



LIBRETTO/VOCAL BOOK

Book By:

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Music By:

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Lyrics By:

HOWARD ASHMAN & TIM RICE

ACT ONE

1. Prologue
2. Belle
3. No Matter What
4. No Matter What (Reprise)
5. Me!
6. Belle (Reprise)
7. Home
8. Home (Reprise)
9. Gaston
10. Gaston (Reprise)
11. How Long Must This Go On?
12. Be Our Guest
13. If I Can't Love Her

ACT TWO

14. Entr'acte/Wolf Chase
15. Something There
16. Human Again
17. Maison des Lunes
18. Beauty and the Beast
19. If I Can't Love Her (Reprise)
20. The Mob Song
21. The Battle
22. Transformation
23. Beauty and the Beast (Reprise)

ACT ONE

PROLOGUE

1. Prologue

(Narrator)

(The music begins. As a Voice-Over begins the Prologue: the curtain rises to reveal a young man of indeterminate age and noble bearing, standing in the doorway of a majestic castle.)

NARRATOR:

Once upon a time, in a faraway land,
A young Prince lived in a shining castle.
Although he had everything his heart desired,
The Prince was spoiled, selfish, and unkind.

(The light reveals an old Beggar Woman.)

But then, one winter's night,
An old beggar woman came to the castle
And offered him a single Rose
In return for shelter from the bitter cold.

(The actors pantomime the action as the Narrator continues.)

Repulsed by her haggard appearance,
The Prince sneered at the gift,
And turned the old woman away.
But she warned him not to be deceived by appearances,
For Beauty is found within.
And when he dismissed her again,
The old woman's ugliness melted away
To reveal a beautiful Enchantress.

(She is transformed into an Enchantress. He falls to his knees, begging forgiveness.)

The Prince tried to apologize, but it was too late,
For she had seen that there was no love in his heart.
And as punishment, she transformed him into a hideous beast,
And placed a powerful spell on the castle,
And all who lived there.

(We can see that the young man has been transformed into the Beast. He holds the Magic Mirror.)

Ashamed of his monstrous form,
The beast concealed himself inside his castle,
With a magic mirror as his only window to the outside world.

(The Rose appears.)

The Rose she had offered was truly an enchanted rose,
Which would bloom for many years.

(The Beast covers it with a glass dome for protection.)

If he could learn to love another,
And earn her love in return by the time the last petal fell,
Then the spell would be broken.
If not, he would be doomed to remain a beast for all time.

(The Beast gazes at the Rose...trapped, forlorn and hopeless.)

As the years passed,
He fell into despair, and lost all hope,
For who could ever learn to love...a Beast?

SCENE ONE: The Village

2. Belle

(Belle, Lefou, Gaston, Silly Girls, Villagers)

(Belle is revealed. As the Narrator finishes the Prologue, the sun begins to rise and we see the silhouette of a small town.)

(A charming, provincial French village)

BELLE:

Little town, it's a quiet village
Ev'ry day like the one before
Little town full of little people
Waking up to say...

(Villagers enter and begin to bustle about their daily business.)

ARISTOCRATIC LADY:

Bonjour!

FISH MAN:

Bonjour!

EGG MAN:

Bonjour!

SAUSAGE CURL GIRL:

Bonjour!

BAKER:

Bonjour!

(The Baker carries a tray of rolls)

BELLE:

There goes the baker with his tray, like always
The same old bread and rolls to sell
Ev'ry morning just the same

Since the morning that we came
To this poor provincial town

BAKER:
Good Morning, Belle!

BELLE:
Good morning, Monsieur.

BAKER:
And where are you off to, today?

BELLE:
The bookshop. I just finished the most wonderful story
About a beanstalk and an ogre and a -

(But he's not interested. He yells over his shoulder to his wife.)

BAKER:
That's nice. Marie! The baguettes! Hurry up!

(Belle sighs...never mind. She continues on her way. Various townspeople talk about her as she passes.)

ARISTOCRATIC LADY / LADY WITH CANE:
Look there she goes that girl is strange, no question
Dazed and distracted, can't you tell?

LADY WITH BABY / SAUSAGE CURL GIRL:
Never part of any crowd

CANDLE MAN / FISH MAN:
'Cause her head's up on some cloud

SOME VILLAGERS:
No denying she's a funny girl that Belle

HAT SELLER:
Bonjour!

SAUSAGE CURL GIRL:

Good day!

HAT SELLER:

How is your fam'ly?

MILKMAID:

Bonjour!

SHEPHERD BOY:

Good day!

MILKMAID:

How is your wife?

LADY WITH CANE:

I need six eggs!

ARISTOCRATIC LADY:

That's too expensive!

BELLE:

There must be more than this provincial life!

(Belle walks to the Book Shop. A kindly Bookseller turns around, pleased to see her.)

BOOKSELLER:

Ah, Belle.

BELLE:

Good morning, sir. I've come to return the book I borrowed.

BOOKSELLER:

Finished already?

BELLE:

Oh, I couldn't put it down. Have you got anything new?

BOOKSELLER:

(He chuckles.) Not since yesterday.

BELLE:

That's all right. I'll borrow this one!

BOOKSELLER:

That one? But you've read it twice!

BELLE:

Well, it's my favorite!

Far off places, daring swordfights, magic spells, a prince in disguise

BOOKSELLER:

If you like it all that much, it's yours!

BELLE:

But sir!

BOOKSELLER:

I insist.

BELLE:

Thank you. Thank you very much!

(She exits and continues through town.)

VILLAGERS:

Look there she goes that girl is so peculiar

I wonder if she's feeling well

ALL FEMALE VILLAGERS:

With a dreamy, far-off look

ALL MALE VILLAGERS:

And her nose stuck in a book

ALL VILLAGERS:

What a puzzle to the rest of us is Belle

(Belle sits on a fountain, engrossed in her book.)

BELLE:

Oh, isn't this amazing?
It's my fav'rite part because --- you'll see
Here's where she meets Prince Charming
But she won't discover that it's him 'til chapter three!

ARISTOCRATIC LADY:

Now it's no wonder that her name means "Beauty"
Her looks have got no parallel

HATSELLER:

But behind that fair facade
I'm afraid she's rather odd

EGGMAN:

Very diffrent from the rest of us

MORE VILLAGERS:

She's nothing like the rest of us

ALL VILLAGERS:

Yes, diffrent from the rest of us is Belle!

(We hear a loud gunshot. Lefou rushes onstage, holding a gunnysack open toward the sky...ready to catch the fallen prey.)

LEFOU:

I got it. I got it. I got...(duck drop) Wow!

(A large duck drops onstage, missing the bag entirely. He quickly picks it up, drops it into the bag as Gaston enters. He carries a large smoking gun. Gaston is a very handsome, rude, narcissistic, egomaniacal hunter who is willing to go to any lengths to get what he wants. Lefou is his dim-witted hanger-on.)

LEFOU:

You didn't miss a shot, Gaston!
You're the greatest hunter in the whole world!

GASTON:

I know.

LEFOU:

No beast alive stands a chance against you. ---
And no girl, for that matter.

GASTON:

It's true, LeFou. And I've got my sights set on that one.

LEFOU:

The inventor's daughter?

GASTON:

She's the one - the lucky girl
I'm going to marry.

LEFOU:

But she's -

GASTON:

The most beautiful girl in town.

LEFOU:

I know, but -

GASTON:

That makes her the best.

(He grabs Lefou in a beefy hand and pulls him up nose-to-nose.)
And don't I deserve the best?

LEFOU:

Of course you do!

(Gaston drops Lefou and sings.)

GASTON:

Right from the moment when I met her, saw her
I said she's gorgeous and I fell
Here in town there's only she
Who is beautiful as me
So I'm making plans to woo and marry Belle

(He strides across the stage toward Belle, crossing in front of three twittering Silly Girls. They swoon as he passes.)

SILLY GIRLS:

Look there he goes

Isn't he dreamy?

Monsieur Gaston

Oh he's so cute!

Be still my heart

I'm hardly breathing

He's such a tall, dark, strong and handsome brute!

(The stage comes alive as villagers crowd through the marketplace.)

LADY WITH BABIES:

Bonjour!

GASTON:

Pardon

BELLE:

Good day

LADY WITH CANE:

Mais oui!

ARISTOCRATIC LADY:

You call this bacon?

MILK MAID:

What lovely grapes!

BAKER:

Some cheese...

LADY WITH CANE:

Ten yards!

FISH MAN:
One pound

GASTON:
'Scuse me!

MALE VILLAGER:
I'll get the knife

GASTON:
Please let me through!

LADY WITH BABIES:
This bread -

SAUSAGE CURL GIRL:
Those fish -

LADY WITH BABIES:
It's stale!

SAUSAGE CURL GIRLS:
They smell!

ALL MALE VILLAGERS:
Madame's mistaken.

FEMALE VILLAGERS MALE VILLAGERS BELLE
Well, maybe so Good morning! There must
be more
than this
provincial
life!

ALL VILLAGERS: GASTON:
Oh, good morning! Just watch,
I'm going to make Belle my wife!

ALL VILLAGERS:
Look there she goes

The girl is strange but special
A most peculiar mad'moiselle!

ALL FEMALE VILLAGERS:
It's a pity and a sin

ALL MALE VILLAGERS:
She doesn't quite fit in

ALL VILLAGERS:
'Cause she really is a funny girl
A beauty but a funny girl
She really is a funny girl
That Belle!

(Feeling their eyes on her, Belle whirls around and the townsfolk quickly go back to their activities. The Villagers exit. Belle heads for home. Gaston and Lefou are close behind Belle. Gaston runs around in front of her...striking a nonchalant pose.)

2a. Belle Playoff

(Orchestra)

GASTON
Hello...Belle.

BELLE
Bonjour, Gaston.

(She keeps going, but he moves over to block her way.)

Excuse me.

(She goes around him...He snatches the book out of her hand.)

Gaston. May I have my book, please?

GASTON
(flicking through it) How can you read this? There's no pictures.

BELLE

Well, some people use their imagination!

GASTON

Belle, it's about time you got your head out of these books and paid attention to more important things.

(He strikes a handsome pose.)

LEFOU

Hint...hint.

BELLE

Like you?

GASTON

Exactly! The whole town's talking about it. It's not right for a woman to read. Soon she starts getting ideas and...thinking!

BELLE

Gaston, you are positively primeval!

GASTON

Why, thank you, belle. Whaddya say you and me take a walk over to the tavern and take a look at my trophies?

BELLE

What do you say...we don't?

GASTON

Come on Belle, I think I know how you feel about me.

BELLE

You can't even imagine.

(He grabs her again. She pulls his hands away.)

BELLE

Gaston, please! I have to get inside to help my father.

(She turns around and heads for her cottage.)

LEFOU

That crazy old fool. He needs all the help he can get!

(Gaston and Lefou laugh heartily.)

BELLE

Don't talk about my father that way!

(Gaston THUNKS Lefou on the head.)

GASTON

Yeah! Don't talk about her father that way!

BELLE

My father's not crazy! He's a genius!

2b. Maurice's Entrance

(Orchestra)

(There's a cacophony of toots, bells and whistles as Belle's slightly addled genius inventor father, Maurice, brings his colorful invention onstage. He waves merrily...and BOOM! Part of the invention blows up.)

BELLE

(Alarmed) Papa!

GASTON

Some genius!

LEFOU

What's a genius?

(Gaston THUNKS him again.)

GASTON

(He puts Lefou out of earshot of Belle and Maurice.)

Now, Lefou, I want you to go out into the woods and bring me back the biggest, healthiest deer you can find.

LEFOU

Not the woods! Anything but the woods!
You know I hate the woods.

GASTON

Just get me a deer for my wedding feast!

LEFOU

But I hate the woods!
It's dark and spooky, and there's bugs and spiders!

(Gaston picks Lefou up and they exit.)

BELLE

Papa, are you all right?

MAURICE

I'm fine. But I can't for the life of me figure out...why that happened?! If that isn't the stubbornest piece of... (He kicks it.) OW!

BELLE

Papa...!

MAURICE

I'm about ready to give up on this hunk of junk!

BELLE

Oh, you always say that.

MAURICE

I mean it this time!

I'll never get this bone-headed contraption to work!

BELLE

Yes, you will. And you'll win first prize at the Faire tomorrow.

MAURICE
(sulking) Hmmph!

BELLE
And become a world famous inventor.

MAURICE
You really think so?

BELLE
You know I do. I always have.

MAURICE
Well, we'd better get cracking. This thing's not going to fix itself. Now let me see, where did I put that dog-legged clencher?

BELLE
Papa.

(Belle picks up a funny-looking part and holds it out to him helpfully. He takes it from Belle and uses it to work on the invention – turning, twisting, tinkering.)

MAURICE
So...tell me, did you have a good time in town today?

BELLE
I got a new book.

MAURICE
You do love those books.

BELLE
Well...they take me away to wonderful places where there's adventure and mystery and romance and...happy endings.

(a beat)

Papa...if I ask you something, will you answer me honestly?

MAURICE
Don't I always?

BELLE:
Do you think I'm...odd?

MAURICE:
My daughter odd?

(He reappears with a silly looking work helmet with goggles.)

Where did you get an idea like that?

BELLE:
I don't know. It's just that, well, people talk.

MAURICE:
They talk about me, too.

MAURICE:
No, I'm not odd, nor you
No family ever saner
Except one uncle who...well, maybe let that pass
In all you say or do
You couldn't make it plainer
You are your mother's daughter; therefore you are class

BELLE:
So I should just accept
I'm simply not like them

MAURICE:
They are the common herd

And you should take my word
You are unique: creme de la creme
No matter what you do
I'm on your side
And if my point of view
Is somewhat misty-eyed
There's nothing clearer in my life
Than what I wish and feel for you
And that's a lot...
No matter what

BELLE:
No matter what they say
You make me proud
I love the funny way
You stand out from the crowd

MAURICE:
It's my intention my invention
Shows the world out there one day
Just what we've got...

BELLE:
No matter what

MAURICE:
Now some may say all fathers just exaggerate

BELLE:
That ev'ry daughter's great?

MAURICE:
You are!

BELLE:
And ev'ry daughter tends to say her father's tops

MAURICE:
She pulls out all the stops
To praise him

BELLE:
And quite rightly!

MAURICE:
No matter what the pain
We've come this far
I pray that you remain
Exactly as you are
This really is a case of father knowing best

BELLE:
And daughter too!

MAURICE:
You're never strange

BELLE:
Don't ever change

BOTH:
You've all I've got
No matter what.

MAURICE
Now...what do you say we give her a try?

BELLE
All right.

MAURICE
You get the logs...All right...stand back. Here we go.

(He pulls lever and the invention slowly chugs to life.)

BELLE
It works!

MAURICE
It does? It does!

BELLE

Papa, you did it! You really did it! You'll win First Prize at the Faire tomorrow, I know it!

MAURICE

Who knows, maybe I will at that!

BELLE

Oh, I almost forgot!

(She puts a scarf around his neck)

I made you a scarf for good luck.

MAURICE

Now I know I'll win. Ant then, we'll get out of this town and travel to all those places you've read about in your books. Well, I'm off!

BELLE

Goodbye Papa.

MAURICE

Bye bye, Belle.

BELLE

Be careful!

SCENE TWO: The Forest

4a. No Matter What (Reprise)

(Maurice)

(As he sings, his mood begins to change from jaunty to nervous.)

MAURICE:

First prize is nearly mine
It's quite my best invention
So simple, yet complex;
So massive, yet so small
This triumph of design
Will be my old-age pension

(He looks around, concerned)

That is, provided I can find the fair at all
I must have missed a sign...
I should have paid attention...Drat!

(He looks back. We hear a howl.)

That's not a nightingale, and not a mating call.

(Another howl.)

Wolves!

4b. The Wolf Chase

(Maurice, Wolves)

(Suddenly, wolves appear. They advance on him, growling and snarling.)

MAURICE

Stay back...back! Help! Someone help me! Get back! Help!

(Maurice drops the scarf and makes a run for it. The castle door is revealed. Maurice bangs on the door.)

MAURICE
Let me in! Let me in!

(The door opens)

SCENE THREE: The Castle

(The castle interior is revealed. Maurice steps inside, awed by size and scale of the place. It appears hollow, lifeless, and empty, like a deserted cathedral.)

MAURICE
Hello?

(His voice echoes in the vastness.)

MAURICE
Hello?

(Maurice proceeds cautiously, looking around. As he does, the lights come up to reveal an ornate human-sized Candelabra and a mantle clock. The Candelabra, MONSIEUR LUMIERE, is a charming, very French Maitre D' who fancies himself a ladies man. COGSWORTH, the mantle clock, is an officious manic English Major Domo. Someone wound him up way too tight and he's never wound down. Lumiere and Cogsworth stand side-by-side, motionless, but whispering feverishly, as Maurice wanders past them.)

COGSWORTH
Well, now you've done it! I told you not to let him in!

LUMIERE
We could not leave him for the wolves!

MAURICE
Is anyone home?

COGSWORTH

If we keep quiet, maybe he'll go away.

MAURICE

Is someone here?

COGSWORTH

Not a word, Lumiere, not one word!

MAURICE

I don't mean to intrude, but I've lost my way in the woods and I need a place to stay for the night.

LUMIERE

Poor fellow. Oh, Cogsworth, have a heart. Monsieur, you are welcome here!

(Lumiere flicks on one of his candle hands. It bursts into flame. Cogsworth quickly steps forward and blows the flame out.)

MAURICE

I heard that! I know there's someone here and I'll thank you to step out where I can see you!

(Lumiere steps out.)

LUMIERE

Allo!

MAURICE

AH!

(Startled, Maurice jumps back.)

COGSWORTH

And good-bye!

(Cogsworth starts pushing him toward the door.)

MAURICE

Wait...wait...wait! You're a clock! And you're talking!

COGSWORTH

Astonishing, isn't it? And quite inexplicable. Good-bye.

(He continues pushing him toward the door.)

LUMIERE

Cogsworth! I'm surprised at you. Where are your manners...?

COGSWORTH

We've got to get him out of here before the Master finds out!

MAURICE

This is incredible! How is this accomplished?

(He pokes and prods Cogsworth curiously.)

COGSWORTH

Really sir...if you'd just... (Maurice pokes him in the eye.) Ow!

COGSWORTH

Stop that! Hee-hee...stop it...stop it, I say!

(Maurice opens Cogsworth's pendulum door.)

COGSWORTH

Really, sir...do you mind?

(He slams the doors shut. Maurice stops his investigation and scratches his head.)

MAURICE

Well, I'm stumped. Maybe it's some kid of a new-fangled scientific gadget.

COGSWORTH

I...sir...a not a gadget!

MAURICE

I beg your pardon. I don't mean to be rude. It's just that I've never seen a ta...a tal...a talking...AAAACHOOOO!

COGSWORTH (arch)

Bless you.

LUMIERE

You're chilled to the bone, Monsieur. Come. Warm yourself by the fire.

COGSWORTH

No! I forbid it!

(Ignoring him, Lumiere takes Maurice's arm and leads him across the stage to a large overstuffed chair. Cogsworth rushes after them.)

COGSWORTH

Lumiere...as head of this household, I demand that you stop right there!

(Maurice sinks into the overstuffed chair)

Ohhh, not the Master's chair! I'm not seeing this. I'm not seeing this.

(Babette, the Feather duster enters.)

BABETTE

Oooh la la...what have we here? Do my eyes deceive me or is this a man? It's been so long since I've seen a real man. (aside) No offense, Lumiere. Bonjour Monsieur.

(She plops into Maurice's lap.)

Mind if I sit here?

MAURICE (embarrassed)

Oh! Well! Hello!

COGSWORTH

All right! This has gone far enough! I'm in charge here and...!

MRS. POTTS

Coming through!

(Cogsworth turns around to find a teacart rolling right toward him pushed by Mrs. Potts. Mrs. Potts pushes the teacart next to Maurice. She's a sweet, kind-hearted teapot. Her son, Chip, is a Teacup riding on the cart.)

MRS. POTTS

How would you like a nice spot of tea, sir? It will warm you up in no time.

MAURICE

Oh, yes please!

COGSWORTH

No! No tea! He'll be here all night...no tea!

(Mrs. Potts pours into Chip. Cogsworth throws up his arms in dismay.)

MRS. POTTS

There you are.

MAURICE

This is just what I need....AH!

(Maurice moves to pick up the teacup and gasps.)

CHIP

I think I scared him Mama.

MAURICE

Hey there, little fella! What's your name?

CHIP

Chip.

MAURICE

Figures.

BABETTE

Care for a blanket, monsieur?

(She throws a blanket over his shoulder and giggles flirtatiously.)

I just love older men.

LUMIERE

Babette, you are always trying to make me jealous. Well, it's not going to work this time.

BABETTE

Me! What about you? With Simone?

LUMIERE

Jacques?

BABETTE

Michelle?

LUMIERE

Pierre?

BABETTE

Veronique?

LUMIERE

Veronique!

COGSWORTH

Lumiere! Listen to me! We've got to get him out of here! Do you have any idea what the Master will do if he finds out we let a stranger in...

LUMIERE

Calm yourself, Cogsworth. The Master will never have to know.

(Suddenly, we hear a loud roar. Everyone gasps.)

LUMIERE (a nervous laugh)

As I was saying, he is bound to find out sooner or later.

CHIP

Should we hide, Mama?

LUMIERE

No...no...remain calm. There is absolutely no reason to panic.

COGSWORTH

Lumiere is right. There's absolutely no reason to panic. (to Maurice) May I borrow this?

(He takes Maurice's blanket and throws it over his own head.)

4c. Maurice & the Beast

(Orchestra)

BEAST

There's a stranger here!

LUMIERE

Master, allow me to explain,

BEAST

Who let him in?

(Everyone quakes in fear. Cogsworth peeks out from under his blanket.)

COGSWORTH

M...Master...May I take this opportunity to say, I was against it from the start!

BEAST

Who dared to disobey me?

MRS. POTTS

Oh, dear!

BEAST

You have all betrayed me!

(Beast enters. Maurice is frozen with fear in his chair.)

BEAST

Who are you?

MAURICE
M...Maurice.

BEAST
What are you doing in my castle?

MAURICE
I lost my way in the woods...

BEAST
You are not welcome here!

MAURICE
I'm sorry. I...I'll just be on my way.

(He looks up and for the first time, he gets a good look at the Beast's face. It's a gruesome sight.
Maurice gasps with horror.)

BEAST
It's hideous, isn't it?

MAURICE
Oh no, I wasn't...

BEAST
You've come to stare at the Beast, haven't you?

MAURICE
No. No! I meant no harm! I was merely looking for a place to stay!

BEAST
I'll give you a place to stay...

(He raises his huge claw. Blackout.)

SCENE FOUR: Exterior of Belle's Cottage

(We hear the sounds of hysterical sobbing. The lights come up to reveal Gaston and the three Silly Girls.)

SILLY GIRL #1

It can't be true! I don't believe it.

SILLY GIRL #2

Why would you go and do a thing like that?

SILLY GIRL #3

I can't bear it! I simply can't bear it!

SILLY GIRL #1

Oh, Gaston, say it isn't so!

GASTON

It's so.

SILLY GIRLS

WAAAAAAAAHHHHHH!

GASTON

Girls...I'm just getting married. Don't tell me a little thing like that's going to change your feelings for me?

SILLY GIRL #1

Oh no!

SILLY GIRL #2

No!

SILLY GIRL #3

Never!

GASTON

And we'll still have our little...(mispronouncing it)...rendezvous. Won't we?

SILLY GIRL #1

Oh yes!

SILLY GIRL #2

Yes!

SILLY GIRL #3

Always!

GASTON

Good. (rubbing his hands together) Well...if we're going to have a wedding, I guess I'd better propose to the bride!

(He laughs...a big hearty booming laugh. The girls burst into a new round of tears.)

SILLY GIRLS

WAAAAAAAAHHHHHH!

GASTON

Run along now.

(They go off, still sobbing.)

GASTON

Belle! Oh, Belle...anyone home?

(She comes around the corner of the house carrying a flowerpot. She spots Gaston, makes a face and ducks back.)

GASTON

Helllloooooo!

(There is no getting out of it. Belle reappears with a fake smile on her face.)

BELLE

Gaston? What a ...pleasant surprise.

GASTON

Isn't it though? I'm just full of surprises. For you...Mademoiselle.

BELLE

A miniature portrait...(looking closer)..of you. You shouldn't have.

GASTON

Don't mention it. You know, Belle there isn't a girl in town who wouldn't love to be in your shoes. This is the day your dreams come true!

BELLE

What could you possibly know about my dreams, Gaston?

GASTON

Plenty!

5. Me!

(Gaston, Belle)

GASTON:

You've been dreaming, just one dream
Nearly all your life
Hoping, scheming, just one theme:
Will you be a wife?
Will you be some he-man's property?
Good news! That he-man's me!

This equation, girl plus man
Doesn't help just you
On occasion, women can
Have their uses too
Mainly to extend the fam'ly tree
Pumpkin, extend with me!

We'll be raising sons galore

BELLE:

Inconceivable!

GASTON:

Each built six foot four!

BELLE:

Unbelievable!

GASTON:

Each stuffed with ev'ry Gaston gene!

BELLE:

I'm not hearing this!

GASTON:

You'll be keeping house with pride!

BELLE:

Just incredible!

GASTON:

Each day gratified

BELLE:

So unweddable!

GASTON:

That you are a part of this idyllic scene.

GASTON:

Picture this:

A rustic hunting lodge, my latest kill roasting over the fire, my little wife massaging my feet,
while the little ones play on the floor with the dogs. We'll have six or seven!

BELLE:

Dogs?

GASTON:

No, Belle! Strapping boys...like me!

BELLE:

Imagine that!

GASTON:

I can see that we will share
All that love implies
We shall be a perfect pair
Rather like my thighs
You are face to face with destiny!
All roads lead to...
The best things in life are...
All's well that ends with me!
Escape me? There's no way
Certain as "Do, Re,"
Belle, when you marry...

GASTON:

So Belle, what'll it be?
Is it "yes", or is it "oh, yes"?

BELLE:

I...I just don't deserve you!

GASTON:

Who does?
ME!

BELLE

But thanks for asking!

(And she ducks into the house. The Silly Girls return.)

SILLY GIRL #1

So...how'd it go?

GASTON

You know that Belle...always playing hard-to-get.

SILLY GIRLS

SHE TURNED YOU DOWN??

GASTON

For now. But I'll have Belle for my wife. Make no mistake about that!

SILLY GIRL #1

Well, gee...if she turned him down, then maybe I still have a chance.

SILLY GIRLS

Get out of my way! OW! Stop it! Let go! Oh no, you don't! He's mine!

(After they've gone, Belle cautiously peers out of the cottage door.)

6. Belle (Reprise)

(Belle)

BELLE:

Is he gone? Oh, can you imagine? He asked me to marry him.
Me, the wife of that boorish, brainless . . .

BELLE

"Madame Gaston!" Can't you just see it?
"Madame Gaston!" His "little wife", ugh!
No sir! Not me! I guarantee it
I want much more than this provincial life!
I want adventure in the great wide somewhere
I want it more than I can tell
And for once it might be grand
To have someone understand
I want so much more than they've got planned

(Belle's song is interrupted by Lefou who hurries in looking for Gaston. He has Maurice's scarf.)

LEFOU

Hey Belle! Have you seen Gaston?

BELLE

You just missed him. Wait a minute, where did you get that scarf?

LEFOU

This? In the woods. Pretty nice, huh?

BELLE

This belongs to my father!

LEFOU

Yeah, well. Finders-keepers.

BELLE

Lefou, I want you to think hard and tell me exactly where you found that.

LEFOU

No!

BELLE

Think!

LEFOU

Somewhere in the woods.

BELLE

Harder!

LEFOU

Near the crossroads, okay? Ow!

BELLE

Then he's still out there somewhere! Lefou, you have to take me back!

LEFOU

Not the woods again!

BELLE

Don't you see? Something must have happened. You have to take me back!

LEFOU

Not on your life!

(He goes off.)

BELLE
Then I'll find him myself!

6a. Then I'll Find Him Myself

(Orchestra)

(She runs off.)

SCENE FIVE: Interior of Castle

(Cogsworth and Lumiere enter in mid-argument)

COGSWORTH
Couldn't keep quiet, could we? Just had to invite him to stay, didn't we? Serve him tea, sit in the Master's chair...

LUMIERE
I was trying to be hospitable!

COGSWORTH
Rubbish!

LUMIERE
Ah, Cogsworth, can you blame me for trying to maintain what's left of our humanity? Look at us. Look at you!

COGSWORTH
What about me?

LUMIERE

You always were insufferable. But every day, you become just a little ore inflexible...a little more tightly wound...a little more ticked off!

COGSWORTH

Please, spare me the stupid puns.

LUMIERE

At least, we are not as far gone as some of the others. You saw what happened to Michelle.

COGSWORTH

She always was too vain about her looks. And that's exactly what she's become.

LUMIERE

A vanity.

COGSWORTH

Little drawers, mirror...the works.

LUMIERE

And poor Jean-Claude.

COGSWORTH

Who?

LUMIERE

Jean-Claude. You remember him, not too bright, dumb as...

COGSWORTH

(guessing) ...a brick?

LUMIERE

The whole wall.

COGSWORTH

Jean-Claude's a brick wall?

LUMIERE

(He nods.) That's him in the kitchen, behind the stove.

COGSWORTH

Tsk...tsk.

LUMIERE

And you know Guillaume...the houseboy?

COGSWORTH

That mealy-mouthed little bootlicker! I've never liked him. He's always groveling at the Master's feet.

LUMIERE

He's a doormat.

COGSWORTH

Perfect.

LUMIERE

It's happening faster with some of the others, but we are not far behind. Slowly but surely, as every day passes, we will all gradually become...things.

COGSWORTH

But why did we have to get dragged into this whole spell business? It's not like we threw that poor old beggar woman out on her ear.

LUMIERE

No, but are we not responsible too? For helping to make him the way he is?

COGSWORTH

I suppose so.

LUMIERE

All I know is...I will eventually melt away to nothing. I only hope there's something left of me if the Master ever breaks the spell.

(Cogsworth pats him on the back in a brief moment of friendship.)

COGSWORTH

Hold on, old man. We've got to hold on.

(Belle comes wandering through.)

BELLE

Hello? Is anyone here? Hello?

LUMIERE

It's a girl!

COGSWORTH

Yes, of course, I can see it's a girl!

LUMIERE/COGSWORTH

It's a girl!!!

(They bolt to follow her. Lumiere wins. Cogsworth is right behind him.)

LUMIERE

(calling) Mademoiselle!

COGSWORTH

Now Lumiere, let me do all the talking.

LUMIERE

(Ignoring him) Yoooooo...

COGSWORTH

As head of the household, I should do most of the talking!

LUMIERE

(Calling) Cherie!

COGSWORTH

A word. Just a word!

(as he goes off)

That's all I'm asking for!

(They exit as Mrs. Potts enter with Chip)

CHIP

Mama, you're not gonna believe what I saw...not in a million years...not in a trillion million thousand years!

MRS. POTTS

Yes, dear.

CHIP

No, really...this is the greatest thing...it's the thing that everybody's been waiting for since...since...since...I don't know when!

MRS. POTTS

Alright, Chip, what is it?

CHIP

There's a girl in the castle!

MRS. POTTS

Bless my soul, wouldn't that be lovely?

CHIP

But there is! I saw her!

MRS. POTTS

Now Chip, I'll not have you making up wild stories. Getting everyone's hope up for no reason.

(Babette rushes in.)

BABETTE

Mrs. Potts, did you hear? There is a girl in the castle!

CHIP

See? It told ya! And she's real pretty too!

BABETTE

Well, I don't know about that.

(Babette and Mrs. Potts exit as Lumiere and Cogsworth re-enter)

LUMIERE

This is the one! The girl we have been waiting for. She has come to break the spell!

COGSWORTH

Wait a minute...wait a minute...let's not be hasty!

LUMIERE

Isn't it wonderful? After all these years! Oh happy, happy day!

(He grabs Cogsworth and kisses him on both cheeks. Cogsworth pushes him away with disgust.)

COGSWORTH

Stop it! Stop that!

LUMIERE

We should tell the others, no?

(Lumiere hurries off.)

COGSWORTH

Yes, I mean no! I mean...wait a minute! Wait a minute!

(He hurries off after Lumiere. Belle comes back through.)

6b. Belle in the Castle

(Orchestra)

BELLE

Hello? Is anyone here? Please, I'm looking for my father.

(The lights come up on Maurice, behind bars in a cell.)

MAURICE

Belle? Is that you?

BELLE

Papa!

(Belle rushes to Maurice. She clings to him through the bars.)

MAURICE

How did you find me?

(He coughs from the chill.)

BELLE

Your hands are like ice! We have to get you out of here!

MAURICE

Belle, you must leave this place.

BELLE

Who's done this to you?

(The Beast appears, a shadowy form.)

MAURICE

There's no time to explain. You must go...now!

BELLE

I won't leave you here!

(She feels his presence and whirls around.)

Who's there?

(She can hear him panting....animal-like.)

BELLE

I know someone's there. Who are you?

BEAST

The master of this castle.

BELLE

Then, you're the one who's responsible for this! Release my father at once!

BEAST

(He growls.)

I am the mast of the castle! I do not take order from anyone. Throw her out!

(The caryatid stands up, grabs Belle.)

BELLE

No! Wait! Forgive me. Please, let him out. Can't you see he's not well?

BEAST

Then he should not have trespassed here.

BELLE

But he's an old man. He could die!

BEAST

He came into my home uninvited and now he'll suffer the consequences.

BELLE

Please...I'll do anything.

MAURICE

Belle!

BEAST

There's nothing you can do!

BELLE

Wait please!

BEAST

I said there is nothing you can do!

BELLE

Take me instead!

MAURICE

No!

BEAST

What did you say?

BELLE

Take me instead.

MAURICE

Belle, you don't know what you're doing.

BEAST

You would do that? You would take his place?

BELLE

If I did, would you let him go?

BEAST

Yes. But you must promise to stay here... forever.

MAURICE

NO!

BELLE

Forever?

BEAST

Forever! Or he dies in the dungeon!

BELLE

That's not fair... Wait! Come into the light.

BEAST

Make your choice!

MAURICE

Belle, listen to me. I'm old... I've lived my life.

BELLE

You have my word.

BEAST

Done.

BELLE

Papa!

(Beast roar)

MAURICE

No, no, I'm begging you! Please spare my daughter!

(The Beast drags Maurice out of the cell.)

BEAST

Take him to the crossroads.

BELLE

WAIT! No, not yet!

MAURICE

Let her go! Let her go! Belle! Belle!

BELLE

Papa!

(Maurice is dragged away)

LUMIERE

(whispering) Master...

(The Beast roars angrily, Lumiere slinks away. There's a beat...and Lumiere comes back.)

Master, please! (treading on eggshells) Since the girl is going to be with us for quite some time...you might want to offer her a more comfortable room.

BELLE

You didn't let me say good-bye!

BEAST

What?

BELLE

I'll never see him again..and I didn't even get to say good-bye.

(The Beast studies her for a moment, confused by this outpouring of emotion.)

BEAST

I'll...show you to your room.

(He turns to go, but she doesn't follow.)

BELLE

My room? But I thought...

(He turns back, confused, irritated.)

BEAST

Do you want to stay in that dungeon?

BELLE

No.

BEAST

Then follow –

(He reaches for her. She recoils from his hand in fear. He stops, then...)

You follow me!

SCENE FIVE B: Belle's Room

(During the following, the Beast leads Belle through the dark, dreary castle. The Beast explains the rules of the castle in a gruff tone.)

This is your home now. You're free to go anywhere you like...except the West Wing.

BELLE

Why, what's in the West...?

BEAST

IT'S FORBIDDEN! You are never to set foot in there...do you understand?

(She doesn't answer fast enough to suit him.)

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?!

BELLE

Yes!

(He moves on. Belle watches him.)

BEAST

This is your room. I hope you'll be comfortable here. If you need anything, my servants will attend you.

(He motions impatiently for her to go in. Belle steps inside.)

And, one more thing. You will join me for dinner.

(Belle turns away.)

That is not a request!

(The Beast turns and exits.)

7. Home

(Belle)

(The lights come up in the Interior of Belle's room. As she looks around at the strange, unfamiliar surroundings, she can no longer hold back the dark despair that threatens to overwhelm her. She sings)

BELLE:

Yes, I made the choice

For papa, I will stay

But I don't deserve to lose my freedom in this way

You monster!

If you think that what you've done is right, well then

You're a fool!

Think again!

Is this home?
Is this where I should learn to be happy?
Never dreamed
That a home could be dark and cold
I was told
Ev'ry day in my childhood:
Even when you grow old
Home should be where the heart is
Never where words so true!
My heart's far, far away
Home is too

Is this home
Is this what I must learn to believe in
Try to find
Something good in this tragic place
Just in case
I should stay here forever
Held in this empty place
Oh, that won't be easy
I know the reason why
My heart's far, far away
Home's a lie

What I'd give to return
To the life that I knew lately
And to think I complained
Of that dull provincial town

Is this home?
Am I here for a day or forever?
Shut away
From the world until who knows when
Oh, but then
As my life has been altered once
It can change again
Build higher walls around me
Change ev'ry lock and key
Nothing lasts, nothing holds

All of me
My heart's far, far away
Home and free!

(The song ends...and there's a brisk knock at the door.)

BELLE
Who is it?

MRS. POTTS
Mrs. Potts, dear. I thought you might like some tea.

BELLE
Come in.

(Mrs. Potts toddles in.)

MRS. POTTS
Nothing like a nice warm cup of tea to make the world seem a bit brighter.

BELLE
But...you're...you're...!

MRS. POTTS
(firmly) Mrs. Potts, dear. Very pleased to make your acquaintance.

(Belle is so stunned she backs up into a wardrobe behind her.)

WARDROBE
Careful, darling!

(Belle turns around to see MADAME DE LA GRAND BOUCHE, a grand, larger-than-life wardrobe. Belle gasps.)

BELLE
Wh...who are you?

WARDROBE
Madame de la Grand Bouche. Perhaps you've heard of me?

BELLE

Sorry.

WARDROBE

You see! They've forgotten all about me. One can be and I quote, "The toast of Europe. The brightest star ever to grace the stage," but fall under one little spell...

MRS. POTTS

Ssssh!

BELLE

Wait. This is impossible!

WARDROBE

I know it is...but here we are! Well now, what shall we dress you in for dinner?

(She lifts up Belle's sleeve.)

This is nice. But how would you like to borrow one of my gowns? Let's see what I've got in my drawers...

(She opens her drawers and pulls out bloomers. She reaches in again in and takes out a gown.)

Ah, here we are. I wore this the night I performed at the Royal Opera. The King himself was there! Of course, I wouldn't have a prayer of fitting into it now. Take it!

BELLE

That's very kind of you. But I'm not going to dinner.

WARDROBE

Don't be silly. Of course, you are. You heard what the Master said.

BELLE

(adamant) He may be your master...but he's not mine! (a beat) I'm sorry. This is just happening so fast.

(Mrs. Potts and Wardrobe look at one another, feeling badly for her. They approach...gently.)

MRS. POTTS

That was a very brave thing you did, my dear.

WARDROBE

We all think so.

BELLE

I'm going to miss my papa so much!

MRS. POTTS:

Cheer up child. I know things may seem bleak right now, but you mustn't despair. We're here to see you through.

I hope that we'll be friends
Though I don't know you well
If anyone can make the most of living here
Then, Belle, it's you
And who knows?
You may find
Home here, too!

SCENE SIX: The Tavern

(Gaston, sullen and morose, enters. Gaston's cronies and his female admirers look on as Lefou approaches.)

8. Gaston

(Lefou, Gaston, Cronies, Silly Girls)

GASTON:

Who does she think she is?
That girl has tangled with the wrong man!

LEFOU:

Darn right.

GASTON:

No one says "no" to Gaston! Dismissed! Rejected!
Publicly humiliated! Why, it's more than I can bear.

LEFOU:

More beer?

GASTON:

What for? Nothing helps. I'm disgraced.

LEFOU:

Who, you? Never! Gaston, you've got to pull yourself together.

LEFOU:

Gosh it disturbs me to see you, Gaston
Looking so down in the dumps
Ev'ry guy here'd love to be you, Gaston
Even when taking your lumps
There's no man in town as admired as you
You're ev'ryone's favorite guy

Ev'ryone's awed and inspired by you
And it's not very hard to see why
No one's slick as Gaston, no one's quick as Gaston
No one's neck's as incredibly thick as Gaston's
For there's no man in town half as manly
Perfect, a pure paragon!
You can ask any Tom, Dick or Stanley
And they'll tell you whose team they prefer to be on
(Lefou is joined by Gaston's cronies. The group begins to sing and sway in an effort to cheer up
their idol, Gaston. And, gradually, it starts to work.)

CRONIES

No one's been like Gaston
A king pin like Gaston

LEFOU:

No one's got a swell cleft in his chin like Gaston

GASTON:

As a specimen, yes, I'm intimidating!

ALL:

My, what a guy, that Gaston!
Give five "hurrahs!"
Give twelve "hip-hips!"

LEFOU:

Gaston is the best
And the rest is all drips

ALL:

No one fights like Gaston
Douses lights like Gaston

LEFOU:

In a wrestling match nobody bites like Gaston!

SILLY GIRLS:

For there's no one as burly and brawny

GASTON:

As you see I've got biceps to spare

LEFOU:

Not a bit of him's scraggly or scrawny

GASTON:

That's right!

And ev'ry last inch of me's covered with hair

CRONIES:

No one hits like Gaston

OTHER CRONIES:

Matches wits like Gaston

LEFOU:

In a spitting match nobody spits like Gaston

GASTON:

I'm especially good at expectorating!

Ptooie!

ALL:

Ten points for Gaston!

GASTON:

When I was a lad I ate four dozen eggs

Ev'ry morning to help me get large

And now that I'm grown I eat five dozen eggs

So I'm roughly the size of a barge!

ALL:

(Gaston poses)

Oh, ahhh, wow!

My, what a guy, that Gaston!

(Dance break)

ALL:
No one shoots like Gaston
Makes those beauts like Gaston

LEFOU:
Then goes tromping around wearing boots like Gaston

GASTON:
I use antlers in all of my decorating!

ALL:
My what a guy!

LEFOU:
What a guy!

ALL:
Gaston!

GASTON
Drinks on Lefou!

(Maurice enters, panicked)

MAURICE
Help! Help! Someone help me!

8a. Gaston (Reprise)

GASTON
Maurice?

(Maurice runs from person to person, frantically begging for help, but not making much sense.)

MAURICE
Please I need your help! He's got her! He's got her locked in a dungeon...

CRONY
Who?

MAURICE

Belle...we must go at once...not a minute to lose!

GASTON

Whoa. Slow down, Maurice. Who's got Belle locked in a dungeon?

MAURICE

A Beast! A horrible monstrous beast!

(There's a beat as Gaston and the villagers stare at him with disbelief. Then, everyone bursts into laughter, particularly Gaston. One of Gaston's cronies leans over Maurice.)

GASTON

Is it a big beast?

MAURICE

Huge?

CRONY

With spooky yellow eyes?

MAURICE

Yes! Yes!

CRONY

...with a long ugly snout?

MAURICE

Hideously ugly!

LEFOU

...and sharp cruel fangs?

MAURICE

Yes! Yes! Will you help me? Will you help me?

GASTON

All right, old man. We'll help you out.

(He looks at his cronies and jerks his thumb toward the door.)

MAURICE

(relieved) Oh, thank you...thank you...

(The cronies lift Maurice up by his arms, carry him off)

All right then, I'll go back there and get her out myself!

CRONY 1

Crazy ol' Maurice.

CRONY 2

He's always good for a laugh.

(The cronies exit leaving Gaston and Lefou musing.)

8a. Gaston (Reprise)

(Gaston, Lefou)

GASTON:

Crazy old Maurice, hmmm?

(The idea dawns.)

Crazy old Maurice!

LeFou, I'm afraid I've been thinking

LEFOU:

A dangerous pastime

GASTON:

I know.

But that whacky old coot is Belle's father

And his sanity's only "so-so"

Now the wheels in my head have been turning

Since I looked at that loony, old man

See, I've promised myself I'd be married to Belle

And right now I'm evolving a plan

GASTON:

If I . . . (whispers)

LEFOU:

Yes?

GASTON:

Then we . . . (whispers)

LEFOU:

No! Would she . . .? (whispers)

GASTON:

Guess!

LEFOU:

Now I get it!

BOTH:

Let's go!

(Gaston gets up and dances with Lefou.)

No one plots like Gaston

GASTON:

Takes cheap shots like Gaston

LEFOU:

Plans to persecute harmless crackpots like Gaston

GASTON:

Yes, I'm endlessly, wildly resourceful

LEFOU:

As down to the depths you descend

GASTON:

I won't even be mildly remorseful

LEFOU:

Just as long as you get what you want in the end

GASTON:
Who has brains like Gaston?

LEFOU:
Entertains like Gaston?

BOTH:
Who can make up these endless refrains like Gaston?
And his marriage we soon will be celebrating
My what a guy
Gaston!

(Gaston and Lefou exit.)

SCENE SEVEN: The Castle

(As Cogsworth enters, we see that he now has a gigantic winding handle attached to his back which he is entirely unaware of. Mrs. Potts and Lumiere enter hurriedly.)

MRS. POTTS
Well, what is it?

COGSWORTH
Is dinner ready, Mrs. Potts?

MRS. POTTS
Just about. I haven't the foggiest idea what she likes to eat, so I've cooked up everything in the kitchen.

COGSWORTH
Good...good.

(He turns around...and both Mrs. Potts and Lumiere notice the handle. They gasp.)

COGSWORTH
Yes, well? Don't just stand there gaping, get back to work!

LUMIERE
You tell him.

MRS. POTTS
I can't.

COGSWORTH
Tell me what?

LUMIERE
Now don't get upset, but you've got..something on your back.

COGSWORTH
What on earth are you talking about?

(Lumiere takes him and puts him in front of the mirror. Cogsworth gasps with horror.)

AH!
(Looking closer) What is it?

LUMIERE
It appears to be a winding handle, of sorts.

COGSWORTH
Well, get it off me!

LUMIERE
(trying to pull it off) It won't come off.

COGSWORTH
What do you mean it won't come off? It wasn't there last night when I went to bed. Where did it come from? Why is this happening to me?

MRS. POTTS
It's the spell, I'm afraid.

LUMIERE
Just try to relax...

COGSWORTH

Relax! Relax! How can I relax with this appendage on my back? Is there no dignity left for me?
And what's going to go next...my mind?

LUMIERE

Calm down. It will be all right.

COGSWORTH

I'm frightened, Lumiere.

LUMIERE

I know, my friend. But you are not alone.

MRS. POTTS

We're all in this together.

(Beast enters.)

BEAST

It's time for dinner. Where is she?

COGSWORTH

Perhaps I should see about her. Won't be a minute.

BEAST

I told her to come down! What's taking so long?

MRS. POTTS

Try to be patient, sir. The girl has lost her father and her freedom all in one day.

LUMIERE

Master...have you thought that perhaps this girl could be the one to break the spell?

BEAST

Of course, I have!

(grumbling)

I'm not a fool.

LUMIERE

Good! So...you fall in love with her, she falls in love with you and poof! The spell is broken!
We'll be human again by midnight!

MRS. POTTS

Lumiere, it's not that easy. These things take time.

LUMIERE

But we don't have time! The rose has already begun to wilt!

BEAST

It's no use. She's so beautiful and I'm...well, look at me!

LUMIERE

(sotto to Mrs. Potts)

He has a point.

MRS. POTTS

Shhh!

(to the Beast) Master, you must help her to see past all that.

BEAST

I don't know how!

MRS. POTTS

Well, you could start by trying to make yourself more presentable.

(She pulls him upright.)

Straighten up! Try to act like a gentleman.

LUMIERE

Impress her with your rapier wit.

MRS. POTTS

But be gentle.

LUMIERE

Shower her with compliments.

MRS. POTTS

But be sincere.

LUMIERE/MRS. POTTS

And above all...

BEAST

What???

LUMIERE/MRS. POTTS

You must control your temper!

(Cogsworth re-enters.)

BEAST

Well?

COGSWORTH

What?

BEAST

Where is she?

COGSWORTH

(feigning ignorance)

Who? Oh, yes, the girl...well, actually she's in the process of...circumstances being what they are...

(The Beast growls impatiently)

COGSWORTH

(a timid squeak)

She's not coming.

(a squeak)

She's not coming.

BEAST

What did you say?

COGSWORTH

(even squeakier)

She's not coming.

BEAST

We'll see about that!

(The Beast storms to Belle's room. Lumiere, Mrs. Potts and Cogsworth hurry along behind.)

COGSWORTH

Your Lordship! Your grace! Your Eminence! Let's not be hasty!

BEAST

Stay where you are! Lumiere, stand aside.

(The Beast barges in to Belle's room)

BELLE

(yelling back)

I'm not hungry!

BEAST

I am the master of this castle and I'm telling you to come to dinner.

BELLE

And I'm telling you...I'm not hungry.

BEAST

You're hungry if I say you're hungry.

BELLE

Don't be ridiculous!

BEAST

What did you say?

BELLE

You can't go around ordering people to be hungry. It doesn't work like that.

BEAST

I can...

BELLE

Besides, it's rude.

BEAST

(sarcastically) Oh? Rude is it? Then how about this, if you don't come down to dinner, I will drag you by the hair...

LUMIERE

Master that may not be the best way to win the girl's affections.

COGSWORTH

Please...attempt to be a gentleman.

BEAST

But why is she being so difficult?

(He crosses to Belle.)

Why are you being so difficult?

BELLE

Why are you being such a bully?

BEAST

Because I want you to come down to dinner!

BELLE

So...you admit you're being a bully.

MRS. POTTS

Deep breaths, Master...deep breaths.

BEAST

I'll give her one last chance. Would you be so kind as to join me for dinner?

COGSWORTH

(under his breath) Aahaahaaa....P...P...

BEAST

(gritting his teeth) Please.

BELLE

No, thank you.

BEAST

Fine! Then starve!

(He begins to storm out of the room.)

LUMIERE

Master, please!

BEAST

If she doesn't eat with me...she doesn't eat at all!

(He roars and storms off angrily.)

LUMIERE

What were we thinking? We will never be human again.

COGSWORTH

So, it appears.

(There's a long moment as they sink into despair.)

MRS. POTTS

Well, what would you two have us do? Give up? I can't give up until I hear the sound of my boy's laughter as he runs through these halls again!

COGSWORTH

Quite right Mrs. Potts! We mustn't give up while there's still a chance. Lumiere, stand watch at the door and if there's the slightest change, inform me at once.

(Lumiere, with a mock salute.)

LUMIERE

Oui, mon Capitan.

(Cogsworth and Mrs. Potts exit.)

(Beast, Belle, Wardrobe)

(The lights dim in Belle's room and come up on the Beast's lair.)

BEAST

I ask nicely but she refuses! What...what does she want me to do...beg?

(He picks up the Mirror.)

Show me the girl!

(The Magic Mirror glows. The lights come up on Belle's room.)

WARDROBE

I know the Master can be temperamental, but underneath all that matter fur, he's not such a bad fellow. Why don't you give him a chance?

BELLE

Why should I? Did he give my father a chance?

WARDROBE

Well, no. But once you get to know him...

BELLE

I don't want to get to know him! I don't want to have anything to do with him!

(The Beast is stung by her words. The lights fade in Belle's room.)

9. How Long Must This Go On?

(Beast)

BEAST:

I'm just fooling myself. She'll never see me as anything...but a monster.

How long must this go on? This cruel trick of fate?
I simply made one careless wrong decision
And then the witch was gone, and left me in this state
An object of revulsion and derision
Hated...Is there no one who can show me
How to win the world's forgiveness?

(He looks to the Rose. One more petal falls. He groans.)

No! What did they say? Shower her with compliments...impress her with your wit...Act like a gentleman. Act like a gentleman. Act like a gentle man!

(He exits.)

(The lights come up on Lumiere asleep at his post...snoring loudly. Babette approaches. She reaches out to Lumiere and we see that her hands are now feathers.)

BABETTE

Lumiere...oh Lumiere...!

LUMIERE

Ah, Babette. Come to me, my little fluff.

(He takes her hand and kisses it, but gets a mouth full of feathers.)

Agh – agh ahchoo!

BABETTE

It's my hands, isn't it? You do not love me anymore!

(sobbing)

Oh, this horrible horrible spell...

(sneezes)

LUMIERE

Ah, cherie...you cut me to the wick! Do you think a little tickle like that would change my feeling for you? Now you really...

(lascivious) ...tickle my fancy!

(She giggles and pushes him away.)

BABETTE

Oh no.

LUMIERE

Oh yes.

BABETTE

Oh no.

LUMIERE

Oh yes.

BABETTE

Oh no...no...no! I've been burnt by you before!

(She runs out with Lumiere right behind. After they've gone, the lights come up on Belle's room.)

BELLE

(sheepish) Actually Madame, I am a little hungry.

WARDROBE

I'll ring for Mrs. Potts and sing you an aria while we wait.

BELLE

That's all right. I'll go myself.

WARDROBE

But what about the Master? He's really not going to like this!

BELLE

(she smiles) I know.

(Belle goes out.)

WARDROBE

Oh dear...oh dear.

(The lights come up on another area. Mrs. Potts and Cogsworth enter.)

MRS. POTTS

I like this girl. I like her spunk.

COGSWORTH

Well, if you ask me, she was just being stubborn. After all, he say 'please.'

MRS. POTTS

I think that may be the first time I've ever heard him use that word.

COGSWORTH

I believe you're right.

MRS. POTTS

You see! She's already starting to have a good influence on him.

(Belle approaches.)

Oh there you are dearie. Glad to see you out and about.

COGSWORTH

I am Cogsworth, head of the household.

(Lumiere comes running in.)

LUMIERE

Cogsworth! The girl! She's gone! I swear my eyes never left the...Enchantee, mademoiselle.

(He kisses her hand.)

COGSWORTH

This is Lumiere...Stop it! Stop that!

(to Belle) If there is anything we can do to make you stay more comfortable. Anything
...anything at all!

BELLE

I am a little hungry.

COGSWORTH

Except that.

MRS. POTTS

Cogsworth!

COGSWORTH

Well, you heard what the Master said!

MRS. POTTS

Oh pish tosh! I'm not about to let the poor child go hungry!

COGSWORTH

Fine. Glass of water, crust of bread and then...

LUMIERE

Cogsworth! I am surprised at you. She's not a prisoner, she's our guest! We must make her feel welcome here!

COGSWORTH

All right, dinner. But keep it down! If the Master finds out it'll be our necks!

LUMIERE

Of course...of course! But what is dinner without a little music?

COGSWORTH

MUSIC?

(A drum roll)

9. Be Our Guest

(All Castle Creatures but Beast)

LUMIERE:

(into song)

Ma chere Mademoiselle, it is with deepest pride
and greatest pleasure that we welcome you tonight.

And now we invite you to relax,
Let us pull up a chair as the dining room proudly presents -
your dinner!

Be our guest! Be our guest!

Put our service to the test

Tie your napkin 'round your neck, cherie
And we'll provide the rest

LUMIERE

Soup du jour, hot hors d'oeuvres
Why, we only live to serve
Try the grey stuff

CHIP:

It's delicious

LUMIERE:

Don't believe me? Ask the dishes
They can sing, they can dance
After all, Miss, this is France
And a dinner here is never second best
Go on, unfold your menu
Take a glance and then you'll
Be our guest
Oui, our guest
Be our guest!

FLATWARE:

Beef ragout
Cheese souffl 
Pie and pudding "en flamb "

LUMIERE:

We'll prepare and serve with flair
A culinary cabaret!
You're alone, and you're scared
But the banquet's all prepared
No one's gloomy or complaining
While the flatware's entertaining

FLATWARE

We tell jokes!

LUMIERE

I do tricks

With my fellow candlesticks

FLATWARE:

And it's all in perfect taste, that you can bet
Come on and lift your glass
You've won your own free pass to be out guest

LUMIERE:

If you're stressed, it's fine dining we suggest

LUMIERE & FLATWARE:

Be our guest! Be our guest! Be our guest!

CHORUS

Be our guest, be our guest
Get your worries off your chest
Let us say for your entree
We've an array; may we suggest:
Try the bread! Try the soup!
When the croutons loop de loop

LADIES

It's a treat for any dinner
Don't believe me? Ask the china

MEN

Singing pork! Dancing veal!
What an entertaining meal!

CHORUS:

How could anyone be gloomy and depressed?
We'll make you shout "encore!" and send us out for more
So, be our guest!

LUMIERE:

Be our guest!

CHORUS:

Be our guest!

MRS. POTTS:

It's a guest! It's a guest!
Sakes alive, well I'll be blessed!
Wine's been poured and thank the Lord
I've had the napkins freshly pressed
With dessert, she'll want tea
And my dear that's fine with me
While the cups do their soft-shoeing'
I'll be bubbling, I'll be brewing
I'll get warm, piping hot
Heaven's sakes! Is that a spot?
Clean it up! We want the company impressed

CHORUS:

We've got a lot to do!

MRS. POTTS:

Is it one lump or two?
For you, our guest!

CHORUS:

She's our guest!

MRS. POTTS:

She's our guest!

CHORUS:

She's our guest!
Be our guest! Be our guest! Be our guest!

LUMIERE:

Life is so unnerving
For a servant who's not serving
He's not whole without a soul to wait upon
Ah, those good old days when we were useful...
Suddenly those good old days are gone
Ten years we've been rusting
Needing so much more than dusting
Needing exercise, a chance to use our skills!
Most days we just lay around the castle

Flabby, fat and lazy
You walked in and oops-a-daisy!

Babette!

BABETTE
Come to me, my little spark!

LUMIERE
Ah-choo! Oui!

BABETTE
No!

COGSWORTH
Lumiere! This time you've gone too far. This is shameless! Shameless!

ALL
Hey!

LUMIERE
(as napkins enter) Allo!

NAPKINS
Hi!

LUMIERE
And now, for your continued dining pleasure – Napkins...s'il vous plait!

NAPKINS
Ooh la la!

(all together)
Un, deux, trois, quatre, cinq, six, sept, wheee!

ALL:
Be our guest! Be our guest!
Our command is your request
It's been years since we've had anybody here
And we're obsessed

With your meal, with your ease
Yes, indeed, we aim to please
While the candlelight's still glowing
Let us help you, We'll keep going
Course by course, one by one
'Til you shout, "Enough! I'm done!"
Then we'll sing you off to sleep as you digest
Tonight you'll prop your feet up
But for now, let's eat up
Be our guest!
Be our guest!
Be our guest!
Please, be our guest!

BELLE

Oh, Lumiere, thank you for dinner. It was delicious.

COGSWORTH

Good show, everyone! Good show! Well done! Oh my goodness, look at the time. Off to bed!

BELLE

Oh, I couldn't possibly go to bed now. It's my first time in an enchanted castle.

COGSWORTH

Enchanted! Who said anything about the castle being enchanted?
(to Lumiere) It was you, wasn't it?

BELLE

I figured it out for myself. I'd like to look around, if that's all right.

LUMIERE

Perhaps you would like a tour?

COGSWORTH

Wait a minute...wait a minute. I'm not sure that's such a good idea. (Aside to Lumiere) We can't have you know who, go poking around you know where...if you know what I mean.

BELLE

(to Cogsworth) Perhaps you'd like to take me. I'm sure you know everything there is to know about the castle.

COGSWORTH

Well...actually, I do! May I draw your attention to our hand painted ceiling complete with cherubs frolicking in delight amidst the nymphs and centaurs...

(Lights go down on Cogsworth and company as the Beast enters carrying a tray of food for Belle.)

BEAST

Act like a gentleman...act like a gentleman...This'll be good. Oh, Belle?

(The Beast knocks again.)

BEAST

Belle?

(Lights come up again on Cogsworth's tour...The Beast ducks back into the shadows.)

COGSWORTH

Now if you will not the unusual inverted archways, you will see that this is yet another example of the late neo-classic baroque period. And...as I always say...if it's not baroque, don't fix it!

(He laughs heartily. Lumiere and Belle are silent.)

May I draw your attention to the flying buttresses above the aviary...?

(Cogsworth exits)

BELLE

Oh, Lumiere it's all so beautiful! I had no idea. If only he weren't here!

(Lumiere and Belle exit.)

BEAST

Act like a gentleman...I am nothing but a fool.

(He goes into the West Wing. Cogsworth re-enters...Belle and Lumiere trail behind.)

COGSWORTH

...and thanks to some quick thinking on my part the disaster was averted. And that was the last

time a stone of that weight was quarried in this area.

BELLE

What's up there?

LUMIERE & COGSWORTH

NOTHING!

COGSWORTH

Nothing at all of any interest in the West Wing!

BELLE

Ah. So that's the West Wing.

LUMIERE

Nice going.

BELLE

I wonder what he's hiding up there.

COGSWORTH

(He laughs heartily.)

Hiding! What an idea! Hiding.

BELLE

Then it wouldn't be forbidden, would it?

COGSWORTH

Perhaps Mademoiselle would like to see something else. We have exquisite tapestries dating all the way back to Aloysius the Pretentious...

BELLE

Maybe later.

(She moves closer to the West Wing.)

LUMIERE

(thinking quickly)

Perhaps you would like to see the gardens...or...or the library?

(Belle whirls around with sudden interest.)

BELLE
You have a library?

9a. Belle in the West Wing

LUMIERE
With books!

(Cogsworth and Lumiere back away from the stairs....drawing Belle with them. She follows, tantalized.)

COGSWORTH
Oh yes! Scads of books! Mountains of books! Forests of books! Cascades! Cloudbursts! Swamps of books!

LUMIERE
Books with pictures! Books with words!

COGSWORTH
More words than you could ever be able to read in a lifetime!

LUMIERE
Books on every subject, by every author who ever set pen to papier!

9a. Belle in the West Wing

(Orchestra)

(They toddle off. Belle glances over her shoulder at the West Wing and her curiosity gets the better of her. She turns back and heads up the stairs. Belle enters the Beast's lair. She shudders as she steps through. Something catches her eye and she turns. It's the Rose. She moves closer...awestruck. Fascinated, Belle moves as if to life the dome as the Beast enters.)

BEAST
DON'T TOUCH THAT!

BELLE
I'm sorry!

(Belle backs away fearfully as he sees that the Rose is unharmed, his fear begins to abate and fury rises up in its place. He slowly advances on her...eyes burning with rage.)

BEAST
What are you doing here?

BELLE
I...

BEAST
I told you never to come here!

BELLE
I know but...

BEAST
Do you realize what you could have done? Get out!

BELLE
No...

BEAST
YOU HAD NO RIGHT TO BE THERE! NO RIGHT!

(As she tries to run past him, he grabs her arm and pulls off her sleeve as she falls backwards.)

BEAST
Oh...no...

BELLE
Don't touch me!

BEAST
No, I...

BELLE

Promise or no promise. I won't stay here!

(Belle runs out)

(The Beast is left alone with his remorse and self-recrimination.)

10. If I Can't Love Her

(Beast)

BEAST:

I'm sorry! I'm sorry! I didn't mean to frighten you. I didn't mean to hurt. You don't understand.
There's so little left of me...So little left...

And in my twisted face
There's not the slightest trace
Of anything that even hints of kindness
And from my tortured shape
No comfort, no escape
I see, but deep within is utter blindness
Hopeless, as my dream dies
As the time flies
Love a lost illusion
Helpless
Unforgiven
Cold and driven
To this sad conclusion

No beauty could move me
No goodness improve me
No power on earth, if I can't love her
No passion could reach me
No lesson could teach me
How I could have love her and made her love me too
If I can't love her, then who?

Long ago I should have seen
All the things I could have been
Careless and unthinking, I moved onward

No pain could be deeper
No life could be cheaper
No point anymore, if I can't love her
No spirit could win me
No hope left within me
Hope I could have loved her and that she'd set me free
But it's not to be
If I can't love her
Let the world be done with me.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

11a. Entr'acte

(Orchestra)

SCENE ONE: The Forest

11b. Wolf Chase

(Orchestra)

(We are in the Forest. Belle runs in, fleeing from the castle. She stops to catch her breath and looks around. She sees wolves who advance on her. In desperation, she breaks off a tree branch and swings it at them. They leap at her, snarling, snapping, tugging at her cloak. She falls...They have her now! Suddenly, we hear a thunderous roar! The Beast leaps in...flinging the wolf off of Belle. He stands over her, defending her from the wolves who attack him from all sides. With a final roar...he hurls the wolves away...The Beast staggers forward and collapses. Belle looks off for a moment. If she made her break now...She looks back at the Beast, lying wounded on the ground...and runs to his side. She tries to help him up. He moans painfully.)

SCENE TWO: Interior of Castle

(We are in the castle. Belle helps the Beast to his chair. He holds one arm painfully. Mrs. Potts, Lumiere and Cogsworth enter. Cogsworth carries a bowl and cloth to wash the Beast's wounds. Mrs. Potts pours steaming water into the bowl. Belle dips a clean cloth into the hot water and wrings it out. She reaches for the Beast's wounded arm. But he growls and pulls away.)

BELLE

Let me see. Don't do that!

(She reaches for him again, but he won't let her touch his arm.)

Just hold still.

(She gently dabs at the wound. He cringes and howls painfully.)

BEAST

OW! That hurts!

BELLE

If you'd hold still, it wouldn't hurt as much.

BEAST

If you hadn't run away, this wouldn't have happened.

BELLE

If you hadn't frightened me, I wouldn't have run away!

(This gives him pause. It's a moment before he can come up with a retort.)

BEAST

Well, you shouldn't have been in the West Wing!

BELLE

And you should learn to control you temper!

(He doesn't have an answer for that. They glare at each other in a silent battle of wills. The beast looks to Mrs. Potts and Lumiere who avert their eyes. Belle dips the cloth in hot water again and wrings it out.)

BELLE

Now hold still, this may sting a little.

(She dabs gently at the wound on his arm. He winces but doesn't pull away.)

BELLE

By the way...thank you for saving my life.

BEAST

You're welcome.

(Mrs. Potts, Lumiere and Cogsworth look at each other with happy surprise.)

MRS. POTTS

Well, that's more like it. I knew they could get along if they tried.

LUMIERE

So, the ice is broken...at last.

COGSWORTH

And not a moment too soon either. Have you taken a good look at the Rose lately? It's losing petals at an alarming rate!

MRS. POTTS

Not to mention the fact that I can hardly bend over at all any more.

LUMIERE

Clearly, it's time for us to give them a little push. We must find a nice romantic way to draw them closer together.

MRS. POTTS

I have just the thing!

(She speak to the Beast and Belle.)

How about we warm you two up a bit with a nice bowl of soup?

(Lumiere and Cogsworth look at each other.)

LUMIERE/COGSWORTH

Soup?

MRS. POTTS

Trust me.

(Mrs. Potts, Lumiere Beast and Cogsworth huddle. A small table tracks on. Chip sits on top.)

12. Something There

(Belle, Beast, Cogsworth, Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Chip)

BELLE:

There's something sweet

And almost kind

But he was mean and he was coarse and unrefined

But now he's dear, and so unsure

I wonder why I didn't see it there before

(Mrs. Potts indicates the chair to the Beast. He lifts the chair as Belle crosses to it. He clumsily slides it in beneath her. She falls in to the chair. The Beast crosses to his chair and perches, unable to sit. Belle raises her bowl...the Beast follows suit.)

CHIP

(as they raise their bowls)

Cheers!

MRS. POTTS:

(to Belle)

Come along dearie. Let's get you off those wet things.

(Mrs. Potts leads Belle off. As they go, Belle looks back and indicates that he should wipe his mouth.)

BEAST:

She glanced this way, I thought I saw
And when we touched she didn't shudder at my paw
No it can't be, I'll just ignore
But then she's never looked at me that way before

(to Cogsworth and Lumiere who approach)

When she smiles at me...I get all choked up. My heart starts pounding and I can't breathe!

COGSWORTH

Good!

BEAST

That's good?

LUMIERE

Excellent!

BEAST

I've never felt this way about anyone.
(impulsively) I want to give her something...but what?

COGSWORTH

Well, there's the usual thing: flowers, chocolates, promises you don't intend to keep...

LUMIERE

No, no. This is no ordinary girl. It has to be something special. Something that sparks her interest...something...

(He remembers)

Aaaah!

(Lumiere whispers into the Beast's ear. He draws back, skeptically.)

BEAST

What? Are you sure?

(dubious)

Well...

(Belle comes back wearing a pink dress)

(Cogsworth clears his throat, and bows in Belle's direction. Lumiere & Beast look in her direction.)

LUMIERE

(under his breath to the Beast)

Say something about the dress.

BEAST

(confused)

It's pink.

LUMIERE

A compliment!

BEAST

Oh.

BEAST

(to Belle)

What a ...nice dress.

BELLE

Thank you!

(Beast looks at Lumiere and Cogsworth. "How'd I do?" They nod and make "go on" motions..)

BEAST:

Belle, I have something to show you.

(He leads her upstage.)

But first, you have to close your eyes. It's a surprise!

(Belle closes her eyes.)

LUMIERE

Get the girl!

BELLE:

May I open them?

(As swag opens to reveal a beautiful library with stacks and stacks of books.)

BEAST:

Alright, alright. Now!

(Belle opens her eyes and gasps with wonder.)

BELLE:

I can't believe it!

I've never seen so many books in my whole life!

BEAST:

You... like it?

BELLE:

It's wonderful!

BEAST:

Then...it's yours!

(Belle runs to look at the books. She dashes from stack to stack...giddy with delight.)

BELLE:

New and a bit alarming

Who'd have ever thought that this could be?

(Beast enters the library.)

True that he's no Prince Charming
But there's something in him that I simply didn't see

(Musical underscoring continues. Belle shows the Beast a book.)

BELLE:

Oh, this is one of my favorites! It's "King Arthur."
Have you ever read it?

BEAST:

No.

BELLE:

Then you don't know what you're missing.
I'd love to read it again. Wait...you can read it first.

BEAST:

(He pushes it back to her)
No, that's alright

BELLE:

(She pushes it back to him)
No, really, you read it

BEAST:

(He pushes it back to her)
Oh, No, you...

BELLE:

No, you.

(She pushes it back to him. Finally, in frustration, he confesses.)

BEAST:

No! I can't...

BELLE:
You never learn to read?

BEAST:
Only a little, and long ago

(He goes to leave)

BELLE:
Well, it just so happens that this is the perfect book to
read aloud. Come here, sit by me.

(They sit down to read. Lumiere, Cogsworth, and Mrs. Potts enter. Mrs. Potts pushes her tea cart
with Chip.)

LUMIERE:
Well, who'd have thought?

MRS. POTTS:
Well, bless my soul

COGSWORTH:
Well, who'd have known?

MRS. POTTS:
Well, who indeed?

LUMIERE:
And who'd have guessed they'd come together on their own?

MRS. POTTS:
It's so peculiar.

MRS. POTTS, LUMIERE AND COGSWORTH:
We'll wait and see
A few days more
There may be something there that wasn't there before

COGSWORTH:
Perhaps there's something there

That wasn't there before

CHIP:

What?

MRS. POTTS:

There may be something there that wasn't there before

CHIP:

What's there, Mama?

MRS. POTTS:

Ssh. I'll tell you when you're older.

Come along now. Let's give them some privacy...

CHIP:

Mama?

MRS. POTTS:

Yes, Chip

CHIP:

Will I ever get to be a boy again?

MRS. POTTS:

I hope so

CHIP:

When will I know?

MRS. POTTS:

Soon. If it's to be. It will be very soon now.

Come along, son.

(They exit.)

BELLE: (reading)

Knowing not that this was indeed the legendary sword called

"Excalibur," Arthur tried to pull it from the stone.

He tried once to no avail. He tried a second time, but still,

he could not pull it out. Then, for the third time, Arthur
drew forth the sword...

BEAST: (excited)
So that must mean he's the king!

BELLE:
Wait and see

(The Beast shakes his head with wonder.)

BEAST:
I never knew books could do that

BELLE:
Do what?

BEAST:
Take me away from this place, make me forget for a little while.

BELLE:
Forget?

BEAST:
Who I...(correcting himself)
What I am...

(Belle looks at him. He's touched her heart.)

BELLE:
We have something in common, you know

BEAST:
What?

BELLE:
In the town where I come from, the people think I'm odd

BEAST:
You?

BELLE:

So, I know how it feels to be...different.
And I know how lonely that can be

(There's a beat. Their eyes meet. A bond has formed between them.)

BELLE:

(reminded, she picks up the book and reads)
For the third time, Arthur drew forth the sword, and there
arose from the people a great shout. "Arthur is king!"

BEAST:

Told you so...

(Lumiere enters and watches Belle and Beast in the library. Mrs. Potts and Chip enter.)

MRS. POTTS

They're still in there?

LUMIERE

Yes, and so far he has been a perfect gentleman.

CHIP

You know what, Mama? I have a funny feeling inside. I don't know what it is, but it makes me
feel kind of bubbly.

(Mrs. Potts and Lumiere share a knowing look.)

MRS. POTTS

It's hope, son. I've been feeling it too.

LUMIERE:

Ha ha, oui, my little friend,
The day we have waited for may be at hand!

MRS. POTTS:
Oh, only if that were true, Lumiere!

LUMIERE:
Aaah...human again

MRS. POTTS:
Human again

LUMIERE:
Yes, think of what that means!

LUMIERE:
I'll be cooking again
Be good-looking again
With a mademoiselle on each arm

LUMIERE
When I'm human again
Only human again
Poised and polished and gleaming with charm...
I'll be courting again
Chic and sporting again

MRS. POTTS:
Which should cause several husbands alarm!

CHIP:
I'll hop down off the shelf

LUMIERE:
And toute suite be myself

CHIP:
I can't wait to be human again

MME. DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE, MRS. POTTS, BABETTE:
When we're human again
Only human again

When we're knickknacks and whatnots no more

CHIP:

Little push, little shove
They could, whoosh fall in love

MME. DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE:

Ah, cherie, won't it all be top-drawer
I'll wear lipstick and rouge
And I won't be so huge
Why, I'll easily fit through that door
I'll exude savoir-faire
I'll wear gowns! I'll have hair!
It's my prayer to be human again

COGSWORTH:

When I'm human again
Only human again
When the world once more making sense
I'll unwind for a change

LUMIERE:

Really? That'd be strange!

COGSWORTH:

Can I help it if I'm t-t-tense?
In a shack by the sea
I'll sit back sipping tea
Let my early retirement commence
Far from fool made of wax
I'll get down to brass tacks and relax

ALL:

When I'm human again
So sweep the dust from the floor!
Let's let some light in the room!
I can feel, I can tell
Someone might break the spell
Any day now!

LUMIERE:

Shine up the brass on the door!

BABETTE

Alert the dust pail and the broom!

ALL:

If all goes as planned
Our time may be at hand
Any day now!

MRS. POTTS, DUST PAIL, EGG TIMER:

Open the shutters and let in some air

MRS. POTTS:

Put these here and put those over there

ALL:

Sweep up the years
Of sadness and tears
And throw them away!

(The library. The musical underscore continues as Belle finishes the book.)

BELLE:

“When Guenivere heard that Arthur was slain, she went away to a convent, and no one could
make her smile again.”

(closing the book)

That’s the end.

(He is clearly stricken by the tale.)

BEAST:

What a...

(he swallows the lump in his throat)

beautiful story.

BELLE:

I knew you would like it!

I would like to ask you something

BEAST:
What's that?

BELLE:
A second chance. Would you have dinner with me tonight?

BEAST:
Dinner? Me? With you? Well, that would be,
I mean -- Oh, yes!!

(Belle and Beast exit the castle)

ALL:
When we're human again
Only human again
When the girl finally sets us all free
Cheeks a-bloomin' again
We're assumin' again
We'll resume our long lost joie de vie
We'll be playin' again
Holiday' again
And we're prayin' it's A-S-A-P
When we cast off this pall
We'll stand straight, we'll walk tall
When we're all that we were
Thanks to him, thanks to her
Coming closer and closer
And closer and...
We'll be dancing again!
We'll be twirling again!
We'll be whirling around with such ease
When we're human again
Only human again
We'll go waltzing those old one-two-threes

We'll be floating again!
We'll be gliding again!
Stepping, striding as fine as you please
Like a real human does
I'll be all that I was

On that glorious morn
When we're fin'ly reborn
And we're all of us human again!

SCENE THREE: The Tavern

(Gaston and Lefou enter the tavern with an unfamiliar man all dressed in black, the proprietor of the local lunatic asylum. They are seated at a table.)

GASTON

Thank you for coming on such short notice, Monsieur d'Arque.

MONSIEUR D'ARQUE

I don't usually leave the asylum in the middle of the night. But this fellow said you'd make it worth my while.

GASTON

Look, I've got my heart set on marrying Belle, but she needs a little...persuasion.

LEFOU

Turned him down flat!

GASTON:

When a Man like me has thwarted
and denied my honeymoon

LEFOU:

SCENE FOUR: The Beast's Lair/West Wing

(The Beast prepares for dinner with the help of Lumiere and Cogsworth)

LUMIERE

Tonight is the night...the night to confess your love.

BEAST

I'm not sure I can do that.

COGSWORTH

You must!

LUMIERE

You care for the girl, don't you?

BEAST

More than anything.

LUMIERE

Then why not tell her?

BEAST

I can't!

COGSWORTH

You must!

(Lumiere waves at him to be quiet.)

LUMIERE

There will be beautiful music, romantic candlelight, provided by myself, and then when the moment is right...

BEAST

How will I know when the moment is right?

COGSWORTH

You'll feel slightly nauseous.

LUMIERE

No...no! You will know because you will feel it here...
(he points to his heart) ...and you must speak from the heart.

BEAST

I must speak from the ...I can't!

COGSWORTH & LUMIERE

You must!

(Lumiere waves at Cogsworth again.)

LUMIERE

What are you afraid of?

BEAST

Nothing!

LUMIERE

Master...

BEAST

I'm afraid she might...

COGSWORTH

She might what?

BEAST

Laugh at me.

(Lumiere and Cogsworth look at each other...empathizing with his plight.)

LUMIERE

Somehow my prince, you must find the courage to take that chance.

COGSWORTH

Master...look at the rose! There's so little time left!

BEAST

I really don't think I can do this.

LUMIERE

Here. This might help to bolster your courage.

(Cogsworth holds the Mirror up...the Beast groans and looks away. He doesn't want to see...but Lumiere turns his head to force him to look. He is dressed elegantly with his hair tied back in a ponytail. He actually looks good.)

BEAST

(surprised) Ah!

LUMIERE

You can do it, Master. I know you can.

14a. Before 'Beauty and the Beast'

(The Beast looks to Cogsworth, who holds up the Mirror again.)

(The lights come up on Belle She's dressed in a stunning golden gown. The Beast holds his hand out to her. They sit at a banquet table.)

(Mrs. Potts enters with Chip in the teacart.)

15. Beauty and the Beast

(Mrs. Potts)

MRS. POTTS:

Tale as old as time
True as it can be
Barely even friends
Then somebody bends
Unexpectedly.

Just a little change
Small to say the least

Both a little scared
Neither one prepared
Beauty and the Beast.

(Belle gets up and crosses to take his hand.)

BELLE
Dance with me.

BEAST
No...I...

LUMIERE & COGSWORTH
DANCE WITH HER!

(Belle and the Beast dance together.)

MRS. POTTS
Ever just the same
Ever a surprise
Ever as before
Ever just as sure
As the sun will rise.

Tale as old as time
Tune as old as song
Bittersweet and strange
Finding you can change
Learning you were wrong.

Certain as the sun
Rising in the east
Tale as old as time
Song as old as rhyme
Beauty and the Beast.

Tale as old as time
Song as old as rhyme
Beauty and the Beast.

Off to the cupboard with you now, Chip.
It's past your bedtime. Good night, love.

(Mrs. Potts and Chip exit. Belle and the Beast on a bench.)

BEAST

Thank you for asking me to dinner.

BELLE

Dinner was wonderful.

BEAST

Belle, I...

BELLE

Yes?

BEAST

Belle, are you happy here?

BELLE

Oh, yes...everyone's so kind. Mrs. Potts, Lumiere...

BEAST

With me?

BELLE

Yes.

(There's a long uncomfortable pause. Cogsworth and Lumiere enter.)

15a. Beast Lets Belle Go

BEAST

I must speak from...

LUMIERE & COGSWORTH

...the heart!

BEAST

Is something wrong?

BELLE

I was just thinking about my father. I miss him so much. I wish I could see him again.

BEAST

There is a way. This Mirror will show you anything...anything you wish to see.

BELLE

I'd like to see my father, please.

Papa? Oh, no...Papa! Something's wrong! He's in the woods! I think he's lost... I should...I should...

BEAST

(with difficulty) Go to him.

BELLE

What?

BEAST

You should go to him.

BELLE

But what about...?

BEAST

You're not my prisoner anymore. You haven't been for a long time.

(She tries to return the Mirror but he pushes it back toward her.)

Take it with you. So you'll always have a way to look back...and remember me.

(She takes his hand briefly.)

BELLE

I could never forget you.

(He holds her hand...almost desperately...as if he's waiting for her to say something more.)

BEAST
Belle, I...

BELLE
Yes?

BEAST
Go. Go. Go.

(She turns and runs out. He watches her go.)

I'll never see her again.

(Lumiere, Cogsworth and Mrs. Potts enter.)

COGSWORTH
Well, sire, I must say. Everything is going just swimmingly. I knew you had it in you!

BEAST
I let her go.

COGSWORTH
You what?

LUMIERE
How could you do that?

BEAST
I had to.

COGSWORTH
But why?

(He doesn't answer...then looks to Mrs. Potts.)

MRS. POTTS

After all this time, he's finally learned to love.

LUMIERE

That's it then! That should break the spell!

MRS. POTTS

It's not enough. She has to love him in return.

COGSWORTH

And now it's too late.

(They exit.)

BEAST:

No pain could be deeper
No life could be cheaper
No point anymore if she can't love me

No hope she would do so
No dream to pursue, so
I look to myself
Despise all the things I see
For I know that she cannot set me free
Let the world be done with me

SCENE FIVE: Exterior Belle's House

(Belle and Maurice enter.)

BELLE

We're finally home. Rest here.

MAURICE

I don't know what happened. The last thing I remember I was falling...

BELLE

You were in the woods, papa. I thought I'd never find you...

MAURICE

But the Beast? How did you escape?

BELLE

I didn't escape. He let me go.

MAURICE

He let you go? That terrible beast?

BELLE

He's not terrible. In the beginning I was so frightened; I thought it was the end of everything...But somehow...things changed.

(Monsieur d'Arque enters with a mob)

MONSEIUR D'ARQUE

Good afternoon.

BELLE

Monsieur D'Arque!

MONSEIUR D'ARQUE

I've come to collect your father.

BELLE

What?

MONSEIUR D'ARQUE

Don't worry. We'll take good care of him.

BELLE

My father's not crazy!

LEFOU

He was raving like a lunatic. We all heard him.

(to the crowd) Didn't we?

(They murmur their agreement)

MONSIEUR D'ARQUE

All right...come along quietly, now.

BELLE

You can't do this!

LEFOU

Tell us again, old man. Just how big was that beast?

MAURICE

Well, he was enormous! He was at least eight...no, ore like ten feet tall!

LEFOU

You don't get much crazier than that!

MAURICE

It's true...I tell you!

(Monsieur D'Arque's men move in and grab Maurice.)

What are you doing? Let go of me!

D'ARQUE

Tell me Maurice...when did you first start having these delusions?

MAURICE

It is not a delusion. The Beast was real! And so was the talking clock!

(The crowd laughs as Gaston appears out of the shadows.)

GASTON

Poor Belle. It's a shame about your father.

BELLE

Gaston, you know he's not crazy!

GASTON

I might be able to clear up this little misunderstanding if...

BELLE

If what?

GASTON

If you'll marry me!

BELLE

WHAT?

GASTON

One little word, Belle...that's all it takes...

BELLE

NEVER!

(He grabs her roughly and kisses her on the lips. She pushes him away and slaps his face. He moves as if to retaliate. The crowd gasps.)

GASTON

Have it your way!

(to D'Arque) Take the ole man!

MAURICE

Let got of me! Belle!

BELLE

Wait! I can prove my father's not crazy!

(Everyone stops and looks up. Belle pulls the Magic Mirror out of the sack and holds it up for all to see.)

(to the Mirror) Show me the Beast!

(The image of the Beast appears in the Magic Mirror.)

MAURICE:

That's him! That's him!

(The crowd gasps. D'Arque's men release Maurice. The townspeople are terrified.)

WOMAN:

Is it dangerous?

BELLE:

Oh, no. No, he'd never hurt anyone. I know he looks frightful, but he's really kind and gentle.
He's my friend.

GASTON:

If I didn't know better, I'd say you had feelings for this monster.

BELLE:

He's no monster, Gaston. You are!

GASTON:

She's as crazy as the old man. She says this creature is her friend.
Well, I've hunted wild beasts and I've seen what they can do.

(He whips the townspeople into a frenzy, transforming them into a wild angry mob.)

GASTON

The Beast will make off with your children.
He'll come after them in the night.

(The crowd gasps.)

BELLE:

He would never do that!

GASTON:

Forget the old man, I say we kill the Beast!

VILLAGERS:

Kill him!

MALE VILLAGER

We're not safe until he's dead
He'll come stalking us at night

FEMALE VILLAGER

Set to sacrifice our children to his monstrous appetite

D'ARQUE:

He'll wreak havoc on our village if we let him wander free

GASTON:

So it's time to take some action, boys
It's time to follow me
Through the mist, through the woods
Through the darkness and the shadows
It's a nightmare but it's one exciting ride
Say a prayer, then we're there
At the drawbridge of a castle
And there's something truly terrible inside
It's a beast! He's got fangs - Razor sharp ones!
Massive paws, killer claws for the feast
Hear him roar! See him foam!
But we're not coming home 'til he's dead--
Good and dead!
Kill the Beast!

BELLE:

I won't let you do this!

GASTON:

Try and stop us!

BELLE:

Papa, this is all my fault. I have to go back and warn him.

MAURICE:

I'm coming with you!

BELLE:

No!

MAURICE:

I lost you once, I won't lose you again!

(Maurice and Belle exit.)

GASTON:

We'll rid the village of this Beast. Who's with me?

LEFOU:

I am!

MALE VILLAGERS

I am!

MORE MALE VILLAGERS

I am!

MOB:

Light your torch! Mount your horse!

GASTON:

Screw your courage to the sticking place!

MOB:

We're counting on Gaston to lead the way!

FEMALE VILLAGERS:

Through a mist, through a wood

Where within a haunted castle

Something's lurking that you don't see ev'ry day!

MOB:

It's a beast! One as tall as a mountain

We won't rest 'til he's good and deceased

ALL

Sally forth! Tally ho!

Grab your sword! Grab your bow!
Praise the Lord and here we go!

GASTON

We'll lay siege to the castle, and bring back his head!!!

MOB

We don't like
What we don't understand
In fact it scares us
And this monster is mysterious at least
Bring your guns!
Bring your knives!
Save your children and your wives
We'll save our village and our lives
We'll kill the Beast!

GASTON:

Take whatever booty you can find.
But remember, the Beast is MINE!

MOB:

Hearts ablaze, banners high
We go marching into battle
Unafraid although the danger just increased
Raise the flag! Sing the song!
Here we come, we're fifty strong
And fifty Frenchmen can't be wrong
Let's kill the Beast!
(BOOM!)
Kill the Beast!
(BOOM!)
Kill the Beast
(CRASH!)
Kill the Beast!

Scene 6a: Castle Interior

(All's quiet inside. Gaston and the mob don't notice anything as they pass through the foyer which is filled with silent Objects.)

LEFOU

This place gives me the creeps.

GASTON

Shhh!

LEFOU

Well, it does!

GASTON

Shut up!

LEFOU

Gaston, I want to go home!

17a. The Battle

CHIP

CHARGE!

(The whole castle seems to come alive as the Objects descend on the unsuspecting villagers. Babette is chased by a villager.)

BABETTE

Say, you're cute.

VILLAGER

Naaah.

BABETTE

(hm)

Ahhh.

VILLAGER

Ah. Ah. Ah. Ah. Ahhhh

BABETTE

Oooooooh.

(Lumiere lights the Villager's pants on fire. The Villager runs off. Lumiere goes to the Beast.)

(Cogsworth appears chasing Villager.)

COGSWORTH

Tally ho!!! Tally ho!!

LUMIERE

Sacre Bleu! Pardonnez moi, Master...

BEAST

Leave me in peace.

LUMIERE

But the castle is under attack!

BEAST

It doesn't matter now. Just let them come.

LUMIERE

Mon Dieu!

(Mrs. Potts enters with Chip in the teacart. Lefou sees them and crosses.)

MRS. POTTS

You look like you could use a nice cup of tea!

LEFOU

Tea? Oh, thank you!

CHIP

Here ya go!

(Chip spits tea in Lefou's face)

MRS. POTTS

Take that, you curvy scum!

(Mrs. Potts swings her spout, hitting Lefou. Lefou stumbles blindly as Mrs. Potts exits with Chip.)

LEFOU

Where did everybody go?

(Lefou crosses into Wardrobe, dressed as Brunhilde. She stuns Lefou with a high note. Lefou turns and runs.)

(Gaston enters the West Wing and sees the Beast.)

17b. Fight on the Tower

GASTON

Ha! You're even uglier in the flesh!

(The Beast looks at him, then turns away. Gaston strides across the room and kicks him.)

GASTON

Get up!

(The Beast groans but doesn't fight back.)

GASTON

What's the matter Beast? Too kind and gentle to fight back?

(Gaston punches the Beast.)

GASTON

You were in love with her, weren't you, Beast?

(He laughs cruelly)

Oh, that's a good one! Did you really think a girl like that would want a thing like you? What a fool!

(Gaston continues to beat and kick the Beast.)

GASTON

She despises you Beast! And she sent me here to destroy you!

BEAST

No.

GASTON

It's over, Beast. Belle is mine!

(Gaston tries to stab the Beast. Beast evades as Belle enters the West Wing)

BELLE

NO!

(Gaston and The Beast fight. Finally, the Beast grabs Gaston – ready to kill him.)

GASTON

(desperate) Pull me up! Pull me up!

(Alternate: Let me go! Let me go!)

I'm begging you!

(The Beast roars, prepared to kill him. But he struggles with himself. He can't do it...he's too human now. He releases Gaston.)

BEAST

Get out. Belle.

(Gaston sags...gasping for breath. The Beast moves towards Belle.)

BELLE

I'm sorry...

BEAST

You came back.

BELLE
Take my hand!

(But just as their hands meet, Gaston plunges a knife into the Beast's back. Gaston stabs him again. Gaston stumbles and falls to his death. We hear his long, anguished wail. The Beast staggers toward Belle and collapses on the West Wing. Belle is holding the Beast in her arms.)

18. Is This Home (Reprise)

BEAST:
You came back

BELLE:
(struggling with tears)
Of course I came back. I couldn't let them...
If only I'd come here sooner

BEAST:
Maybe it's better this way

BELLE:
No! Don't talk like that. Everything will be fine!

BEAST
No...

BELLE
Shhh...shhhh. We're together now. You'll see.

BEAST:
At least I get to see you one last -

BELLE:
We are home
We are where we shall be forever
Trust in me
For you know I won't run away
From today

This is all that I need
And all that I need to say is...
Don't you know how you've changed me
Strange how I finally see
I found home
You're my home
Stay with...

Scene 6c: Castle Interior

Belle, Prince, Mrs. Potts, Lumiere, Cogsworth, Babette, Wardrobe, Chip, Ensemble

19. Transformation/Finale

BEAST
(gasps) Belle...I...

BELLE
(sobbing) - Yes?

(He dies.)

BELLE:
No! No, please! Don't leave me!
I love you.

(She collapses on his chest.)

(And the last petal falls. There's a long moment...filled with the sound of Belle's sorrow. The Beast transforms in to the Prince...He turns to Belle and holds out his hand.)

PRINCE:
Belle, look into my eyes!
Belle, don't you recognize
The beast within the man
Who's here before you?

BELLE:
(She looks closer)
It is you!

(They kiss...the kiss that's been waiting for so long. Mrs. Potts, Lumiere and Cogsworth enter.
They have transformed into people!)

MRS. POTTS

Oh my! Oh goodness me!

LUMIERE

Mrs. Potts!

COGSWORTH

What's happening here?

LUMIERE

(kisses Cogsworth)

Cogsworth!

COGSWORTH

Stop it! Stop that!

LUMIERE

The spell is broken!

COGSWORTH

What?

LUMIERE

We're human again!

COGSWORTH

Lumiere! Come here!

(He kisses Lumiere)

LUMIERE

Stop it! Stop that!

(The Prince runs to them.)

PRINCE

Mrs. Potts!

LUMIERE

Master!

PRINCE

Lumiere! Cogsworth! Oh, my Cogsworth!

(Belle comes over and takes the Prince's hand)

Let's go find your father!

(They go off.)

COGSWORTH

Who was that young man?

LUMIERE

The Prince!

COGSWORTH

No it wasn't!

LUMIERE

Yes it was!

COGSWORTH

No it wasn't!

LUMIERE

It most certainly was!

(Babette enters. She's back to her voluptuous self.)

BABETTE

Yoooooo! Bonjour, Handsome.

LUMIERE

Babette! You look so...much better!

BABETTE

What do you mean? I thought you like the way I looked before.

LUMIERE

I did...it's just...I like you better this way.

BABETTE

Then you were lying to me.

LUMIERE

No...I wasn't.

BABETTE

Yes, you were!

LUMIERE

No...I wasn't.

BABETTE

Yes, you were!

LUMIERE

Well, maybe a little.

BABETTE

(sexily) Lumiere...I like you better this way too.

(She giggles. He chases her off. Wardrobe enters. She's transformed into a diva once again. She strikes a pose and clears her throat.)

COGSWORTH

Madame...May I say that you look ravishing!

WARDROBE

Thank you, Cogsworth. Do you like the gown? I simply can't believe it fits me again...after all these years.

COGSWORTH

It's magnificence in excelsius.

WARDROBE

Did you know...I wore this the night I performed at the Royal Opera? The King himself was

there...

COGSWORTH

I know my dear. You were wonderful.

WARDROBE

Oh, Cogsworth!

(They exit.)

CHIP

(offstage)

Mama! Mama!

MRS. POTTS

Chip!

(tearfully) Oh my boy...my boy!

(Chip, the little boy, runs across the stage to greet his mother who bends down and gathers him in her arms.)

CHIP

Are they gonna live happily ever after, Mama?

MRS. POTTS

Of course, my dear. Of course.

CHIP

Do I still have to sleep in the cupboard?

(Belle and the Beast come together and begin to Dance)

BELLE/PRINCE:

Two lives have begun now
Two hearts become one now
One passion, one dream
One thing forever true
I love you!

ALL:

Certain as the sun

Rising in the east
Tale as old as time
Song as old as rhyme
Beauty and the Beast.

Tale as old as time
Song as old as rhyme
Beauty and the Beast.

END OF ACT TWO

20. Bows

21. Exit Music