



North

NORTH as an Animated TV Series in 26 Episodes
by PictoryLand © 2023

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The Bewitched Mirror



THE BEWITCHED MIRROR

1.

The series opens with an introduction of the world of Gerda in Copenhagen around 1870 through a beautiful fly-through of the city, seen from a bird's perspective. Then we meet Gerda (8), her family and neighbours.

We also introduce Heaven with St. Peter the Gate Keeper, Head Angel Ariel, and whimsical Lily (7). We see how some little devils, headed by teenage devil Luiz, are on their way to Heaven to tease the angels with a terrific mirror they have made, in which everything ugly turns out beautiful, and everything nice and good-looking turns out really nasty.

Because of the antics of little Lily, they lose their bewitched mirror, which sails down through the spheres, crashing on Coal Market Square in Copenhagen. In the early morning, large and small splinters are still whirling around in the air and the street gutters as Gerda's mother Hilma hurries to work in the Tailor's shop. Gerda follows, helping to carry some newly ironed men's suits. Both Gerda and Hilma have seen the beautiful red leather boots the Shoemaker tells Hilma will be perfect for Gerda for Christmas. Gerda then runs a few paces back to the Travelers' store, meeting up with her best pal and closest neighbour Kai (9).

Harmful Winter Bugs



HARMFUL WINTER BUGS

2.

In the afternoon, Gerda and Kai sit at Gerda's end of the narrow, makeshift bridge which connects their two attic apartments, one in each of two houses on opposite sides of the street. Kai is working on Gerda's Christmas present, a wooden horse, but that of course is secret. We are introduced to the Music Box with Gerda's favourite tune, the main theme of the series.

In the afternoon, they all celebrate Grandma's birthday. Crossing the makeshift bridge on his way home, Kai is hit by bewitched mirror splinters in his eye and heart, and starts seeing things in a distorted manner: The beautiful sled his carpenter father Severin is working on for Kai's Christmas present, now appears to Kai all crooked.

The sudden snow storm that night scares Gerda awake, but Granny comforts her and tells her about the Snow Queen. The next morning, Gerda sees the Snow Queen in the frozen pattern of icy lace on the window glass. She waits as usual for Kai, so they can go to school together, but he does not show up. On her way to school, she meets with Pele the Pirate and his scary glass eye, rolling along on the cobble stones. She catches up with Kai, but is shocked to find he rejects and insults her. Gerda's world has turned sadly different with Kai gone bad.

A Horrible Day



A HORRIBLE DAY

3.

On her way to work this day, Hilma as usual passes the Shoemaker's display window and is enticed to buy those nice red boots she saw the other day for Gerda as her Christmas gift. At work, she has some time to continue working on the vest she is sewing for Severin, also a Christmas present.

The bad boy Niels is the devil Luiz in human form. He has a pair of glasses made with bits of the bewitched mirror. Luiz rides across Market Square in a sled being pulled at great speed by another, larger sled. Kai watches in admiration. Luiz befriends the younger Kai and teaches him how to make hard, perfect snow balls. Kai hits a still much younger boy, making him cry. Just passing by, Gerda is shocked to see Kai behaving in this way.

Kai then steals his Christmas present, the newly painted sled, and waits for a larger sled to come by. Just then, the Snow Queen arrives in her big, baby blue sled pulled by an ice horse. Attaching his little green sled to hers, he trails behind the blue sled out the City Gate. Faster and faster they go, until Kai, now scared, wants to loosen the rope. But it's stuck. Too late does it dawn on him that he has been abducted.

The Guardian Angel



THE GUARDIAN ANGEL

4.

The day of Kai's abduction - and of his horrible treatment of Gerda - Gerda comes home from school feeling so bad she doesn't even say hello to Mons her cat, but goes straight to bed in her attic room.

Hilma comes home with the new red boots and proudly shows them to Grandma, who tells her Gerda has gone to bed because she was not feeling so good. At this point, Hilma finds nothing very alarming in that.

In Heaven, St. Peter and Ariel decide to appoint the immature, whimsical Lily to be Gerda's own Guardian Angel. If Lily succeeds, she will grow and mature through taking care of someone else, and will be rewarded with a real halo. This means that Lily, too, will then become a real angel, not just an aspiring one. Lily solemnly takes on the job and arrives in Gerda's bedroom for her first night on duty.

Severin is really worried about the disappearance of his son. Knud the Lamp Man, the Baker, and others have all seen him on a small green sled being pulled out of the City Gate by a larger, blue sled. Severin goes to the river to look for his son, but finds no trace of him.

Flying North



FLYING NORTH

5.

As the Snow Queen's icy horse gallops along outside the city walls, it is suddenly changed into two ice horses, which are then further changed into two huge, flying hens pulling her sled. Using her magic wand, she hauls Kai into her sled with her, then detaches his own sled, which crashed on the riverside down below. She kisses Kai's cheek, which makes him all blue, but prevents him from feeling the terrible cold. They fly across Denmark and cross Amanda's Island, where Owl is scared to see a sled which definitely isn't Santa's! They go on crossing parts we will get back to later, like the Lapp camp in Finnmark (Norway), and a mountain which is no ordinary mountain, but Rastekai the Troll Mountain himself. But at this stage, all we see is the breathtaking northern landscape covered in glittering snow and ice spread out under the colourful Northern lights, while a choir of howling wolves makes up the background music.

Back in Copenhagen, two policemen show up at Severin's. There is proof, they say, that his son has drowned in the river, given the debris of a little green sled found on the river bank. Severin must admit it does look like that. He found Kai's one mitten down there himself, didn't he? He tearfully agrees to sign Kai's death certificate. Hilma, serving them coffee, cannot stand it and breaks down in tears.

A Sad Christmas



A SAD CHRISTMAS

6.

With Kai gone, Christmas Eve is a sad affair for Gerda and her family this year as they all miss him. Severin hardly takes any notice of the beautiful vest Hilma has made for him, while Gerda hardly notices her brand new lovely red boots. Lily whispers to Gerda that Kai is not dead, then clasps her mouth guiltily because she is not supposed to talk to humans, not even to her charge.

On Christmas Day, Gerda refuses to go to church with Hilma and Grandma, who let her be. Gerda then hurries to pack her school bag with some food and a pair of extra socks. Since Gerda herself dares not touch the forbidden cookie box, Lily loads up cookies in her pockets. At the last minute, Gerda remembers to write a farewell note to her Mom, then says goodbye to Mons the cat. Outside Northern Gate, she passes the sleeping guard in his booth and has a difficult moment taking her final leave of Mons, who has followed her to the gate.

She then sets off to find Kai, taking the path towards the river to see if she can find traces of him. After all, the grown-ups all say that's where he went with his sled.

Gerda's River Journey



GERDA'S RIVER JOURNEY

7.

Gerda arrives at a ramshackle pier by the river and sits down at the edge, dangling her feet. She asks the fish if they have seen Kai, then sees an owl. Following the owl with her eyes, she discovers a small boat moored nearby. Unseen by Gerda, Lily has placed some cookies in the prow of the boat, enticing Gerda to get on board. Has Lily also tampered with the mooring rope? In any case, the mooring undoes itself, and the boat takes off, the current steering it down the river.

At home, Hilma reads Gerda's note in despair. It does not matter what Grandma says to console her.

While Gerda is still asleep in the bottom of the boat, Lily discovers an island with what she thinks will be a great "safehouse", that is, a safe house to spend the winter in. She arranges for a flock of twittering birds to pull the boat to shore by its rope. Gerda is woken by the bird noise and sees the island with its house approaching fast. When the boat glides to shore, Gerda climbs up on the wooden pier. She approaches the house and is startled when a huge wooden soldier guarding the wrought iron gate winks at her. She puts her hand in its knitted mitten on the handle of the rusty gate, which starts opening onto the mysterious house and garden.

The Spell To Forget One's Past



THE SPELL TO FORGET ONE'S PAST

The old witch Amanda has long been waiting for someone to take care of her as she starts her second century. She now comes outside to greet her unexpected guest. Gerda trustingly tells her about the yellow roses at home and Kai who used to love them, but then suddenly changed and disappeared. Behind Gerda's back, Amanda makes all the roses in the garden sink back into the earth. She then offers Gerda hot chocolate and uses her magic wand to produce so many cookies and sweets that Gerda, intoxicated by all the sugar, dozes off.

Lily carefully studies the way Amanda uses her wand, learning how to move her wrist and hand. While happily chewing on a marzipan pig, she stuffs Gerda's school bag full of cookies, careful not to be seen (witches can see both angels and devils), and obviously already planning for provisions when they will continue their journey. Then she flies outside to make friends with Owl, offering her a cookie. Lily politely refuses Owl's return gift of a dead mouse.

Amanda makes a nice princess bedroom for Gerda. But when Gerda is asleep, she sneaks in to put a forgetting spell on her as she combs her hair with a magic golden comb.

An Unexpected Escape



AN UNEXPECTED ESCAPE

9.

As Gerda wakes up that first day at Amanda's Island, she does not know where she is, and has forgotten all about Kai and her journey. But she happily toils away at her new tasks, collecting eggs in the goose pen, sweeping the yard, and doing the dishes.

In spring, Mr. Stork arrives back from Africa. From his conversation with Owl, Lily learns about the Snow Queen. A flock of wild geese at the same time pass by overhead, heading northwards as they always do in spring. Lily understands it is now time for Gerda to be on her way. She pushes Amanda's hat with yellow roses down from its shelf. The yellow roses trigger Gerda's memory of the Music Box and home, and she prepares to continue her journey for Kai right away in the boat moored at the pier.

Lily steals Amanda's magic wand to bring it on their journey, but by accident shrinks Gerda to one foot tall. Despairing, Gerda runs to hide with Hank in the goose coop, because she feels safe with her feathered friend. But Lily persuades Hank to prove that the tame sort can fly just as well as the wild sort. Finally, Hank the Gander agrees to take Gerda on his back all the way to the Snow Queen's Palace – and they escape just as Amanda approaches to prevent it.

The Golden-Haired Boy



THE GOLDEN-HAIRED BOY

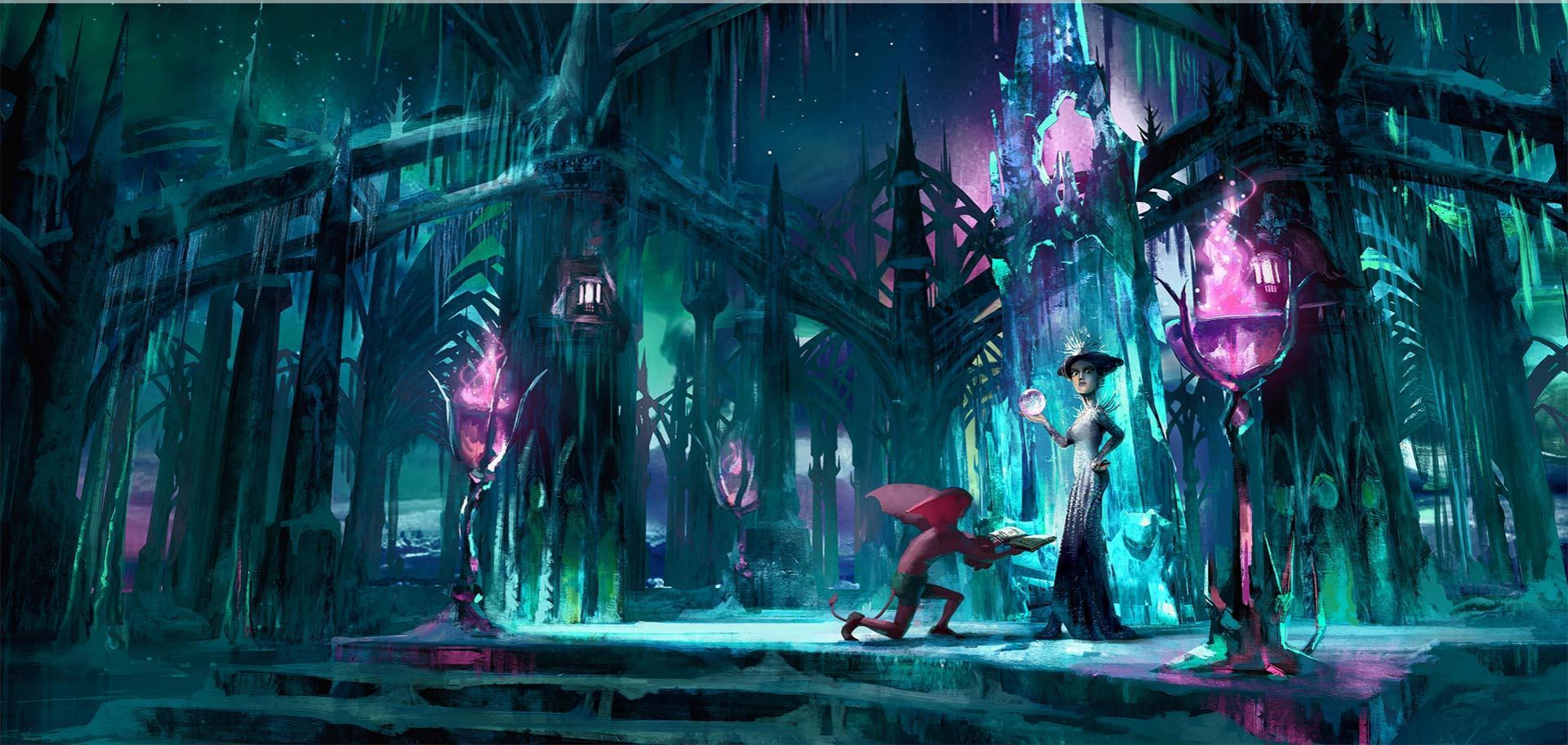
10.

An accident happens when Gerda falls off Hank's back during the flight, landing in a pond at a Danish estate. She does catch cold but is rescued and taken care of by three kind old goblins. They put her to bed in their own goblin-sized apartment below the estate and listen to Gerda's story about Kai. But such a golden-haired boy actually lives right there at their estate! At night the goblins take Gerda upstairs to the children's bedroom in the main house to show her this golden-haired boy in his bed that they believe might be Kai. It sadly turns out he is not.

The golden-haired boy's little brother Hans is very much taken with Hank, who does not appreciate being followed everywhere and tries very hard to shake off the boy's troublesome attention. Trying his best to do so, Hank runs into several difficult situations until the goblins finally tie him in the outhouse, safely out of danger, and for his own good.

The goblins discuss how they may help Gerda get back to her normal size. Gerda has told them about the power of holy church bells on Sundays, which would turn even the biggest of trolls into stone. They decide to try the only big bell they have, the storehouse bell – but that unfortunately does not work. Gerda, now well again, thanks the goblins and sets off on Hank.

The Snow Queen's Spy



THE SNOW QUEEN'S SPY

11.

Gerda is happy to be continuing her journey on Hank's back. As she thinks fondly of Kai, her silver heart sends off warm rays that reach all the way to him at the Snow Queen's Palace. The Snow Queen sniffs at something unusual in the air and discovers that someone is on to Kai. Luiz is sent to Denmark to find out who it is who has stumbled across Kai's trail.

Luiz arrives at Amanda's Island and interviews Mister Stork before catching up with the Danish estate when Hank and Gerda have just left. Here, the goblins play a trick on him, freezing him into an awkward position. To get away, Luiz has to change into the shape of lanky boy Niels. He tricks little Hans into unknowingly providing the help he needs to get free.

Back in Copenhagen, Hilma, Grandma and Severin are trying hard to cope with the recent loss of their children. Severin shows Hilma his secret: the bewitched glasses he found after Niels/Luiz lost them in Northern Street. By accident, Grandma mistakes them for her own and suffers a bout of depression, until Severin realizes her mistake and destroys the glasses. He picks up the courage to ask Hilma for a date. At first she says no, but then decides that life must go on after all.

Sold As A Slave



SOLD AS A SLAVE

12.

As Gerda and Hank reach a church by the sea on a Sunday morning, Gerda's spell is broken by the chiming of holy church bells, turning her back to her normal size. From the church tower, Gerda notices a group of circus people. Although they first capture Hank to make him their dinner, they also offer Gerda a lift in their boat, crossing the Strait of Öresund to get over to Sweden. That is an offer Gerda cannot refuse. Well on board, Gerda frees Hank and is sad to watch him desert her and fly back to Denmark. But she also makes friend with Bianca and her monkey Jasper. Bianca is the circus trapeze artist, and Gerda's age.

Back at the her Palace, the Snow Queen hears Luiz' report about the girl on the gander and sends him back to find her, and to steal something that belongs to her, in order to enable the SNOW QUEEN to track her magically and finally destroy her.

On the Swedish side of the strait, the circus troupe meets up with Bruno the Circus Director and his friend Pele the Pirate. Three colourful circus wagons are waiting to bring them further north to the rest of the circus in time for the opening of the season. It all seems wonderful to Gerda, who does not know that Pele has blackmailed Bruno into allowing him to sell Gerda to become someone's bride and slave.

All Alone



ALL ALONE

13.

Pele's plan fails when Jasper the monkey drinks the sleeping potion intended for Gerda, and Bianca warns her that she must escape. She gives Gerda a horse and a stolen compass. Gerda has seen compasses in the Travelers' store, and Kai has explained to her how they work. Now she hurries away on Blackie, the circus horse Bianca has given her.

Gerda reaches a scary, derelict suspension bridge that she has to cross on Blackie – with Lily secretly guiding the horse. Luiz appears and snatches away her silver heart, which Gerda believes has been lost into the abyss below the bridge. Fending for herself all summer, Gerda spends her time looking for wild fruits and berries. A brook provides the water she needs. The sun shines, the days are long, Blackie has all the green grass he can eat, so so far, all seems well.

Luiz arrives at the Snow Queen's Palace and delivers the stolen silver heart to his mistress. The captive Kai is totally into his ice puzzles and math equations. Nothing else interests him – not even the fact that the Snow Queen is a shapeshifter: A polar fox comes running and suddenly explodes in a flurry of white feathers – and out steps the Snow Queen. A sound like the growl of a fox escapes her before she starts jeering at “the famous mathematician at work”.

The Song of Autumn



THE SONG OF AUTUMN

14.

Autumn is wet and windy. Lily waits on top of the cave where Gerda has spent the night until a frail and listless Gerda exits. Only one single apple is left at the very top of a wild apple tree, way out of Gerda's reach, but Lily shakes it down for her. Eating the apple, Gerda is interrupted by the sound of shouting and barking. She sees a big moose ox coming seemingly straight at her. Gerda runs for safety in her former cave. From there, she sees hunters with dogs pursuing the moose ox. Gerda rides away, believing the danger is over when suddenly Blackie goes into a full gallop. Gerda more hears than sees the furious moose ox coming after them – until she finally turns back to see him standing still, angrily scraping at the moss with his hoof. Only now do the tears come. Stroking Blackie's neck, she tells him how much she misses her Mom. She obviously has reached point zero. How will she manage to go on?

Kai is so consumed by his puzzles that he hardly notices the Snow Queen bending down, pretending she wants to kiss him, but then reminds herself that a 3rd kiss would kill him. She does want to keep him alive – for now.

A huge polar bear appears, looking like it will eat Kai, but then strangely it settles down with him and moves one of his puzzle pieces. For the first time, Kai looks up with interest.

Robbers



ROBBERS

15.

Gerda walks in the woods with Blackie. Intercut between a ground full of mushrooms and Kai skating up at the Snow Queen's Palace. Gerda finds a deserted, still smoking fire, but no food. She is so preoccupied that she does not notice two robbers sneaking up on her from behind. Robber Fred takes Blackie's reins, while robber Brute presses Gerda's arms together so firmly she cannot move.

In the distance, Gerda sees an old, ruined castle split in two from top to bottom by a bolt of lightning. An old hag sits in a rocking chair in the foreground, drinking from a big green bottle. A girl appears with braids standing out straight to both sides, and a tame crow on her shoulder. This is Ronya (10), who is unusually strong for a girl.

Ronya says the tame crow on her shoulder always tells her what to do. Gerda tells Ronya to ask the crow if it thinks Gerda should have her horse back from Ronya's robber brother Fred. Ronya is visibly shocked when it seems the crow does tell her precisely that. This is in fact Lily telling Ronya so. Now scared of Gerda's "powers", Ronya gives Gerda a smoked ham and tells her to be off the sooner the better.

Strange Creatures Of The Forest



STRANGE CREATURES OF THE FOREST

16.

Skating at the Snow Queen's Palace, Kai stumbles over a rusty key.

At the same time, Gerda stumbles in the forest, falling into a hole and losing her compass that she had hung around her neck.

Kai sees a mysterious shed and discovers that the key he found opens its door. A lot of bones fall out together with a blue Lapp hat. Kai is visibly shaken.

Several narrow corridors lead from the hole Gerda landed in. A strange grey wave draws closer, whispering and mumbling. This is a crowd of Whoosies. They are small, hairy, goblinsized creatures wearing no clothing except for an array of strange hats. They look old and friendly, but confused. Gerda manages to climb out of the hole only to discover three Whoosies jumping up and down Blackie's back using his legs as ladders, tickling him and making him jumpy as they head for the ham from Ronya in Gerda's wicker basket.

Fumbling for her lost compass, Gerda realizes she must ask the Whoosies what direction North is. The Whoosies don't know. Gerda sighs that all she knows is that North is where the wild geese fly in spring. The Whoosies perk up, they do know where the wild geese fly in spring. Turning to show Gerda the direction of that mountain, one of the Whoosies stumbles over the compass. Gerda is delighted to have her compass back, but she has to pay the remainder of her ham to get it back.

The Snow Queen's Black Magic



THE SNOW QUEEN'S BLACK MAGIC

17.

Gerda sees the wild geese returning southwards and knows she has to hurry to rescue Kai: Winter is setting on.

The Snow Queen is eager to use Gerda's silver heart to try out a black magic recipe that will kill Gerda by killing the silver heart. She involves Luiz, her apprentice, in the process and loads him up with strange mixtures in glass vials and boxes full of powders and dried insects. They get a magic fire going. "Flames! Finally something I can relate to." says Luiz.

The Snow Queen instructs Luiz to wait until the smoke is a "nice, sulphuric yellow" before dropping the heart into the mixture. He makes a mistake. Furious, she takes over.

Gerda on Blackie meanwhile climbs ever higher into ever colder hills and mountains passed half frozen lakes. until she has left the woods behind, where the trees now appear in bright hues of yellow, orange, and red. One day, they hear a faint thunder growing louder as a huge flock of reindeer comes thundering towards them. Blackie is scared and runs out, throwing Gerda off his back. She lands on the ground, while her present for Kai, the little porcelain bird whistle, falls out of her coat pocket.

The Lapp Camp



THE LAPP CAMP

18.

After her nasty fall, Gerda is rescued by Sampo Littlelapp, who catches the run-away Blackie with his lasso. During Gerda's illness, he and his Granny Finn-Maya fight to counteract the Snow Queen's black magic. INTERCUT between the Snow Queen brewing her deadly potion, and Granny Finn-Maya making a healthy soup for Gerda. Back at Amanda's island, a guilty Hank inquires of the passing wild geese whether they have seen Gerda, "someone in a blue coat". They have not seen her.

Feverish, Gerda dreams that she crosses a bridge to Heaven. In the Heavenly Choir, she recognizes her Mom, Granny, the Shoemaker and others, but not Kai. "Where's Kai? I don't see Kai!" With this line Gerda comes back to life, while the Snow Queen starts to blame Luiz for what is evident: Her black magic did not work. After Gerda has recovered, Sampo shows her the Lapp camp. He tells Gerda of the dangerous Snow Queen, and of his older brother that they all suspect was abducted by her. But he decides to help Gerda after all. Granny Finn-Maya helps by giving Gerda a new reindeer skin coat with magical runes on.

The polar bear approaches Kai again, and the Snow Queen chases him away, apparently very much aware of who this polar bear is. But the polar bear steals back in secret. Once more, Kai takes comfort in the soft fur of his only friend.

The Troll Mountain



THE TROLL MOUNTAIN

19.

Gerda and Sampo set out together on Svante to find the Snow Queen's Palace. The reindeer is scared to get close to Rastekai, the Troll mountain. But Sampo bravely answers the troll's questions and even makes him laugh when he offers to make him a gift of his sheath-knife made of real steel. This unheard of sound of laughter puzzles the dwarves in the troll king's retinue. Rastekai lets Sampo keep his knife and grants them free passage across his territory, even giving them a life guard to keep them safe: An armed dwarf riding on a bear, and another dwarf with a spear, riding on a huge wolf.

Back in Copenhagen, Hilma quarrels with Grandma. She accuses her of being naïve, while Grandma defends herself saying she is a believer, something very different. Hilma lists up for her mother the many past holidays when Grandma has been sure Gerda would be back, and now, just as naïvely, she thinks Gerda will be back by Christmas.

At her Palace, the Snow Queen now gives Kai a very special puzzle. One word is all she's after, she says. He now talks back at her, saying he's found something "that isn't right", meaning the bones. She just laughs and says it's only whalebones, left by an expedition long ago.

The Giant At The World's End



THE GIANT AT THE WORLD'S END

20.

As the full moon rises above the Snow Queen's Palace, a handsome man comes walking over to Kai, settling down and moving the same way the polar bear used to. He is the bewitched Prince Valemon, punished by the Snow Queen for once having solved a particular puzzle. He is allowed his human form only on the night of the full moon, when he enters a room in a ship wreck in the frozen lake to mark the passage of another month, thus keeping track of the time.

In a foggy, mystical landscape, Svante, Sampo and Gerda and their bodyguards meet a hungry giant who needs a whole whale to satisfy his hunger. Will he eat the children instead? Senior dwarf Reginald has a few tricks up his sleeve, but ends up fleeing from the Giant, who is a quick learner and has picked up some of the magic formulas Reginald was mumbling. He succeeds in making a huge sack-like object fall down from the sky. It turns out to be a table cloth folded in the four corners. When spread out flat it contains all kinds of steaks, pies, and cakes, only no whale meat. The Giant let Kai and Gerda climb up his body like a tower, catching a glimpse of the far-away shiny, glittering ice palace of the Snow Queen. The compass shows them in what direction to move.

A Narrow Escape



A NARROW ESCAPE

Fog descends as thick as pea soup. Svante, afraid of the fog, refuses to go on. Sampo gets off his back to lead him by his bridle, while Gerda remains on his back. Suddenly, they hear strange sounds which Sampo confirms are wolves howling. He adds that wolves don't eat people – which is of no help to poor Svante, who starts running, out of his wits with fear. On his back, Gerda keeps screaming for Sampo. “Here, over here!”, Sampo calls back, sounding ever further away.

After Svante has calmed down, he and Gerda continue along peacefully, Gerda consulting her compass. Suddenly Svante pricks up his ears again, and Gerda becomes aware of three big wolves lurking among the cliffs behind them. Svante sets off again, with the wolves in hot pursuit. With some help from Lily they barely escape the danger: She makes sure a huge stone lands right on the thin edge of an abyss, breaking it and thus widening the abyss. This causes two of the wolves to fall into the abyss instead of making it to the other side in one big jump. The first and biggest wolf, however, has made it across and continues pursuing Svante and Gerda until he is boxed away by the mysterious polar bear, who thus rescues both girl and reindeer.

The Snow Queen waits eagerly for the winter solstice, watching the winter skies together with her slow apprentice Luiz.

Snow Monsters



SNOW MONSTERS

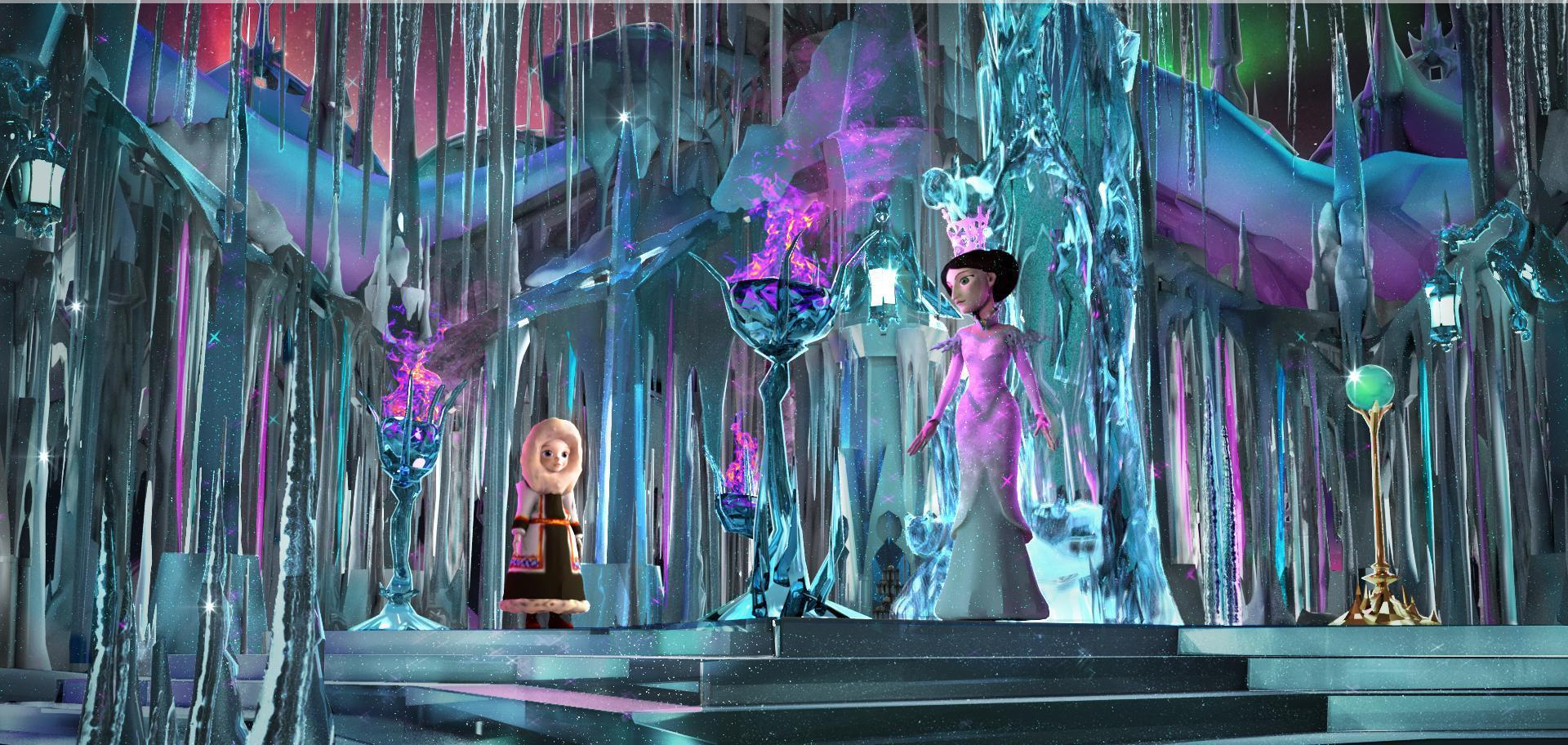
22.

The Snow Queen senses that intruders are approaching her Palace. She decides to let her snow monsters get rid of them. When Gerda whirls up snow descending towards the glinting, shimmering palace out on its ice green flats, the snow turns into lots of snow hens she has to fight on her way down, helped by Lily and Svante. Then a wave of much worse monsters come rolling against her, huge snow balls transferring into terrible snow porcupines and snow boars. Gerda prays for help, her words of prayer transforming into warrior angels with helmets and spears. They easily defeat the snow monsters, which melt into ice water and nothingness as soon as they are attacked by the angels.

In that moment of praying, Gerda catches a glimpse of Lily, also praying, for the very first time. Gerda has sensed many a time that there was someone there, helping out, and now understands that Lily is the one who has been there all along to support her. Gerda direct her thanks to the spot where Lily was, the little angel not being visible any more.

In the Witch's Laboratory, the Snow Queen orders Luiz to sharpen the knife to use when killing Kai. She carefully watches the sky to keep track of the moon rays which will tell her exactly when the Winter Solstice occurs and her magic will work at its best.

A Timely Arrival



A TIMELY ARRIVAL

23.

Gerda walks around in the deserted Snow Queen Palace, calling Kai's name. Coming back, she sees him sitting down to untie his skates. She happily runs over and embraces him, but he does not recognize her. Down in the Witch's Laboratory, the Snow Queen asks Luiz to hurry up and finished sharpening that knife. Just then, that special moon ray hits that particular mark on the floor tiles: The Winter Solstice is there! The Snow Queen commands Luiz to get Kai in a hurry. As Luiz comes out, he sees Gerda with Kai some paces away and is very astonished: "That girl must have powers! No one can come here."

Just then Sampo arrives on Svante. Luiz conjures up a scary trident with sharp teeth, throwing it straight at Sampo, who quickly makes Svante move to dodge the trident. It just barely misses, landing at the reindeer's feet. Sampo now takes up his "knife of real steel", perfectly suited for killing "witches and wizards gone bad" because they are powerless against the strength of steel. His knife hits Luiz right in his heart, and this kills him on the spot. He only has time to shout "Rats, it's steel!" before his hide and clothes fall to the ground. His soul, a poor bat, escapes into the palace corridors. Sampo takes off after it, aiming to kill Luiz' soul as well.

On the ground the knife Luiz had sharpened, and Gerda's silver heart that Luiz has worn.

The Snow Queen's Deadly Game



THE SNOW QUEEN'S DEADLY GAME

In Copenhagen, Severin and Hilma fall out. Hilma accuses Severin of not having brought up Kai in the right manner, Severin accuses Hilma of having no control of Gerda at all – which Hilma admits to her mother.

Back at the Palace the Snow Queen comes running up the stairs from the Witch's Laboratory, screaming for Luiz. She finds the trident, remarking that there is no blood, but overlooks the sharpened knife Luiz lost because just then, Sampo comes back and catches her in his lasso. The Snow Queen, however, uses her wand to freeze him and Svante into one big block of ice. She then discovers Gerda sitting with Kai. She rehearses a couple of facial expressions and voices. With outstretched arms, as in a gesture of hearty welcome, she walks over to Gerda, telling her what a brave girl she is, coming all this way to visit her. She wants to touch her, but the magical runes on Gerda's coat snap at her. Gerda retorts that she has come for Kai, not her.

Deliberately showing off in front of Gerda, the Snow Queen now gives Kai his 3rd kiss, and Kai dies. The Snow Queen leaves to find the knife she needs in order to cut his heart out for the potion, because she does not want to ruin her nails. Sitting by the dead Kai, Gerda now seems to be defeated. The polar bear comes to comfort her. Gerda cries into his white, soft fur.

The One Word



THE ONE WORD

25.

The polar bear and Lily encourage Gerda to solve the mysterious final puzzle, which would have amounted to that one word needed to free Kai – if he had been still alive.

The Snow Queen comes back with her knife, furious to see Gerda working with the puzzle. The polar bear moves to protect Gerda. “Not you again!” cries the Snow Queen, turning him into another huge block of ice. Then she jumps forward to kill Gerda, who has turned to face her. Behind her back Gerda holds the last puzzle piece for the word “Eternity” (“Evidheden”), which she now lets drop, and the last missing piece of this mystical word slides into place. As soon as the word is whole, it flares up, appearing in huge letters in the sky. The Snow Queen is stopped in the middle of her jump to reach Gerda and is blown backwards, breaking into a million tiny pieces of ice, as she was just ice through and through.

In the background, the polar bear ice chunk melts, and Prince Valemon steps out of his bear hide. The Svante-Sampo chunk melts, too, and the two guys meet.

Kai comes back to life. Gerda cries with joy, Kai cries, and the two mirror splinters are washed out. But the Snow Queen is not a witch for nothing, and comes up with a final surprise: She appears as a ghost in a huge snow storm which apparently buries both Kai and Gerda.

The Happy Christmas



THE HAPPY CHRISTMAS

26.

Kai and Gerda crawl out from below heaps of snow.

Running from the collapsing Snow Queen Palace, Kai caught Gerda's silver heart as it was whirled up in the storm. Now they exchange gifts: Gerda finally gives him her chipped porcelain bird flute, he gives her back her silver heart, to her great surprise.

Sampo and Prince Valemon appear with Svante pulling the Snow Queen's baby blue sled. They drive to the Lapp Camp, leaving off Sampo and harnessing Blackie to pull the sled back to Denmark. With a little help from above, the children reach Copenhagen just in time for the happiest Christmas ever. Lily gets her promised halo and is allowed to stay on at Earth and continue to be Gerda's Guardian Angel for the rest of Gerda's life.

Amanda, contrary to the Snow Queen, in the end gave up on useless spells for eternal youth and died peacefully in her sleep. But before that, she had made sure to write her testament and make Gerda her sole heiress. So Gerda and Kai now may live happily ever after at Amanda's Island with their children. And Severin, who married Hilma long ago, now turns out to be the series' Narrator, who has told this whole story to his little granddaughter Emily (4).

Ell North



Producer: Hakon Gundersen

Director: Bente Lohne

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