foreign Princess, one of the wedding guests, mocks Rusalka, who is becoming increasingly intimidated by the human world. When the Prince confesses his love for the Princess, the Water Gnome warns him of the fate that awaits him, then disappears with Rusalka.

INTERMISSION

ACT III Rusalka has returned to the forest. Ježibaba tells her that to save herself she must kill the Prince, but she refuses. The Prince, full of remorse, comes looking for Rusalka. She explains that a kiss from her would now kill him. Accepting his destiny, he asks her to give him peace. Rusalka kisses the Prince, who dies in her arms.

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