The household of Monsieur Pandolfe is in an uproar. His second wife, Madame de la Haltière, and her vain daughters terrorize him and the servants while they prepare to attend a ball at the royal palace.

After they have left, Monsieur Pandolfe’s daughter, Cinderella, enters. She is sad and lonely, and sorry to have been left behind with only her dreams. She rests from her chores and falls asleep in the empty house.

While Cinderella sleeps, her Fairy Godmother and a company of fairies appear. The Fairy Godmother changes Cinderella’s old rags into a beautiful ball gown.

She departs for the ball in a magical carriage and promises to return by midnight.
Prince Charming finds no joy in his life at the palace and longs for someone to love. The King interrupts the Prince’s discontent and commands him to attend the evening’s ball, where he must choose a wife from the noble ladies there.

The Prince is uninterested in the endless parade of women at the ball, including Madame de la Haltiere and her daughters. When Cinderella arrives, everyone is struck by her grace and beauty.

The Prince is enthralled by this unknown woman, and once alone, they confess their feelings for one another. Just as the Prince declares his love, the clock strikes midnight and Cinderella is forced to flee.

Back at home, Cinderella is distraught to hear from her step-mother and sisters that an unknown lady at the ball was mocked by everyone there, including the Prince. Cinderella despairs of ever seeing her prince again.
Pandolfe consoles Cinderella and vows that tomorrow they will run away together, back to their old home.

Madame de la Haltière is thrilled to hear the King’s Herald announce that the Prince has summoned women worldwide to try on the glass slipper. Cinderella dares to hope that the Prince will recognize her.

After a long procession of princesses, the Prince despair that he will never find his love. The Fairy Godmother appears and heralds the arrival of Cinderella.

The Prince and Cinderella are reunited. The whole company is amazed and recognizes Cinderella as their future queen, as the story comes to a happy conclusion.