



When the grandfather clock chimed midnight, a strange thing happened. The Christmas tree and everything in the room grew bigger and bigger until they were enormous! The clock's chimes woke Marie, and to her surprise, she saw Godfather Drosselmeyer sitting atop the clock and a room full of giant gifts, toy soldiers and Christmas candy canes!

Along with the tree and the toy soldiers, a small army of house mice had grown huge as well! They ran into the room with an extra big Mouse King leading the others. Wearing a golden crown on his head, he waved a sharp crooked sword.

The mice rushed at Marie and tried to carry her off, but to her surprise, the toy nutcracker had also grown life-sized, and he raised his own sword to lead the toy soldiers into battle against the mice and their king.

The toy soldiers shot gumdrops at the mice from toy cannons. The battle raged on, and it looked like the mice would surely win. Marie, looking on, could not stand to see her nutcracker defeated by the mice. Suddenly she took off her shoe, and threw it right at the Mouse King! To her surprise, he toppled over dead.

When Marie looked over at her nutcracker, she was amazed to see that he had changed into a handsome real live prince!

The Nutcracker prince summoned a magic sleigh and asked Marie to fly with him to his kingdom, the Land of Sweets. Through the snowy skies they flew, until they landed outside a wonderful palace, made completely of candies and sweets. At the gates stood the beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy who brought Marie and her Nutcracker Prince inside and seated them on a golden throne.

All the Nutcracker Prince's subjects were gathered to welcome him. They performed magical dances for him and Marie.