

# SAVING Cinderella

## FAQ

### WHAT IS SAVING CINDERELLA?

*Saving Cinderella* is a musical: a sequel to the original story that follows Cinderella and her Prince into a “not-so -happily” ever after. It explores universal issues of poverty and charity and the intersection of poverty and trauma. Sharing a message of community, healing, and hope, *Saving Cinderella* provides a multi-generational opportunity to envision a society where struggle becomes strength.

### WHERE DID YOU GET THE IDEA TO USE A FAIRYTALE TO WRITE A MUSICAL ABOUT MODERN POVERTY AND CHARITY?

The idea to use a fairytale setting for *Saving Cinderella* came from my years growing up in Europe. To me it was the land of fairytales, and that aesthetic seems to have gotten deep into my bones. So when I wanted to talk about poverty and charity, I readily thought of how the Prince didn't even know Cinderella when he “rescued her” by whisking her away to the palace. It's a dynamic I was introduced to while volunteering to fight poverty and one I lived out in my own journey: the person who is struggling must be a part of devising their own solutions vs having solutions forced on them from outside.

### YOU'VE VOLUNTEERED TO FIGHT POVERTY, BUT HOW HAS POVERTY IMPACTED YOU PERSONALLY?

My family has experienced situational poverty. My husband and I both grew up in middle class families, and we built successful careers. But we encountered a series of devastating losses that utterly changed our lives and tossed us into a financial and mental health crisis. At one point we had no income, no employment, and unemployment was denied. During this time we also discovered that I have an underlying health condition that has made me unable to do any form of traditional work. As it all piled on, my husband and I both struggled to see any hope, But in the midst of it all, I discovered strength and a type of faith I never knew before. And thankfully, we had friends and family who could provide food, shelter, and other resources for the 6 years or so that all of this was going on. In the end, I'm grateful, cause by living some of what I once only heard about, I've become more equipped to tell the *Saving Cinderella* story.

### WITH ALL THAT'S HAPPENED, HOW HAVE YOU FUNDED SAVING CINDERELLA?

The funding for *Saving Cinderella* has come from a generous group of Patrons and Backers who have given either monthly or in lump sums to make this project possible. Anyone interested in joining this extraordinary group of individuals can sign up at [patreon.com/savingcinderella](https://patreon.com/savingcinderella).

### WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR SAVING CINDERELLA?

The primary focus for *Saving Cinderella* in 2023 is to work toward a local production within the next year to two years. Our Patrons have patiently waited to see this show go from page to stage, and we are all excited to be working with artists to do just that.

The long term goals are all based on preparing *Saving Cinderella* for schools and community theaters to license the show. Don't get me wrong, Broadway would be great, but more people actually see your show through the school system than Broadway. And my primary goal is to share the message of building relationships in order to fight poverty. I want *Saving Cinderella* to take that message to as many people as possible.