Disney’s THE LITTLE MERMAID

Music by ALAN MENKEN
Lyrics by HOWARD ASHMAN and GLENN SLATER
Book by DOUG WRIGHT
Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story
and the Disney film produced by Howard Ashman and John Musker,
and written & directed by John Musker and Ron Clements

CHARACTERS (In order of appearance)

ARIEL - a mermaid, King Triton’s youngest daughter
PILOT – helmsman of Prince Eric’s ship
SAILORS
PRINCE ERIC – a human monarch
GRIMSBY – guardian of Prince Eric
FLOUNDER – A fish and Ariel’s best friend
SCUTTLE – a seagull and self-proclaimed expert on human artifacts
SEA CREATURES - of various shapes, sizes and species
WINDWARD & LEEWARD – trumpet fish, heralds in King Triton’s court
KING TRITON – the King of the Sea and Ariel’s father
SEBASTIAN – a crab and advisor to King Triton
MERSISTERS (Aquata, Andrina, Arista, Atina, Adella, Allana) – the daughters of King Triton and Ariel’s sisters
FLOTSAM & JETSAM - electric eels and Ursula’s lackeys
URSULA – the Sea Witch, sister of King Triton
GULLS
MAIDS
CHEF LOUIS – the Palace chef, a culinary perfectionist
CHEFS – sous staff of Chef Louis
6 PRINCESSES – potential mates for Prince Eric

SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

SC. 1. The World Above - THE WATER’S SURFACE
#2. THE WORLD ABOVE..............................................Ariel
#3. FATHOMS BELOW.....Pilot, Sailors, Eric, Grimsby

SC. 2. Teenagers – KING’S TRITON COURT
#4. DAUGHTERS OF TRITON.................................Mersisters
#5. IF ONLY (TRITON’S LAMENT)......................King Triton

SC. 3. Femme Fatale – URSULA’S LAIR
#6. DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL..............................Ursula, Eels

SC. 4. Ariel’s Wish – ARIEL’S GROTTO
#7. PART OF YOUR WORLD..............................Ariel
#8. THE STORM..............................................Sailors

SC. 5. Storm at Sea – SHIP/SEA BELOW/BEACH
#9. PART OF YOUR WORLD (REPRISE)...............Ariel

ACT TWO

SC. 1. She’s Got Legs - THE BEACH
#16. POSITOIVITY.................................Scuttle, Gulls

SC. 2. Regret – KING’S TRITON COURT

SC. 3. Speechless—PALACE ARIEL’S CHAMBERS
#17. BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAM............Ariel

SC. 4. Hot Water – PALACE KITCHEN
#18. LES POISSONS........................................Chefs

SC. 5. Dinner Disaster – BANQUET HALL
#18. LES POISSONS(REPRISE)........................Chefs

SC. 6. Shall We Dance? – BALLROOM
#19. ONE STEP CLOSER.................................Eric

SC. 7. Block that Kiss! – URSULA’S LAIR


### ACT ONE

#### #1. OVERTURE

**SCENE ONE: THE WATER’S SURFACE**

(ARIEL, a beautiful young mermaid with red hair, crashes through the surface, resplendent in the sun. At the sight of the verdant trees, the buoyant clouds and the magnificent sky, her face beams with enthusiasm.)

#### #2. THE WORLD ABOVE

**ARIEL**

THIS IS WHERE I BELONG,
BENEATH THE CLEAR WIDE BLUE HERE!
I FEEL COMPLETELY NEW HERE IN THE WORLD ABOVE!
IT’S LIKE MY LIFE WAS WRONG
AND SOMEHOW, NOW, AT LAST I’M IN MY OWN SKIN
UP HERE IN THE WORLD ABOVE!

THERE’S SO MUCH LIGHT HERE, LIGHT AND SPACE!
THE SUN’S SO BRIGHT HERE UPON MY FACE!
IT FEELS SO RIGHT HERE, WARM AS LOVE...
LIFE SEEMS TO BE ALMOST CALLING TO ME
FROM THIS STRANGE NEW WORLD ABOVE!

(In the distance, ARIEL hears a voice cry)

**PRINCE ERIC**

(offstage) Steady as she goes! Windward, ho!

(ARIEL watches in wonder as an enormous ship comes careening across the waves.)

**ARIEL**

A ship!

(ARIEL takes cover in deeper waters as a PILOT and SAILORS appear on a ship.)
#3. FATHOMS BELOW

PILOT
I’LL TELL YOU A TALE OF THE BOTTOMLESS BLUE,
SAILORS
AN’ IT’S HEY TO THE STARBOARD, HEAVE HO!
PILOT
BRAVE SAILOR BEWARE ‘CASE A BIG ‘UNS A BREWIN’
SAILORS
MYSTERIOUS FATHOMS BELOW!
FATHOMS BELOW, BELOW!
FROM WHENCE WAYWARD WESTERLIES BLOW
WHERE TRITON IS KING AND HIS MERPEOPLE SING
IN MYSTERIOUS FATHOMS BELOW!
(PRINCE ERIC bounds on deck; he’s a handsome, affable lad with a buoyant adventurous nature. From his humble sailor togs, one would never guess that he’s a bona fide Prince. With him, his droll British guardian, GRIMSBY.)

PRINCE ERIC
Isn’t this perfection, Grimsby? Out on the open sea, surrounded by nothing but water and imagination –

GRIMSBY
Oh, yes, it’s simply….(bending over the rail, seasick)…..delightful….

PRINCE ERIC
THE SALT ON YOUR SKIN AND THE WIND IN YOUR HAIR
AND THE WAVES AS THEY EBB AND THEY FLOW!
WE’RE MILES FROM THE SHORE, AND GUESS WHAT I DON’T CARE!

GRIMSBY
AS FOR ME, I’M ABOUT TO HEAVE HO!

PILOT
Toe the line!

SAILORS
I’LL SING YOU A SONG OF THE KING OF THE SEA
AN’ IT’S HEY TO THE STARBOARD, HEAVE-HO!
THE RULER OF ALL OF THE OCEANS IS HE
IN MYSTERIOUS FATHOMS BELOW!

GRIMSBY
King of the sea? Why, that’s nautical nonsense – nothing but a superstition!

PILOT
THE KING OF THE OCEAN GETS ANGRY
AN’ WHEN HE GETS ANGRY, BEWARE!
I’M TELLIN’ YA LAD, WHEN KING TRITON IS MAD
HOW THE WAVES’LL BUCK, ROCK TO AND FRO
PILOT, SAILORS
HOLD ON, GOOD LUCK, AS DOWN YOU GO!

VOICE
AHHHH…..AHHH….

PRINCE ERIC
What is that? Do you hear something?
| GRIMSBY | Milord, please... enough sea-faring! You've got to get back to court – to honor your father's dying wish and take up his crown! |
| PRINCE ERIC | Suppose I don't want his crown? |
| GRIMSBY | You'd forsake his kingdom? *even more incredulous* All his treasures? |
| PRINCE ERIC | Treasures? You mean like this? *holds a silver choalice aloft* Who needs it? We drink straight outta the bottle, don't we, boys? *(The SAILORS roar their approval; PRINCE ERIC tosses the cup to one of them.)* Or this? *(brandishes a candelabra)* Not when we've got the sun and the moon to light our way! *(PRINCE ERIC tosses the candelabra; a SAILOR catches it and all cheer.)* Or this? *(raises a gilded fork)* No, thanks! I'd rather eat with my bare hands -- *(PRINCE ERIC tosses it and the fork goes sailing through the air, off the side of the ship, into the water with a splash)* |
| GRIMSBY | You're a prince, Sire! Not a common sailor -- ! |
| PRINCE ERIC | These men are anything but common! They're free, Grimsby – truly free. They don't have to answer to anyone but the Sea. *(With longing)* I'd rather be a sailor than a prince any day. |

**THIS IS WHERE I BELONG!**  
EACHTHING SEEMS MORE REAL HERE!  
STRANGE HOW AT HOME I FEEL HERE  
IN THE TIDE'S SWIFT FLOW!  
AND WHEN THE PULL IS STRONG,  
I ALMOST THINK I HEAR THE SEA,  
WILD AND FREE, CALLING ME FROM FATHOMS BELOW...  

**VOICE**  
AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH.....  

| PRINCE ERIC | There it is, again! |
| PILOT | We ought to head back to shore, Your Majesty. |
| GRIMSBY | Indeed, we should! |
| PRINCE ERIC | Not while I'm captain. Now, follow that voice – to the ends of the earth if we have to! |
| PILOT | Aye-aye, Captain! |
| PILOT, SAILORS | THERE'S MERMAIDS OUT THERE IN THE BOTTOMLESS BLUE |
AN’ ITS HEY TO THE STARBOARD, HEAVE HO!  
WATCH OUT FOR ’EM, OR YOU’LL GO TO YOUR RUIN  
MYSTERIOUS FATHOMS BELOW!  
(The ship sails into the horizon. ARIEL appears, just in time to snatch the sinking fork from oblivion. She holds it up, catches the sun’s rays; it makes prisms in the air.)

ARIEL  
(admiring it) Why, it’s beautiful!  
(A splash, and FLOURNDER appears. He’s a rambunctious young fish, and ARIEL’s best friend.)

FLOURNDER  
Hey, Ariel! There you are!  
(ARIEL hides the fork behind her back.)

ARIEL  
Flounder!

FLOURNDER  
(gazing at the strange terrain) Whoa. Freaky.

ARIEL  
What’s the matter? Haven’t you been to the surface before?

FLOURNDER  
Yeah. Sure. Me and the other fish in my school, we come up here all the time.

ARIEL  
Is that so?

FLOURNDER  
Sure! We’re not scared of sharks. Or boats. Or fishermen.  
(with nervous gulp) What’s a “chum bucket”? Are those for real?

ARIEL  
You are afraid, aren’t you?

FLOURNDER  
No, I’m not! I’m here now, aren’t I?  
(A telling beat) With you.

ARIEL  
Flounder, you’re blushing.....

FLOURNDER  
It’s sunburn. You get it up here.

ARIEL  
Are you flirting with me?

FLOURNDER  
Gross! Blech! No way!  
(then) But if I was -- ?  
(ARIEL ruffles FLOURNDER’s fins and gives him a peck on the head. FLOURNDER is hopelessly smitten.)

ARIEL  
Hey, guess what I found today! It was floating in the wake of a giant ship.....
FLOUNDER
Treasure?

ARIEL
I’ll say! Look! *(shows him the fork)* Have you ever seen anything so amazing in your entire life?

FLOUNDER
Cool! What is it?

ARIEL
I don’t know.... *(SCUTTLE the seagull flies down toward the shore. His feathers are askew, giving him the appearance of an avian Albert Einstein. ARIEL spies him.)*

SCUTTLE
*(holding up a finger to test the wind)* Airspeed, check! *(glancing down at the ground)* Altitude, check! *(wiggling his feet)* Landing gear, check! *(a squawk)* CLEAR THE RUNWAY! AWK! Hello, Ariel!

ARIEL
.....but I know just who to ask! *(And SCUTTLE lands. ARIEL waving the fork)* Scuttle, look what we found!

SCUTTLE
More human paraphenicular, eh? You’ve asked the right bird; I happen to be an expert on that very specie-ality!

FLOUNDER
Can you tell us what it’s for?

SCUTTLE
Oh, this is rare, ridonkulously rare. And in Sistine condition!

ARIEL
What? What is it?

SCUTTLE
It’s a dinglehopper!

ARIEL
A dinglehopper?

SCUTTLE
Commonly used in saloons, yes, of the beauty variety. *(demonstrates)* Humans, they like to wear their hair in tails, pony or pig or duck, it’s all the same to them. A primp here and a twirl there and – voila! A Pompadour-able. And all thanks to --

ARIEL
*(marveling)* The dingle-hopper!

SCUTTLE
Give ya two sand dollars for it.

ARIEL
Scuttle, no ---
SCUTTLE
I’m tellin’ ya kid, on the open sea, ya won’t get more than a few clams. But I’m prepared to offer ---

ARIEL
I’m not selling it, Scuttle! I’m saving it for my collection!

SCUTTLE

FLOUNDER
It makes music?

SCUTTLE
Sure thing, kid. *(FLounder blows into the pipe; seaweed pops out the other end)* I ain’t just blowin’ smoke. Why, it makes music so fantabulous – so absolutely marvica ---

ARIEL
*(suddenly stricken with panic)* Music? Oh no! Oh my gosh, my father’s gonna kill me!

FLOUNDER
The concert was today?

#3A. OH NO, THE CONCERT

ARIEL
I completely forgot! Come on, Flouder. Thank you, Scuttle.

SCUTTLE
Ya change your mind and wanna sell, call me first, ya hear?

SCENE TWO: KING TRITON’S COURT
*(Our eyes adjust to the murky depths of the sea; a school of silver FISH flicker past in perfect formation, their tails flashing with iridescent light. Three or four diaphanous JELLYFISH undulate in the gentle current. It’s a tranquil, pleasant place, this seabed at the bottom of the ocean floor. A trumpet blast summons everyone to King Triton’s Court; MERMEN, MERMAIDS, STING RAYS, CRUSTACEANS and a myriad of wonderful SEA CREATURES. KING TRITON enters, flanked by two SEAHORSES. His Royal Court is now officially in session. Everyone swims to attention. Beneath TRITON’s imposing presence and commanding nature lurks the harried single father of seven girls. He holds a trident like a scepter.)*

KING TRITON
Benevolent Merfolk! Creatures of the Deep! Today marks a special anniversary – for many years ago, on this fateful day, I inherited my father’s Kingdom and banished the Sea Witch Ursula forever!

ALL SEA CREATURES
Hail, King Triton! *(KING TRITON laughs, delighted by their devotion to him.)*
KING TRITON
And so, it’s time to celebrate our victory! In honor of the occasion, may I introduce our Master of Ceremonies....
(The seahorses WINDWARD and LEEWARD swim forward.)

WINDWARD
Presenting the Court Composer ---

LEEWARD
Horatio Thelonius Ignatius Crustaceous Sebastian!
(The crab SEBASTIAN scrambles forward. He speaks with a Jamaican accent.)

SEBASTIAN
(to the crowd) Mornin’ to ya’ll! (The crowd whistles for SEBASTIAN)

KING TRITON
So, tell us, what have you in store?

SEBASTIAN
I got a special song, just for the occasion! And it’s gonna be performed by none other dan your seven love-lee daughters! I wrote this little number for my star pupil ---

KING TRITON
(knowing full well) And who might that be?

SEBASTIAN
Your youngest! Ariel! Such a voice, dat child! Notes as clear as ice, pitch as pure as water! Why, I haven’t heard such magnificent sound since – well --

KING TRITON
(finishing SEBASTIAN’s thought, touched) ....since Her Royal Highness, may she rest in peace.

SEBASTIAN
You’re gonna be a proud Papa, you’ll see! (sotto) If only she’d show up for rehearsals once in a while....

KING TRITON
Let the merriment begin!
(With that, six of KING TRITON’s offspring – all vivacious, winning young MERSISTERS – swim onto the stage.)

#4. DAUGHTERS OF TRITON

MERSISTERS
AH, WE ARE THE DAUGHTERS OF TRITON
GREAT FATHER WHO LOVES US AND NAMED US WELL
AQUATA, ANDRINA, ARISTA, ATINA, ADELLA, ALLANA AND ARIEL.

IN CONCERT WE HOPE TO ENLIGHTEN
THE HEARTS OF THE MERFOLK WITH MUSIC’S SWELL.
AQUATA (AHAHHAHAHA), ANDRINA (AHAHHAHAHA)
ARISTA, ATINA, ADELLA, ALLANA
AND THEN THERE IS THE YOUNGEST, IN HER MUSICAL DEBUT
OUR SEVENTH LITTLE SISTER, WE’RE PRESENTING HER TO YOU
TO SING A SONG SEBASTIAN WROTE, HER VOICE IS LIKE A BELL.
IT’S OUR SISTER ARIEL!
(The MERSISTERS reassemble to pave the way for ARIEL.)

MERSISTERS
SISTER ARIEL!

SEBASTIAN

Not again, child!

#4A. WHERE’S ARIEL?

KING TRITON
Ariel! Where in the name of Poseidon has that sister of yours gone?

(As all scatter, SEBASTIAN and the MERSISTERS overlap in a tumult of
words, creating a general kerfuffle:

SEBASTIAN
Apologies, Sire, but that girl – she’s gonna be the death of me! Swimmin’
when she should be singin’.

AQUATA
If I’d had that solo, this would never have happened.

ARISTA
That girl is angling for trouble ---

ATINA
I say, give her the hook ---

ALLANA
Fish puns? Aren’t we better than that?

AQUATA
Honestly, Daddy! You let Ariel get away with everything ---

KING TRITON
(trying hard to keep the peace) Now, now. I love all my daughters equally ---

ATINA
Oh, please. That answer’s as canned as tuna and twice as oily!

AQUATA
Arista’s prettier than Ariel. Andrina’s smarter. Allana’s sweeter, Attina’s –
older, and Adella! Let’s face it Daddy, you’re the only male attention
Adella’s ever gonna get ---

ADELLA
Hey! What’ve you’ve got that Ariel doesn’t?

AQUATA
Naked ambition and a willingness to kill.
KING TRITON
ALL RIGHT, THAT’S ENOUGH! (blustering to Sebastian) One son, Sebastian! Was that too much to hope for?

SEBASTIAN
Please, Sire! Don’t go pointin’ your Pappy’s trident at me!

KING TRITON
Oops. Sorry, Sebastian.....

SEBASTIAN
Ya might go whippin’ up a hurricane by mistake. (A contrite ARIEL bursts into the court, followed by FLOUNDER.)

AQUATA
Well, look what the catfish dragged in!

ARIEL
Daddy, forgive me, I’m so sorry --

KING TRITON
Ariel, young lady ---

ARIEL
I just forgot, that’s all ---

KING TRITON
As a result of your careless behavior –

SEBASTIAN
Careless and reckless behavior!

KING TRITON
---the entire celebration was ---

SEBASTIAN
Ruined! Completely destroyed! This concert was to be the pinnacle of my distinguished career.

KING TRITON
Sebastian ----

SEBASTIAN
Now, thanks to you, I’m the laughing stock of the whole kingdom. (The MERSISTERS erupt in a chorus of overlapping protests.)

ATINA, ARISTA
We gave up a date with a whale of a guy ---

AQUATA
I don’t sing back-up for anybody ---

ADELLA
Mama loved me best, but she’s gone ---

KING TRITON
DO YOU MIND?!? (The MERSISTERS hastily exit. KING TRITON is finally
alone with his youngest and speaks tenderly.) Ariel. Please. You've been given such a gift....

ARIEL
I know --- my mother's voice.

KING TRITON
It's a wondrous talent, one that demands stewardship and care. So please. Ariel. (raises ARIEL's chin so that her eyes meet his) For the sake of her memory ---

ARIEL
I will, Daddy. I promise. (ARIEL embraces KING TRITON.)

FLOUNDER
(unable to keep silent any longer) It wasn't even Ariel's fault! That know-it-all seagull started goin' on and on ----

KING TRITON
Seagull? Seagull? (really angry now) You went up to the surface again?

ARIEL
(guilty) Nothing happened.

KING TRITON
You could've been seen by one of those barbarians! One of those humans.

ARIEL
Daddy, they're not barbarians!

KING TRITON
They're dangerous – traps and harpoons! (softening for an instant) Like it or not, Ariel, you're my youngest. My baby! And so I worry about you the most ---

ARIEL
But I'm old enough to look after myself --

KING TRITON
(flaring again) As long as you live under my reef, you'll obey my rules!

ARIEL
If you'd just listen to me for once ---

KING TRITON
That's the last time you're ever swimming to the surface! Understood?

ARIEL
You're so unfair! (ARIEL bursts into tears and swims away, followed by FLOUNDER.)

KING TRITON
(A father's frustration) Agh! Heaven help me! She's headstrong! Willful! Stubborn as a barnacle --

SEBASTIAN
Teenagers! Give 'em an inch, and they swim all over you.
#5. IF ONLY (TRITON’S LAMENT)

KING TRITON
I can govern a kingdom, but I can’t control my daughter. I was too harsh. She’ll learn to fear me – I don’t want that. She needs her mother, Sebastian. And so do I.

IF ONLY SHE WERE HERE, SHE’D KNOW JUST WHAT TO SAY.  
SHE’D FIRMLY AND YET GENTLY  
HELP THE GIRL TO FIND HER WAY.  
SHE’D KNOW WHAT TO FORBID  
AND WHAT WE MUST ALLOW.  
SHE’D HAVE THE STRENGTH AND PATIENCE  
THAT I LACK SOMEHOW….  
OH, WHAT I WOULD GIVE TO HAVE HER BACK RIGHT ---

SEBASTIAN
Now, now, Sire! It’s difficult, sure. But ya got to toughen up, not melt down. For Ariel’s sake! I’m telling ya, dat child needs constant supervision! Someone who can watch over her, keep her out of trouble ----

KING TRITON
That’s not a bad idea. Someone to safeguard her every move ----

SEBASTIAN
Her every dog paddle!

KING TRITON
Her every side-stroke ---

SEBASTIAN
Her every dive!

KING TRITON
And you are just the crab to do it!

SEBASTIAN
What?

KING TRITON
You heard me! From now on, Ariel is your responsibility! (KING TRITON exits emphatically.)

SEBASTIAN
Mine? But your majesty, she’s a clever mermaid! I’m just a crustacean! (follows KING TRITON out, continuing to plead.) Surely you ought to pick someone higher on the evolutionary scale ---

#5A. URSULA’S LAIR

SCENE FOUR: URSULA’S LAIR
(Slithering into view are FLOTSAM and JETSAM, two eels in service to URSULA the Sea Witch. Their spines crackling with electricity, they are as unctuous as used car salesmen, albeit with less charm.)

JETSAM
Oh, Mistress of the Deep......
Beauty of the Brine!

You should’ve seen it! All those Merfolk, singing Triton’s praises, and cursing your name ----

Declaring a national holiday ----
(We hear a dark, malevolent, female voice, one that positively ripples with evil.)

(Offstage) Holiday, my blow hole! (Lights rise on URSULA, the gal who put the “fatal” in “femme fatale”. She has a Super-8 figure, and eight floating tentacles. She’s ripe with bitterness.) It’s the day my brother Triton got greedy, that’s all! The day he stole my half of the Kingdom!

To think – your very own flesh and blood ----

(with a venomous hiss) And he double-crossed you ----

His own sister ---- (URSULA plots.)

Casting you into exile, a life of shame and unceasing solitude --

In the shadowy depths of a serpentine sea ----

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! Don’t blow your fuses, boys ----
(URSULA grabs the eels by their electric tails and touches them together like two hot wires. FLOTSAM and JETSAM yelp, as their whole bodies sizzle and spark.) It should’ve been mine……

#6. DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL

WHEN I WAS A KID, A SQUIRMY LITTLE SQUID,
I WAS NUMBER SEVEN BORN OF SEVEN LITTLE GIRLS.
SEVEN LITTLE PEARLS, PRETTY AS COULD BE,
PERFECT TO A “T” – ALL EXCEPT FOR ME.
UGLY AS A SLUG, HIDEOUS TO HUG,
DADDY FOUND ME LOATHSOME AND DISGUSTING, I COULD TELL.
THEY ALL GOT ADORED, I JUST GOT IGNORED.
PLUS TO EASE HIS GUILT, A MAGIC SHELL.

Used to belong to my Papa, Poseidon – full of lethal hexes and spells, my little snakes – (a menacing purr) The perfect gift for a spurned, dangerously unstable child.

MOST OF ALL, DADDLY LOVED ONE SISTER,
SO FEMININE, SO FRESH, SO FINE.
I WOULD WATCH AS HE HUGGED AND KISSED HER, AND I HATED HER GUTS FROM THE BOTTOM OF MINE!

DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL, DADDY’S LITTLE SWEET!
SUCH A LITTLE FRILLY FEMME.
SHE WAS SEAWEED AND SPICE AND EVERYTHING NICE
AND I DREAMED AND I SCHEMED
HOW TO PUT HER ON ICE!
DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL – HOW COULD I COMPETE
WITH A GIRL SO HEAVEN-SENT?
JUST ONE SPELL FROM THE SHELL –
AND BACK TO HEAVEN SHE WENT.

NEXT, WHAT DID I DO? DAUGHTER NUMBER TWO.
FLUNG HER IN A WHIRLPOOL,
WHERE I LEFT HER SPINNING ‘ROUND.
DAUGHTERS THREE AND FOUR, WASHED UP ON THE SHORE.
SADLY, FIVE AND SIX WERE NEVER FOUND
AND IT DIDN’T MAKE MY FATHER LOVE ME --

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
AWWW!

URSULA
BUT IT DIDN’T BRING ME DOWN, OH NO!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
NO, NO!

URSULA
IT WAS SAD. THOUGH, WHEN DAD
CAUGHT THAT RARE AND VERY LETHAL FLU.

FLOTSAM
SO TRUE!

JETSAM
POOR YOU!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
BOO HOO!

URSULA
WITH NO SISTERS IN THE LINE ABOVE ME.
I INHERITED THE WHOLE DAMN SHOW!
WAS IT FUN? OH, A TON!
SO MUCH FUN, I FORGOT THAT MY DAD ALSO HAD
AN ADDITIONAL TOT. YES, A SON,
STILL AGE ONE.
BUT I FIGURED, SO WHAT?
‘TIL THAT SNOT-NOSED LITTLE BABY GREW.

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
HE GREW.

URSULA
AND GREW.
FLOTSAM, JETSAM
AND GREW.

URSULA
HE GREW INTO YOU-KNOW-WHO!
(Spitting out his name) Triton! A male heir! As soon as he came of age, he stole everything from me; every ocean, every lake, every pond, every puddle. So, my dear Flotsam and Jetsam, it’s time I took revenge – revenge on what he loves most!
FOR NOW HE HAS A CHILD!

FLOTSAM
SWEET --

JETSAM
BUT RATHER WILD

URSULA
AND SHE HAS HIM WRAPPED AROUND HER FLIMSY LITTLE FIN!
SHE WILL BE OUR IN! SHE’LL BE WHAT WE USE!
BAIT HE CAN’T REFUSE!
THERE’S NO WAY WE’LL LOSE!

FLOTSAM
DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL!

JETSAM
DADDY’S LITTLE PET!

URSULA
DADDY’S LITTLE PRICELESS GEM!

FLOTSAM
SO SASSY.

JETSAM
SO SMART.

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
THE KEY TO HIS HEART.

URSULA
RUIN HER, AS IT WERE, IT’LL RIP HIM APART!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
YESSSSS!

URSULA, FLOTSAM, JETSAM
DADDY’S LITTLE PRINCESS!
SHE’S THE ONE TO GET!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
NOW JUST TAKE IT FROM A PRO!

URSULA
OH! JUST GET DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL....
TRUST ME FELLAS, I KNOW!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL!

URSULA
YES, INDEEDY, I KNOW!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL

URSULA
TRUST ME, FELLAS, I KNOW!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA!

#6A. DADDY’S LITTLE PLAYOFF

FLOTSAM
Ariel!

SCENE FOUR: ARIEL’S GROTTO
(From the deep emerges a veritable museum of human artifacts that ARIEL has collected over the years, dominated by a huge, discarded bust resembling PRINCE ERIC. A braid of red sea anemones is draped about its neck. ARIEL, distraught after her fight with KING TRITON, sits among her treasures holding her newly acquired fork. FLOUNDER tries to comfort her.)

FLOUNDER
Ariel!

ARIEL
He doesn’t understand me! He doesn’t even try. I’ve never felt at home here.

FLOUNDER
Home’s with your family, isn’t it?

ARIEL
What if home isn’t the place where you were born? What if it’s a place you have to discover for yourself --

FLOUNDER
I’d miss you if you were gone.

ARIEL
You would?

FLOUNDER
(his cheeks redden) Not in a dopey way. Not in a “crazy, hopeless, I’m-so-in-love-but-she-doesn’t-know-I’m-alive” kinda way. Not like that at ALL.
(Everything poor FLOUNDER says just seems to leave him more exposed, more vulnerable. The best he can do? Escape.) Uh, I gotta go. (And FLOUNDER darts away.)
(affectionately calling out) Flounder, you’re very sweet. (now alone with her thoughts, addressing the bust almost as if it were Prince Eric.) Daddy’s never even met a human, but he still thinks the worst of them. (ARIEL holds the silver fork and marvels as it catches the light.)

I just don’t see how a world that makes such wonderful things could be so bad.

#7. PART OF YOUR WORLD

ARIEL

LOOK AT THIS STUFF, ISN’T IT NEAT?
WOULDN’T YOU THINK MY COLLECTION’S COMPLETE?
WOULDN’T YOU THINK I’M THE GIRL,
THE GIRL WHO HAS EVERYTHING?
LOOK AT THIS TROVE, TREASURES UNTOLD
HOW MANY WONDERS CAN ONE CAVERN HOLD?
LOOKING AROUND HERE YOU THINK, SHE’S GOT EVERYTHING.

I’VE GOT GADGETS AND GIZMOS A PLENTY
I’VE GOT WHOZITS AND WHATZITS GALORE.
YOU WANT THING-A-MA-BOBS? I’VE GOT TWENTY.
BUT WHO CARES? NO BIG DEAL. I WANT MORE.

I WANNA BE WHERE THE PEOPLE ARE
I WANNA SEE, WANNA SEE ‘EM DANCIN’.
WALKIN’ AROUND ON THOSE….WHAT’DYA CALL ‘EM? OH, FEET.
FLIPPIN’ YOUR FINS YOU DON’T GET TOO FAR.
LEGS ARE REQUIRED FOR JUMPIN’, DANCIN’
STROLLIN’ ALONG DOWN THE...WHAT’S THAT WORD AGAIN? STREET.
UP WHERE THEY WALK, UP WHERE THEY RUN.
UP WHERE THEY STAY ALL DAY IN THE SUN....
WANDERIN’ FREE, WISH I COULD BE PART OF THAT WORLD.

WHAT WOULD I GIVE, IF I COULD LIVE OUTTA THESE WATERS?
WHAT WOULD I PAY TO SPEND A DAY WARM ON THE SAND?
BETCHA ON LAND, THEY UNDERSTAND.
BET THEY DON’T REPRIMAND THEIR DAUGHTERS.
BRIGHT YOUNG WOMEN, SICK OF SWIMMIN’ READY TO STAND.

AND READY TO KOW WHAT THE PEOPLE KNOW
ASK ‘EM MY QUESTIONS AND GET SOME ANSWERS,
WHAT’S A FIRE? AND WHY DOES IT. WHAT’S THE WORD...BURN?

WHEN’S IT MY TURN, WOULDN’T I LOVE,
LOVE TO EXPLORE THAT SHORE UP ABOVE?
OUT OF THE SEA, WISH I COULD BE PART OF THAT WORLD.
(SEBASTIAN enters and breaks ARIEL’s reverie.)

SEBASTIAN

What is all this?

ARIEL

(practically leaping out of her skin) Sebastian!

SEBASTIAN

What is all this?
ARIEL
Er.....ah.....just a few knick-knacks l’ve collected, that’s all.

SEBASTIAN
You ought to be ashamed of yourself! If your poor father knew about dis place, he’d ---

ARIEL
You’re not gonna tell him, are you? Oh, please, Sebastian! He’d never understand!

SEBASTIAN
Listen to me, Ariel, for my sake as well as your own. It’s time you kept your mind on your music.

#8. THE STORM

SEBASTIAN
From now on, you’ll have voice lessons every day, and perhaps you can take up an instrument....somethin’ ladylike....the harp....maybe....

(Suddenly, the surface of the water darkens. The vast silhouette of a ship’s hull passes overhead.)

ARIEL
A ship!

(Ariel feels the ship’s inexorable pull and swims towards it.)

SEBASTIAN
...why, sure: a nice harp, made outta driftwood, and decorated with mother-of-pearl- (glances around)  Ariel? Hello? (realizes that Ariel has disappeared, again.) Somebody’s gotta nail that girl’s fins to the floor! Ariel! (Sebastian chases after Ariel.)

SCENE FIVE: PRINCE ERIC’S SHIP/SEA BELOW/ BEACH
(Sailors prepare for a storm aboard the ship.)

SAILORS
HEAVE HO! HEAVE HO! STOW THE MAINSAIL!
BATTEN THE HATCHES!

PRINCE ERIC
I don’t need to be King ----

GRIMSBY
I swore an oath to your father on his deathbed that I’d turn you from an errant roustabout into a proper royal, so you’re worthy to fill his shoes!

PRINCE ERIC
Now you’re making me queasy.

GRIMSBY
And that’s not all. I promised I’d have you married before your next birthday.

PRINCE ERIC
(incredulous) Married?
Our kingdom needs a queen!

Did you ever try to take a princess sailing? It’s a joke! Their crinolines get caught in the rigging. And most of ‘em can’t even swim ---

Swim, Sire? Is that a prerequisite?

Sure, if we go sailing! Where am I gonna find her, Grimsby? A girl who’s as carefree and alive as the sea itself! Where?

(ARIEL and FLOUNDER bob up to the surface. SCUTTLE hovers nearby.)

Well, whaddya know ---

Scuttle, be quiet! They’ll hear you!

Oooh, I gotcha, I gotcha. We’re being intrepidacious. (ARIEL covers SCUTTLE’s beak, as PRINCE ERIC stares out to sea, over their heads.)

It’s too much to hope for, isn’t it? Somewhere, out there....a girl who’s a match for a guy like me?

Perhaps, you’re not looking hard enough. (A roll of thunder. ARIEL can’t help but notice the dashing young man.)

I’ve never seen a human this close before.

Me neither!

I thought you were an expert.

On their stuff, sure! But egads the sight of ‘em! Horrible! That square jaw. Those broad shoulders. And two eyeballs the same color....no variety ---

I dunno. I think he’s really handsome.

(wounded) You do?

Trust me, Grimsby – when I come across the girl of my dreams, it’ll hit me like lightning. (And with that, lightning cracks across the sky.)

Hurricane a’coming! King Triton must be angry indeed!
PRINCE ERIC
Batten the hatches, then everyone below deck! And quickly!

PILOT
Eric, take the wheel! *(SAILORS race to prepare the ship for the storm.)*

SCUTTLE
Whoa! The atmospheric’s goin’ haywire!

ARIEL
Careful, Scuttle! Watch out! *(The wind blows SCUTTLE away and out of sight. FLOUNDER dives to to take cover below.)*

SCUTTLE
Ariel!

PILOT
Secure the riggin’! *(As the ship tips wildly from side-to-side, GRIMSBY clutches his stomach for dear life.)*

GRIMSBY
Oh, good heavens!

PRINCE ERIC
Don’t worry, Grimsby – I’ll get you home safely.

PILOT
Man overboard! *(The ship breaks apart and PRINCE ERIC is swallowed by the voracious sea.)*

GRIMSBY
Eric!

VOICES (FEMALE ENSEMBLE)
AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH!
AH-AH-AH-AH= AH-AH-AH-AH

*(Beneath the water, ARIEL rescues PRINCE ERIC, guiding him back up, up to the beach. ARIEL lays PRINCE ERIC safely on the sand. FLOUNDER looks on from the water. SCUTTLE stands nearby, his feathers mussed from the storm.)*

ARIEL
Was I too late?

SCUTTLE
It’s hard to say. *(putting his ear against PRINCE ERIC’s foot.)* Oh, I – I can’t make out a heartbeat. *(Suddenly, PRINCE ERIC’s chest heaves with life.)*

ARIEL
No, look! He’s breathing! Oh, Scuttle….just look at him. He’s so beautiful.
WHAT WOULD I GIVE TO LIVE WHERE YOU ARE?
WHAT WOULD I PAY TO STAY HERE BESIDE YOU?
WHAT WOULD I DO TO SEE YOU SMILING AT ME?

WHERE WOULD WE WALK? WHERE WOULD WE RUN?
IF WE COULD STAY ALL DAY IN THE SUN?
JUST YOU AND ME, AND I COULD BE PART OF YOUR WORLD.

GRIMSBY

(offstage) Prince Eric!

ARIEL

AH-AH-AH-AH........

SCUTTLE

On your way, kid.....before we’re divulged! (Reluctant to leave PRINCE ERIC behind, ARIEL panics. She wants some tiny vestige of him, some tidbit of proof that this encounter actually happened. Impulsively, she slide the spyglass from his belt. Then she slips into the surf, followed by FLOUNDER. A distressed GRIMSBY enters and sees PRINCE ERIC lying on the beach.)

GRIMSBY

(to SCUTTLE) Get away, you filthy bird! (SCUTTLE squawks and exits perturbed. GRIMSBY kneels by PRINCE ERIC, who rouses.) Prince Eric! Oh, Eric! You just adore making my pulse race, don’t you?

PRINCE ERIC

A girl rescued me. She pulled me right out of the surf. And she was singing!

GRIMSBY

There, there now. You took a terrible tumble, dear boy ---

PRINCE ERIC

That voice! I can’t get it out of my head –

GRIMSBY

It’s the sound of the sea, that’s all ---

PRINCE ERIC

No! I’ll prove it to you. I’ll find her! And I’ll thank her for saving my life --

GRIMSBY

You’d best come with me. A night of sleep, and you’ll be good as new ---

PRINCE ERIC

Please. You have to believe me.

GRIMSBY

You’ve heard too many tall tales, my boy.

PRINCE ERIC

No. She was real.

GRIMSBY

(gently, as he guides PRINCE ERIC off) Yes. Of course, she was. As real as a siren! As real as a mermaid on the rocks ---

ARIEL

(looking after PRINCE ERIC with heartfelt longing)
I DON’T KNOW WHEN, I DON’T KNOW HOW,
BUT I KNOW SOMETHING’S STARTING RIGHT NOW.
WATCH AND YOU’LL SEE, SOMEDAY I’LL BE PART OF YOUR WORLD!

(ARIEL dives into the sea.)
SCENE SIX: THE GIRL CAVE
(The MERSISTERS are huddled in a circle, gossiping.)

#19. SHE'S IN LOVE

AQUATA
Ariel is working on my last nerve. Acting like a big fish in a small pond.

ADELLA
Swimmin’ upstream when everybody else is swimmin’ down.

ARISTA
If you ask me, it’s because she’s a Pisces.

ATINA
No question about it! She sure is acting fishy lately!

ALLANA
SHE'S DIZZY AND SHE'S DREAMY

ARISTA
HER HEAD’S UP IN THE FOAM.

AQUATA
HER EYES HAVE GONE ALL GLEAMY, IT’S LIKE THERE’S NO ONE HOME.

AQUATA, ARISTA, ALLANA
SHE FLOATS AWAY THE DAYS, MOPIN’ ON THE COASTAL SHELF.

ANDRINA
YOU ASK HER WHERE SHE’S GOIN’, SHE GIGGLES LIKE A FOOL

ADELLA
SHE BARELY STICKS A TOE IN DOWN AT THE TIDAL POOL.

ATINA
IT’S MORE THAN JUST A PHASE, FACE IT, SHE’S JUST NOT HERSELF.

AQUATA
IS SHE ILL?

ARISTA
OR INSANE?

ALLANA
IS IT WATER ON THE BRAIN?

AQUATA, ARISTA, ALLANA
WHAT HAS GOT HER BOTHERED SO?

ANDRINA
IT’S THE BENDS!

ADELLA
IT’S THE FLU!

ATINA
GOSH, I WISH WE HAD A CLUE!

MERSISTERS
OH, WAIT! OH, DEAR! GOOD GRIEF! IT’S CLEAR SHE’S IN LOVE! SHE’S IN LOVE POUNDING HEART! RINGING BELLS!

(Just then, ARIEL swims past, humming dreamily to herself.)

ALLANA
LOOK, I THINK SHE’S EVEN WEARING BRAND NEW SHELLS!
**AQUATA, ATINA, ALLANA**  
SHE’S IN LOVE!

**ANDRINA, ARISTA, ADELLA**  
IN LOVE, IT’S DIVINE!

**AQUATA, ATINA, ALLANA**  
SHE’S IN LOVE!

**ANDRINA, ARISTA, ADELLA**  
THAT GIRL’S ON SANDBAR NINE!

**MERSISTERS**  
GLORY BE! LORD ABOVE! GOTTA BE SHE’S IN LOVE!

*(FLOUNDER swims in, looking for ARIEL.)*

**ARISTA**
Hey, Flounder! You notice anything weird about you-know-who?

**FLOUNDER**
You mean Ariel? I’ll say!

**FLOUNDER**  
SHE ACTS LIKE SHE DON’T SEE ME, SHE DOESN’T EVEN SPEAK  
SHE TREATS ME LIKE SASHIMI LEFT OVER FROM LAST WEEK.  
YOU SEE HER LATE AT NIGHT, TOSSIN’ IN HER OCEAN BED.

**MERSISTERS**
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP.

**FLOUNDER**  
SHE’S MOODY AS A SNAPPER  
OBLIVIOUS AS ROCKS  
YOU SWIM RIGHT UP & TAP HER  
SHE LAYS THERE LIKE A LOX!  
AS SURE AS DOGFISH BITE  
SOMETHIN’S MADE HER LOSE HER HEAD!

**MERSISTERS**
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP.

**FLOUNDER**
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP.

**MERSISTERS**
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP.

**MERSISTERS**
SHE HAS LOST HER HEAD!

**FLOUNDER**
AND SHE SIGHS & SHE SWOONS  
AND SHE’S HUMMIN’ LITTLE  
TUNES

**MERSISTERS**
AH…..

**MERSISTERS**
EVEN HAS A SORT OF GLOW.

**FLOUNDER**
WHAT ON EARTH COULD IT BE?

**MERSISTERS**
ANY HAMMERHEAD CAN SEE!

**AQUATA, ADELLA**  
THAT SIGH!

**ARISTA, ALLANA**  
THAT GLOW!

**ANDRINA, ATINA**  
THAT SWOON!

**FLOUNDER**
OH NO!

**FLOUNDER**
SHE’S IN LOVE!

**MERSISTERS**
SHE’S FLIPPED, IT NEVER FAILS
SHE’S IN LOVE!  ALL HOT, BENEATH HER SCALES

FLOUNDER
SEE HER HIPS, HOW THEY SWISH

MERSISTERS
WELL-A-WELL-A-WELL, DON’T YOU
WONDER WHO’S THE LUCKY SEAFOOD DISH?

FLOUNDER
SHE’S IN LOVE!
SHE’S IN LOVE!

MERSISTERS
SHE’S FOUND A DEEP-SEA HUNK!
AND NOW SHE’S GOOD AS SUNK!

FLOUNDER
SEE HER BLUSH!

MERSISTERS
SEE HER GRIN! GOTTA BE LOVE SHE’S IN!

FLOUNDER
ARIEL AND SOMEONE SWIMMIN’ IN THE SEA...K-I-S-I-N-G!

MERSISTERS
HER CHEEKS COULD NOT Flush PINKER!

FLOUNDER
IT’S CLEAR AS H2O!

MERSISTERS
SHE’S CAUGHT – HOOK, LINE AND SINKER!

ANDRINA, ARISTA, ATINA
CRUSHED OUT!

AQUATA, ADELLA, ALLANA
SWITCHED ON!

AQUATA, ANDRINA, ARISTA, ALLANA
WORKED UP! FAR GONE!

FLOUNDER
KNOCKED DOWN!

MERSISTERS
HARD HIT!

FLOUNDER
IN DEEP!

FLOUNDER, MERSISTERS
THAT’S IT!

MERSISTERS
SHE’S IN LOVE.......
SHE’S IN LOVE.......

FLOUNDER
She’s.....in......love!

FLOUNDER, MERSISTERS
SHE’S IN LOVE! SHE’S IN LOVE!
PLAIN TO SEE! (PLAIN TO SEE!!)
NO MISTAKE! (NO MISTAKE!!)
LOOK AT THOSE MOONBEAMS IN HER WAKE!
(LOOK AT THOSE MOONBEAMS!!)
OBVIOUS WHAT THEY MUST BE SYMPTOMS OF....
SHE’S IN LOVE! SHE’S IN LOVE! SHE’S IN LOVE!
(SHOOP, SHOOP, YAH-DAH-DAH, SHE’S IN LOVE!)
YEAH! YEAH!
(off) Ariel! Oh, Ariel! (enters frantic as ever) That sister of yours is as slippery as an eel! Where has she swum off to now? I gotta find her ’fore her Daddy goes lookin’ ---

AQUATA
Good luck! She’s in la-la land.

ANDRINA
That girl has fallen head-over-tails in love.

SEBASTIAN
In love? Ariel?

ALLANA
Come on, Flounder! Who’s the lucky merman?

FLOUNDER
Gee. I dunno. I didn’t even know it was love until the second chorus.

ARISTA
But you kow her better than anybody!

ATINA, ARISTA
You follow her everywhere ---

FLOUNDER
Not anymore. Not since she started chasing after humans.

SEBASTIAN
“Humans?” I hope and pray ya didn’t just say “humans”.

FLOUNDER
(turning ashen) Uh-oh.

SEBASTIAN
An’ dis new love of hers---don’t tell me ---

FLOUNDER
---then don’t ask me! -

SEBASTIAN
---HE’S ONE A’ DEM---? (The MERSISTERS start grilling FLOUNDER.)

AQUATA
A real human, the two-legged kind?

ARISTA
Daddy’s gonna be ripped!

ATINA
Dating outside her species!

ALLANA
Thanks, Flounder, you’re a regular angel-fish -- (Overwhelmed, FLOUNDER bolts. The MERSISTERS swim after in hot pursuit.)
SEBASTIAN
Water all around ya, child, and ya still got to play with fire.....
(And SEBASTIAN doubles his speed to find ARIEL.)

SCENE SEVEN: THE BEACH
(Alone, PRINCE ERIC enters and scans the horizon.)

#11. HER VOICE
PRINCE ERIC
WHERE DID SHE GO? WHERE CAN SHE BE?
WHEN WILL SHE COME AGAIN
CALLING TO ME? CALLING TO ME... CALLING TO ME...

SOMEBE THERE'S A GIRL
WHO'S LIKE THE SHIMMER OF THE WIND UPON THE WATER
SOMEBE THERE'S A GIRL
WHO'S LIKE THE GLIMMER OF THE SUNLIGHT ON THE SEA
SOMEBE THERE'S A GIRL
WHO'S LIKE A SWELL OF ENDLESS MUSIC
SOMEBE SHE IS SINGING
AND HER SONG IS MEANT FOR ME

AND HER VOICE, IT'S SWEET AS ANGELS SIGHING
AND HER VOICE, IT'S WARM AS SUMMER SKY
AND THAT SOUND
IT HAUNTS MY DREAMS AND SPINS ME 'ROUND
UNTIL IT SEEMS I'M FLYING...
HER VOICE!
(GRIMSBY enters.)

GRIMSBY
With all due respect, Sire, you've been scouring the sea for weeks, and to
what end?

PRINCE ERIC
I vowed to find her, and I will.

GRIMSBY
I've a better idea. On the eve of your twenty-first birthday, we'll host a
marvelous ball. We'll invite countless eligible young ladies, from far and
wide ---

PRINCE ERIC
(exasperated) I knew it!

GRIMSBY
-- to sing for you.

PRINCE ERIC
What?

GRIMSBY
A contest. What better way to find your mysterious voice? You'll be
married by sunset on that very day, just as your father decreed!

PRINCE ERIC
Yes....why, yes! That's how we'll find her.
GRIMSBY
Indeed, we shall. You have my word. (GRIMSBY exits.)

PRINCE ERIC
She’s out there somewhere, I just know.
  I CAN SENSE HER LAUGHTER
IN THE RIPPLE OF THE WAVES AGAINST THE SHORELINE
  I CAN SEE HER SMILING
IN THE MOONLIGHT AS IT SETTLES ON THE SAND
  I CAN FEEL HER WAITING
JUST BEYOND THE PALE HORIZON
SINGING OUT A MELODY TOO LOVELY TO WITHSTAND

AND HER VOICE, IT’S THERE AS DUSK IS FALLING
AND HER VOICE, IT’S THERE AS DAWN STEALS BY
PURE AND BRIGHT, IT’S ALWAYS NEAR ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT
  AND STILL I HEAR IT CALLING...HER VOICE

STRANGE AS A DREAM...REAL AS THE SEA...
  IF YOU CAN HEAR ME NOW
COME SET ME FREE... COME SET ME FREE!

#11A. AFTER HER VOICE.

SCENE EIGHT: OPEN WATER
(ARIEL sits, plucking an underwater flower. As she removes each petal, it floats away. SEBASTIAN appears.)

SEBASTIAN
Child! ‘Dere you are! (Beat) A human? You fell in love with a human --?

ARIEL
I didn’t choose it! It just happened.....

SEBASTIAN
Oh, child ---

ARIEL
I thought maybe....just maybe....you’d be happy for me?

SEBASTIAN
Happy for you? (incredulous) Happy? ‘Cuz ya gone plumb crazy now? (shaking his head) Child, you got to get your head outta the clouds and back in da water where it belongs.

ARIEL
But I don’t belong here. I never did. I don’t fit in, as hard as I try --- (then brimming with hope) If only I could be “up there” instead! Walking on the very sound ground he is, breathing the very same air ---

SEBASTIAN
Down here is your home! The human world – it’s a mess. Life under the sea is better than anything they got up there....
#12. UNDER THE SEA

ARIEL

You’re wrong, I swear --

SEBASTIAN

Believe me, child, it’s true!

SEBASTIAN

THE SEAWEED IS ALWAYS GREENER IN SOMEBODY ELSE’S LAKE.
YOU DREAM ABOUT GOING UP THERE,
BUT THAT IS A BIG MISTAKE.
(SEA CREATURES of all shapes and sizes enter and surround ARIEL.)
JUST LOOK AT THE WORLD AROUND YOU,
RIGHT HERE ON THE OCEAN FLOOR.
SUCH WONDERFUL THINGS SURROUND YOU.
WHAT MORE IS YOU LOOKIN’ FOR?

UNDER THE SEA, UNDER THE SEA
DARLIN’ IT’S BETTER DOWN WHERE IT’S WETTER,
TAKE IT FROM ME.
UP ON THE SHORE, THEY WORK ALL DAY.
OUT IN THE SUN, THEY SLAVE AWAY.
WHILE WE DEVOTIN’ FULL TIME TO FLOATIN’ UNDER THE SEA.

DOWN HERE ALL THE FISH IS HAPPY
AS OFF THROUGH THE WAYS DEY ROLL.
FISH
THE FISH ON THE LAND AIN’T HAPPY,
THEY SAD ‘CAUSE THEY IN THE BOWL.
JELLYFISH
BUT FISH IN THE BOWL IS LUCKY.
THEY IN FOR A WORSER FATE.
JELLYFISH, FLOUNDER
ONE DAY WHEN THE BOSS GET HUNGRY
SEBASTIAN
GUESS WHO GON’ BE ON THE PLATE!
BASS
UH-OH!

SEBASTIAN
UNDER THE SEA
SE ARIEL
UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN
NOBODY BEAT US, FRY US AND EAT US, IN FRICASEE.
(UNDER THE SEA)
WE WHAT THE LAND FOLKS LOVE TO COOK. (OOH)
UNDER THE SEA, WE OFF THE HOOK. (WHOA)
WE GOT NO TROUBLES, LIFE IS THE BUBBLES, UNDER THE SEA.
SEA CREATURES
LIFE IS THE BUBBLES, UNDER THE SEA
OH, UNDER THE SEA.

SEBASTIAN
UNDER THE SEA
SINCE LIFE IS SWEET HERE
WE GOT THE BEAT HERE

SEA CREATURES
UNDER THE SEA
NATURALLY UNDER THE SEA
EVEN THE STURGEON
AND THE RAY HEY!
THEY GET THE URGE
‘N’ START TO PLAY

SEBASTIAN, SEA CREATURES
WE GOT THE SPIRIT, YOU GOT TO HEAR IT
UNDER THE SEA.

SEBASTIAN
THE NEWT PLAY THE FLUTE, THE CARP PLAY THE HARP

SEBASTIAN, SEA CREATURES
THE PLAICE PLAY THE BASS, AND THEY SOUNDIN’ SHARP.
The BASS PLAY THE BRASS, THE CHUB PLAY THE TUB

THE FLUKE IS THE DUKE OF SOUL.

THE RAY HE CAN PLAY, THE LINGS ON THE STRINGS
THE TROUT ROCKIN’ OUT, THE BLACKFISH SHE SINGS
THE SMELT AND THE SPRAT, THEY KNOW WHERE IT’S AT

AN’ OH THE BLOWFISH BLOW!
(Dance break. High-spirited ad-libs)

ARIEL
(to FLOUNDER)
Look, a ship!

(ARIEL swims toward it. FLOUNDER darts after her. Unaware, SEBASTIAN and the SEA CREATURES continue the number.)

SEBASTIAN
UNDER THE SEA, UNDER THE SEA
WHEN THE SARDINE BEGIN THE BEGUINE, IT’S MUSIC TO ME!
WHAT DO THEY GOT, A LOT OF SAND?
WE GOT A HOT CRUSTACEAN BAND.

EACH LITTLE SNAIL HERE, KNOW HOW TO WAIL HERE.
THAT’S WHY IT’S HOTTER UNDER THE WATER
YA, WE IN LUCK HERE DOWN IN THE MUCK HERE
UNDER THE SEA!

#14 UNDER THE SEA PLAYOFF
(Once SEBASTIAN gets consumed by the music, ARIEL makes a break for it and swims away.)

SEA CREATURES, SEBASTIAN
UNDER THE SEA, UNDER THE SEA
WHEN THE SARDINE BEGIN THE BEGUINE, IT’S MUSIC TO ME!
WHAT DO THEY GOT, A LOT OF SAND?
WE GOT A HOT CRUSTACEAN BAND.

SEBASTIAN
EACH LITTLE CLAM HERE KNOW HOW TO JAM HERE

SEA CREATURES
UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN
EACH LITTLE SLUG HERE CUTTING A RUG HERE

SEA CREATURES
UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN
WE GOT A HOT CRUSTACEAN BAND HERE.

SEA CREATURES
UNDER THE SEA.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEBASTIAN</th>
<th>SEA CREATURES</th>
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<tr>
<td>EACH LITTLE SNAIL HERE, KNOW HOW TO WAIL HERE. THAT'S WHY IT'S HOTTER UNDER THE WATER YA, WE IN LUCK HERE DOWN IN THE MUCK HERE UNDER THE.....</td>
<td>OH.......</td>
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<td>AH.......</td>
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(The sea creatures exit.)

SEBASTIAN
See child, that's what I'm talking about! (glances about to discover ARIEL is long gone) Ariel! Hello? (KING TRITON barges in with AQUATA and ANDRINA in tow, leaving angry ripples in his wake.)

KING TRITON
Where is she, Sebastian? Where?

SEBASTIAN
You jes’ miss her. She slip away ----

KING TRITON
To think she’d betray her family this way. That she’d turn her back on her own kind!

SEBASTIAN
She can’t help it, Sire ---

KING TRITON
I taught her myself! And now she makes a mockery of everything we hold dear --- (pointedly) Where’s she hiding?

SEBASTIAN
If I only knew ---

KING TRITON
She keeps secrets from me, Sebastian; not from you. I’ll wager you know where she is. (A stark command) Now, take me to her.

(#12B. TAKE ME TO HER, SEBASTIAN and KING TRITON exit.)

SCENE NINE: ARIEL’S GROTTO

(ARIEL sits beside the heroic bust. As she speaks, she almost seems to be confiding in it. In her hands, she holds PRINCE ERIC’s spyglass.)

ARIEL
To think this belonged to him once; he held it in his own two hands...

KING TRITON
ARIEL! (When ARIEL hears her father’s voice piercing through the tranquil waters, her whole body stiffens with fear. KING TRITON appears with AQUATA, ANDRINA, SEBASTIAN and FLounder.) Ariel! Tell the truth! Did you save a human from drowning?
ARIEL
Who told --? Which one of you --? *(FLOUNDER and AQUATA trip over themselves in response.)*

FLOUNDER
I’m sorry Ariel! I’m nothing but a guppy, just a lousy guppy ---

AQUATA
You get every single solo, and it’s not fair ---

KING TRITON
THAT’S ENOUGH! Leave us alone. *(ANDRINA takes FLOUNDER by one fin, AQUATA takes him by the other, and they swim off.*) You too, Sebastian. *(With a regretful look in ARIEL’s direction, SEBASTIAN exits too. Father and daughter are alone now.*) So did you?

ARIEL
I had to rescue the Prince ---

KING TRITON
You had to?

ARIEL
Without me, he would’ve perished!

KING TRITON
He’s a human --- you’re a mermaid.

ARIEL
I can’t hate him just because he’s different. Perhaps you can, but it’s just not me----

KING TRITON
“Different?” They catch us with their hooks, they spear us with their blades.

ARIEL
They’re not all like that!

KING TRITON
Have you forgotten what they did to your mother?

ARIEL
We don’t know that for certain --

KING TRITON
Can there be any doubt? She slips out one morning for an innocent swim and never returns --!

ARIEL
You can’t prove ---

KING TRITON
I know it in my heart, and that’s enough. Murderers, all of them!

ARIEL
You can’t blame all humans for a few wicked ones ---
#12C. GROTTO DESTRUCTION

KING TRITON

I won’t have you build a shrine to them! Worshipping their rubbish! The debris that sullies our waters -- (KING TRITON raises his trident menacingly.)

ARIEL

Daddy, no --

KING TRITON

The totems of their decadence!

ARIEL

Don’t! Please!

KING TRITON

NEVER AGAIN, ARIEL! NEVER AGAIN!

(With several mighty blasts from his trident, KING TRITON obliterates the magnificent bust, which evaporates in a million shards. ARIEL falls to the ground, distraught. A pause. KING TRITON sees how pained ARIEL is. After a slight moment of hesitation – could it be regret? – he swims away. Bereft, ARIEL searches through the rubble. She picks up the garland of red sea anemones, and places it around her neck. Next, she finds the spyglass, her most precious treasure, and clings to it fiercely. SEBASTIAN enters and tries to comfort ARIEL.)

#13. IF ONLY (ARIEL’S LAMENT)

SEBASTIAN

Ariel.

ARIEL

He ruined all my things, my human stuff! If he really and truly loved me, then he’d never ----

SEBASTIAN

Oh, child, it’s because he loves you ---

ARIEL

Well, he sure has a funny way of showing it! (with resolve) He can break every single treasure I own.....but he can’t break me!

SEBASTIAN

Yeah, well, you just might break his heart -

ARIEL

And you! Some friend you turned out to be! Bringing him here – to my secret place ----

SEBASTIAN

For your own good, child. (a beat, and then) I pray you wake up from dis madness and soon. You’re swimmin’ in some dangerous waters. (SEBASTIAN exits, and ARIEL is left alone. She picks up the broken shard of a teacup, the lens from a battered telescope. She holds them tightly in her palms, pressing them against her heart.)
ARIEL

IF ONLY HE WOULD LOOK, IF ONLY HE COULD SEE.
COULD LOVE ME AS I AM INSTEAD OF HOW HE WISHED I’D BE!
HE DOESN’T REALLY CARE! HE DOESN’T WANT TO KNOW!
I HATE HIM! YES, I HATE HIM! GOD, I HATE HIM SO!
OH, WHAT I WOULD GIVE IF ONLY I COULD GO ---
(ARIEL hears voices and realizes she isn’t alone.)

#14. SWEET CHILD

FLOTSAM
Poor child.

JETSAM
Poor, sweet child. (Sure enough, FLOTSAM and JETSAM have come to her aid.)

FLOTSAM
She has a very serious problem, hasn’t she?

JETSAM
Mmmmm. If only.....

FLOTSAM
.....there was something.....

JETSAM
...we could do.

ARIEL
Who are you two?

FLOTSAM
SWEET CHILD......

JETSAM
POOR CHILD......

FLOTSAM
SO TRAGIC!

JETSAM
SO MISUNDERSTOOD!

FLOTSAM
DEAR CHILD......

JETSAM
SAD CHILD....

FLOTSAM
LIFE’S LOOKING....

JETSAM
SHALL WE SAY ---

FLOTSAM
NOT GOOD?

JETSAM
No.

FLOTSAM
WHO WILL EASE HER WOES AND WORRIES?

JETSAM
WHO WILL HELP HER GET HER MAN?
JETSAM, FLOTSAM
SWEET CHILD, PERHAPS THE SEA WITCH CAN!

ARIEL
You can’t possibly mean…Aunt Ursula?

FLOATSAM
SHE KNOWS YOUR DREAMS….

ARIEL
Father says her magic is evil!

JETSAM
SHE’LL GRANT YOUR PRAYER….

ARIEL
Please, I have to go.

FLOATSAM
SHE’LL CAST A CHARM
JETSAM
A TINY SPELL –
FLOATSAM
WHY THE ALARM?
JETSAM
NO ONE’LL TELL –
FLOATSAM
NO ONE WILL CARE!
JETSAM
IT’S YOUR AFFAIR!
FLOATSAM, JETSAM
SWEET CHILD!
FLOATSAM
DEAR CHILD!
JETSAM
POOR CHILD!
FLOATSAM
SAD CHILD!
FLOATSAM, JETSAM
WE’LL BRING YOU TO HER LAID RIGHT NOW!
BET IN HALF A SEC, YOUR PRINCE AND YOU ARE RECONCILED…..

FLOATSAM
Together…..

JETSAM
Forever….

ARIEL
(a torturous moment…then relents) Take me to her!

FLOATSAM, JETSAM
SWEET CHILD!

(FLOATSAM and JETSAM usher ARIEL toward URSULA’s lair in the deepest recesses of the ocean floor.)

FLOATUNDE
(offstage) Hello! Ariel! (Suddenly, FLOATUNDE appears. He’s been trailing
ARIEL after all! It’s me! (calling after ARIEL into the void.) Where’d you go? (sees something scary – Ursula?) Ursula! (swims off in a panic.) Ariel!

SCENE TEN: URSULA’S LAIR
(FLOTSAM and JETSAM enter with ARIEL.)

FLOTSAM
Oh, Mistress of the Deep! You’ve a visitor.....

ARIEL
(blancing.) I’m not so sure.....

JETSAM
Now, now....mustn’t get cold fins.... (URSULA appears. ARIEL stares, agog.)

URSULA
Don’t be shy, Ariel darling! It’s me --- your Aunt Ursula!

ARIEL
I shouldn’t be here---

URSULA
Nonsense! We’re family.

ARIEL
Father says you’re wicked and hateful ---

URSULA
Mmmm, yes! But he says the same thing of humans, doesn’t he, snookums? And we both know that’s not true, don’t we?

ARIEL
(suspicious) Why did he banish you?

URSULA
The ocean wasn’t big enough for the both of us. (a beat, and then pointedly) And now he’s driven you away too....

ARIEL
He doesn’t understand me.

URSULA
Oh, but I do, dumpling. We’re so very alike, you and I – gals with ambition! (With a conspiratorial wink) Nothing scares a man more, does it? (Draws ARIEL in closer) Now tell dear old Auntie everything.

ARIEL
I’m in love with someone. A human.

URSULA
Mmmm....yes - this prince fellow. He’s quite a catch! The answer is simple! You’ve got to become human yourself!

ARIEL
Can you help me?
#24 POOR UNFORTUNATE SOULS

URSULA

Help you? My dear, sweet child – it’s what I live for: to help unfortunate merfolk like yourself. Poor souls with no one else to turn to...

I ADMIT THAT IN THE PAST I’VE BEEN A NASTY. THEY WEREN’T KIDDING WHEN THEY CALLED ME, WELL, A WITCH. BUT YOU’LL FIND IT NOWADAYS, I’VE MENDED ALL MY WAYS REPENTED, SEEN THE LIGHT, AND MADE A SWITCH.

TRUE? YES.
AND I FORTUNATELY KNOW A LITTLE MAGIC IT’S A TALENT THAT I ALWAYS HAVE POSSESSED.
AND HERE LATELY, PLEASE DON’T LAUGH, I USE IT ON BEHALF OF THE MISERABLE, LONELY AND DEPRESSED. PATHETIC.

POOR UNFORTUNATELY SOULS, IN PAIN, IN NEED.
THIS ONE LONGING TO BE THINNER,
THAT ONE WANTS TO GET THE GIRL
AND DO I HELP THEM, YES, INDEED!
THOSE POOR UNFORTUNATE SOULS, SO SAD, SO TRUE.
THEY COME FLOCKING TO MY CAULDRON CRYING “SPELLS, URSULA, PLEASE!” AND I HELP THEM, YES I DO!

NOW IT’S HAPPENED ONCE OR TWICE,
SOMEONE COULDN’T PAY THE PRICE,
AND I’M AFRAID I HAD TO RAKE ‘EM ‘CROSS THE COALS.
YES, I’VE HAD THE ODD COMPLAINT,
BUT ON THE WHOLE I’VE BEEN A SAINT,
TO THOSE POOR UNFORTUNATE SOULS.

Here’s my best offer, babykins. I know a spell that will turn you into a human for three days. Now it’s got a procedural clause, sort of a “squid pro quo.” Before the sun sets on the third day, you’ve got to get dear ol’ princey to kiss you. If you do, you’ll stay human forever.

ARIEL

And if I don’t? (FLOTSAM holds the contract.)

URSULA

Nothing drastic darling, I’m sure.....Oh, look – small print. “Your soul is mine forever, and you’re doomed to spend eternity in my watery, hell-soaked lair.” Lawyers! Don’t you just love ‘em? Of course, there is one more thing....my fee.

ARIEL

But I don’t have anything!

URSULA

I’m not asking for much. Only....your voice.

ARIEL

My voice?

URSULA

Don’t worry. I have a perfect place for it. (FLOTSAM and JETSAM bring out an enormous white glowing shell.) Your grandpappy Poseidon gave his
magic trident to your father….but this was his gift pour moi.

ARIEL

Your magic shell!

URSULA

(slightly nervous) You’ve heard about it?

ARIEL

Father says it’s the source of all your witchcraft!

Nonsense, darling!

ARIEL

He says you’d die without it---

URSULA

Die? Oh, please! It’s a bauble! A vessel for your voice! Trust me, darling – your vibrato, your legato, even your belt – they’ll all be safe’n’sound in here.

If I give away my voice, how can I ever ---

URSULA

You’ll have your looks….your pretty face…..and don’t underestimate the power of body language!

THE MEN UP THERE DON’T LIKE A LOT OF BLABBER
THEY THINK A GIRL WHO GOSSIP IS A BORE
YES, ON LAND, IT’S MUCH PREFERRED
FOR LADIES NOT TO SAY A WORD
AND AFTER ALL, DEAR, WHAT IS IDLE PRATTLE FOR?

COME ON, THEY’RE NOT ALL THAT IMPRESSED WITH CONVERSATION
TRUE GENTLEMEN AVOID IT WHEN THEY CAN
BUT THEY DOTE AND SWOON AND FAWN
ON A LADY WHO’S WITHDRAWN
IT’S SHE WHO HOLDS HER TONGUE WHO GETS HER MAN

COME ON, YOU POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL!
GO AHEAD! MAKE YOUR CHOICE!
I’M A VERY BUSY WOMAN AND I HAVEN’T GOT ALL DAY.
IT WON’T COST MUCH, JUST YOUR VOICE!
YOU POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL, IT’S SAD, BUT TRUE.
IF YOU WANT TO CROSS THE BRIDGE, MY SWEET
YOU’VE GOT TO PAY THE TOLL.
TAKE A GULP AND TAKE A BREATH,
AND GO AHEAD AND SIGN THE SCROLL.
FLOTSAM, JETSAM, NOW I’VE GOT HER, BOYS
THE BOSS IS ON A ROLL!
YOU POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL!

So, how’s about it, cupcake?

ARIEL

If I become human, will I ever see my family again.
BELUGA,
SEVRUGA

My sisters….even my father ---

URSULA

Now do you want princey-poo or not? Five, four, three, two ---

ARIEL

Yes! Yes, I’ll do it! Where do I sign? (JETSAM holds the contract)

URSULA

Not just any ink, darling. (raises a tentacle) Use mine. (ARIEL signs the contract.)

BELUGA, SEVRUGA, COME WINDS OF THE CASPIAN SEA...
LARYNXES, GLACYDIS, AD MAX LARYNGITIS, LA VOCE TO ME!
Now sing! Sing your voice over to me! (ARIEL sings into the shell.)

ARIEL

AH….AH….AH….AH….AH

URSULA

Sing and keep singing!

ARIEL


(As ARIEL’s voice soars, URSULA traps it in her shell.)

URSULA

Now, swim, swim, swim for your life, human child! Ha ha ha....

(URSULA, FLOTSAM and JETSAM cackle with glee as they exit. Suddenly, ARIEL starts to float towards the surface in a magical spin. Scales fall and she sheds her tail, revealing human legs. As the sun shines in the world above, ARIEL crashes through the surface and takes her first breath with human lungs. The curtain comes crashing down.)

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO.

#15B. ENTR’ACTE

SCENE ONE: THE BEACH

#15C. NEW LEGS

(As the curtain rises, we see ARIEL sitting up and basking in the morning sun. Stretched before her on the sand is a pair of perfect legs. She stares at them with wonderment. Shakily and slowly, she tries to stand, sticking her arms out for balance….then falls on her rear. Suddenly SCUTTLE flaps in. SEBASTIAN and FLOUNDER watch the encounter from the water.)

SCUTTLE

Well, look who got beached? Hmmmm. There’s something different about ‘cha. Don’t tell me – I’ll de-syphon it for myself. Aha! It’s your hairdo! You’ve been using the dinglehopper!
SEBASTIAN
She’s got legs, you idiot! She traded her voice to the Sea Witch and got legs!

SCUTTLE
No! Not your beautiful pipes! *(ARIEL nods. She opens her mouth, but no sound issues forth.)*

SEBASTIAN
Ya see? Not a sound!

SCUTTLE
Aw, kid, hurts me to say it, but that? That was a lousy swap.

SEBASTIAN
What would her father say? I’ll tell ya what her father’d say: he’d say he’s gonna kill himself a crab, that’s what he’d say!

FLOUNDER
She’s got just three days!

SCUTTLE
Three days to what?

SEBASTIAN
Make the Prince fall in love with her!

FLOUNDER
And to prove it, he gets to...I mean, he’s got to...kiss her!

SCUTTLE
The Prince? Well. You want to snare the Prince, you’ve gotta learn a graceful way of perambulatin’.

SEBASTIAN
She’ll do no such thing –

SCUTTLE
Sure, she will. Come on now – upsie-daisy! *(ARIEL shakes her head “no”)* What’s this? You giving up so soon? That’s not like you!

#16. POSITOOVITY
*(THREE GULLS appear from behind the rocks. FLOUNDER, in guppy mode, exits amid the commotion. SEBASTIAN steps onto the sand. SCUTTLE addresses ARIEL.) Ya gotta have a little gumption. A “can-do” kinda altitude. Take it from a gull who knows...*

NOW LOOK AT ME --YOU SEE THIS FACE?
IN TERMS OF BEAUTY I’M A BASKET CASE
AND AS FOR STYLE AND SAVOIR-FAIRE
WELL I GUESS THERE AIN’T A WHOLE LOT THERE!

YET ALTHOUGH PERHAPS IT MAKES NO SENSE
I STRUT MY STUFF WITH LOTS OF CONFIDENCE
‘CAUSE THOUGH I LACK AN AWFUL LOT
THERE IS ONE THING I GOT ---
I GOT POSITOIVITY! I GOT POSITOIVITY!
IT GIVES ME THE ZAM AND THE ZOW AND THE YODDA-LODDA-LODDA
THAT’S WHY I WALK WITH A WIGGLE IN MY WADDLE!
‘CAUSE ONCE YOU’VE HEARD THAT WORD
THERE AIN’T NOTHING YOU CAN DO!
SO LET THAT POSITOIVITY WORK FOR YOU!

Awwwk!

SEBASTIAN
Positoovity? Why der’s no such word.

SCUTTLE
But there is! In the dictionary right between “popsuckle” and
“prehysterical”! Believe you me……..I’ve seen it work miracles!

SCUTTLE, GULLS
SEE, WITH THE BIP AN’ THE BAP AN’ THE BA-BA BOO
YOU CAN FLIP ANY FLAP TILL YOUR WISH COMES TRUE
THE TIP IS THE TAP INTO SOMETHING THAT YOU BELIEVE

SCUTTLE
‘CAUSE WITH THE ZIG AND THE ZUG AND THE ZIZZERZEE
THERE AIN’T NOTHING YOU CAN’T BE!
YA SEE ITS REALLY YOUR PREROGITIVE AND

SCUTTLE, GULLS
YOU SIMPLY CAN’T THINK NOGGATIVE!

SCUTTLE
THEN THERE’S YOU JUST SITTING THERE
SMACK DOWN FLAT UPON YOUR DERRIERE
IF THAST THE WAY YOU WANNA BE
WELL YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE SHRUBBERY
SO STAND RIGHT UP, AND DUST YOUR SEAT
AND WALK REAL TALL UPON YOUR OWN TWO FEET
AND SURE YOU’LL TRIP AND MAKE MISTAKES
BUT YOU’VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!
(Dance break. As ARIEL gains her “shore legs”, the GULLS ad lib
call for encouragement, “You go, gull!”)

SCUTTLE, GULLS
AND NOW YOU KNOW THAT WORD!
THERE AIN’T NOTHING YOU CAN’T DO!

SCUTTLE (GULLS)
SO GO GET SOME POSILICITY! (AWK!)
YOU CAN BET ON POSITRICITY! (AWK)
AND JUST LET THAT POSITRINITY (AWK, AWK, AWK, AWK)
No, positroonity…..Positronomy? Is it….. posit….What is it?!

GULLS
(exasperated) POSITOIVITY!

SCUTTLE, GULLS
POSITIVELY WORK FOR……..YOU!
(PRINCE ERIC bounds onto the beach, ready to go shipboard. Catching sight of ARIEL, he stops abruptly.)

PRINCE ERIC
Hey, what have we got---? (to SCUTTLE) Shoo, shoo. (SCUTTLE squawks, flaps and move aside.) Miss, are you all right?

#16A ON THE BEACH

You – you seem very familiar….Have we met? Yes….of course! It’s you! I’ve been looking for you everywhere! What’s your name? (ARIEL can only shrug.)

Excuse me? You don’t speak English? (this time, ARIEL mouths her name)

Sore throat, eh? (ARIEL draws a finger across her throat, sadly.)

I’m sorry. You don’t speak at all, do you? For a moment, I mistook you for somebody else.

(Frustrated, ARIEL tries to pantomime that she’s the one!)

What is it? You’re hurt? No, no….You need help….?

(With all the excitement – and her new legs – take a toll on ARIEL. She wobbles and falls, right into PRINCE ERIC’s arms.)

A bit dizzy, aren’t you? I’ve got just the remedy! A warm bath and a hot meal! Come on now…the palace isn’t far.

(PRINCE ERIC lifts and carries the fragile ARIEL toward the palace. As they disappear, SCUTTLE looks on with self-satisfaction.)

#16. POSITAGGITY

SCUTTLE
Bravo, Ariel! Now that’s what I call “reelin’ him in”! (SEBASTIAN however, is mortified)

SEBASTIAN
This is gonna get me in real hot water! (SEBASTIAN scampers off after ARIEL and PRINCE ERIC.)

SCUTTLE
Can you believe that guy? What a crab!

SCUTTLE, GULLS
ONCE YOU KNOW THAT WORD
THERE AIN’T NOTHING YOU CANT DO!
AND THAT’S HOW POSITOOVITY…..
WORKS FOR YOU!

SCENE TWO: KING TRITON’S COURT
(KING TRITON, flanked by trusty WINDWARD, ALLANA and AQUATA, is apoplectic with worry.)

WINDWARD
Your majesty!
KING TRITON
Have you found her?

WINDWARD
I've searched everywhere. We've found no trace of your daughter.

KING TRITON
So keep looking until you do ---!

WINDWARD
Yes, sire. (WINDWARD exits)

AQUATA
(contritely swims forward) I never meant to wish her ill, Daddy.

KING TRITON
I know, I know.

AQUATA
And if she never comes back and I'm forced to sing her solo --- (AQUATA sings some ah's)

ALLANA
(Getting AQUATA's attention) Don't call us! (offers KING TRITON more appropriate consolation.) We won't rest, Papa, not till she's home.

KING TRITON
Thank you, dear child. (ALLANA and AQUATA swim off.) As if the loss of your mother wasn't enough...

#16C. AU BAL DE TOILETTE

SCENE THREE: THE PALACE, ARIEL'S CHAMBERS
(ARIEL's new digs are very plush indeed. GRIMSBY addresses four maids.)

GRIMSBY
The poor child washed ashore, like kelp! Perhaps it was a horrible shipwreck. We'll never know the truth; she won't speak. Not a single, solitary word. Do what you must to make her presentable; a scrub in the tub, a proper frock.....
(The maids ducks behind a screen, where ARIEL awaits them in a sumptuous claw-footed tub, surrounded by bubbles. A maid inquiries of ARIEL.)

MAID
Getting your strength back, dearie?

GRIMSBY
I can't help but wonder....what must she be thinking? I'd give a farthing or two, just to hear her thoughts!
(The lights shift; we can hear the song of ARIEL's heart as she admires her surroundings.)

#17. BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS

ARIEL
OH! JUST LOOK! IT'S LIKE I'M IN A STORYBOOK!
OH! IT'S BLISS! I DREAMED THAT IT WOULD BE SOMEWHAT-
BUT NOT LIKE THIS!

LOOK OVER THERE! OH MY GOD!
HOW VERY ODD! AND WHAT MIGHT THEY BE?
SOMETHING SPLENDID, MAYBE!
LOOK OVER HERE! COULD YOU BUST?
ISN'T IT JUST BEDAZZLING, DAZING Utterly AMAZING!
GAZING 'ROUND, IT'S LIKE, TO DIE!
JUST SEEING IT FEELS SO GOOD, I'D SCREAM IF I ONLY COULD!
(ARIEL leaps from the tub, the maids wrap her in a towel.)

I'D HOPED AND WISHED AND WANTED SO TO BE HERE
WISHED AND PRAYED AND PLANNED IT TO A "T"
PRAYED AND WOW! JUST LOOK - IT'S REALLY ME HERE!
WALKING AROUND, STRANGE AS IT SEEMS
SOMEBEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS!

MAID 1
LOOK AT HERE THERE LOOKING 'ROUND
WON'T MAKE A SOUND

MAID 2
JUST KEEPS ON GAWKING-

MAID 1
WEIRD HOW SHE'S NOT TALKING!

GRIMSBY
(to himself)
SHE'LL CLEAN UP NICELY, ONCE SHE IS DRESSED AND DRY –
(the two pairs of maids now switch positions)

MAID 3
LOOK AT HER STARE

MAID 2
LUCKY MISS!

MAID 3
CHOSEN LIKE THIS TO STAY FOR DINNER

MAID 4
WHAT DOES HE SEE IN HER?

GRIMSBY
HUSH NOW, GIRLS - SHE'S SIMPLY SHY!

MAIDS
Hmmph!

MAIDS 2 & 3
JUST PICTURE THE TABLE CHAT!

MAIDS 1 & 4
ONE SIDED, IF EVEN THAT!

GRIMSBY
Piffle, ladies! In two short nights, the Prince will hold his contest, and
young ladies will be singing themselves silly, all to win his heart. Tonight,
he'll savor some quiet! (GRIMSBY exits with the maids, ARIEL dashes out
in a beautiful new dress, still overcome by her surroundings.)

ARIEL
I'D HOPED AND WISHED AND WONDERED WHAT I'D DO HERE
WISHED AND PRAYED AND PICTURED WHAT I'D SEE
PRAYED AND WOW! MY PRAYERS ARE COMING TRUE HERE!
LOOK AT IT ALL, LOOK HOW IT GLEAMS!
LOVELY BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS...
(see PRINCE ERIC down the hall)

LOOK - IT'S HIM! SO HANDSOME AND Refined AND SLIM
SWEET, SINCERE, MAGNIFICENT FROM HEAD TO TOE AND OH...

I'D HOPED AND WISHED MY LIFE WOULD FEEL ENCHANTED!
WISHED AND PRAYED THE FATES WOULD HEAR MY PLEA
PRAYED AND WOW! MY PRAYERS ARE MORE THAN GRANTED!
LOOK AT IT ALL, HALL AFTER HALL
PERFECT AS YOU COULD PLEASE HERE!
MARVELS GALORE, AND EVEN MORE
GEE, DID I MENTION HE'S HERE?
AND IF - WHO KNOWS? - ALL OF IT GOES
PAST EVEN THESE EXTREMES
JUST LOOK AT ME AND YOU WILL SEE
SOMEONE BEYOND HER WILDEST DREAMS!

(PRINCE ERIC enters in dashing threads. Grimsby enters behind him and
look on.)

Good evening.

PRINCE ERIC

#17A. CHEZ LOUIS

PRINCE ERIC
(seeing ARIEL stops him short) Well, now I'm the one who's speechless.
Hungry? (ARIEL blushes coyly. PRINCE ERIC extends his arm and she takes
it as he swoops her out the door.)

SCENE FOUR. THE PALACE KITCHEN
(CHef LOUIS, a culinary perfectionist, French to the core with an affinity
for blades, orders CHEFS about has he prepares dinner.)

CHEF LOUIS
Attention. Attention! Le menu pour ce soir: escargot, lobster bisque, tuna
tartare, holy mackerel. Maintenant!
(The CHEFS exit. CHEF LOUIS at the butcher's block.)

#18. LES POISSONS

CHEF LOUIS
LES POISSONS, LES POISSONS, HOW I LOVE LES POISSONS
LOVE TO CHOP AND TO SERVE LITTLE FISH.
FIRST I CUT OFF THEIR HEADS THEN I PULL OUT THEIR BONES
AH MAIS OUI, CA C'EST TOUJOURS DELISH.
LES POISSONS, LES POISSONS, HEE-HEE-HEE-HAW-HWA-HWA,
WITH THE CLEAVER I HACK THEM IN TWO.
I PULL OUT WHAT'S INSIDE AND I SERVE IT UP FRIED
GOD, I LOVE LITTLE FISHES, DON'T YOU?

HERE'S SOMETHING FOR TEMPTING THE PALATE,
PREPARED IN THE CLASSIC TECHNIQUE.
FIRST YOU POUND THE FISH FLAT WITH A MALLET
THEN YOU SLASH THROUGH THE SKIN,
GIVE THE BELLY A SLICE, THEY YOU RUB SOME SALT IN....

(laughs diabolically)

‘CAUSE THAT MAKES IT TASTE NICE.

(notices SEBASTIAN cowering under the table)

Zut alors! I have missed one! Shhhh......

SACRE BLEU! WHAT IS THIS? HOW ON EARTH COULD I MISS
SUCH A SWEET LITTLE SUCCULENT CRAB?

QUEL DOMAGE! WHAT A LOSS!

YOU BELONG IN THE SAUCE WITH SOME FLOUR, I THINK, JUST A DAB!

THEN I’LL STUFF YOU WITH BREAD
IT WON’T HURT – YOU’LL BE DEAD
AND YOU’LL SURELY BE LUCKY YOU ARE.

‘CAUSE IT’S GONNA BE HOT IN MY BIG COPPER POT
TOODLE-LOO, MON POISSON, AU REVOIR!

(CHEF LOUIS chases SEBASTIAN off.)

SCENE FIVE: THE PALACE BANQUET HALL
#28A. THE BANQUET HALL

(ARIEL, PRINCE ERIC and GRIMSBY enter.)

GRIMSBY
It’s been a long time – hasn’t it, Prince Eric – since we dined in the
company of such loveliness.

PRINCE ERIC
(smiling amiably at ARIEL) Usually, it’s just me and Grim. He’s gotta look
across the table at my ugly mug!

GRIMSBY
The bath certainly worked it wonders. She’s groomed for a groom, you
might say. (GRIMSBY giggles with nuptial hope.)

PRINCE ERIC
(under his breath) Easy, old boy, easy -- (PRINCE ERIC stops when he sees
ARIEL pick up her fork, and – with great skill – start to draw it through her
hair, as with a comb.) My....isn’t that unusual? (ARIEL blushes and hands
him the fork.) Thank you. (ARIEL brightens when she sees GRIMSBY’s
pipe.)

GRIMSBY
Don’t tell me she’s fond of tobacco. (ARIEL picks up the pipe, admiring it.)
Aha! It’s the pipe! Can’t say I blame you. It’s an antique meerschaum from
Dusseldorf --- (ARIEL blows into the pipe as though it were a horn, sending
a cloud of ash right into GRIMSBY’s face.)

PRINCE ERIC
(can’t help but laugh) Sorry old friend, but it looks like your pipe smoked
you --

GRIMSBY
Very amusing. Yes. She certainly knows how to make you smile. (ARIEL
smiles too. She and PRINCE ERIC stare at each other a moment across the
table. Time seems to stop.) Shall we? (GRIMSBY rings a tiny bell, and
CHEF LOUIS enters.)
CHEF LOUIS
AND NOW SOMETHING TRULY EXQUISITE
THE CRÈME OF THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME!
HO-HO-HO, YOU MAY ASK, BUT WHAT IS IT?
IT’S A TEENSY SURPRISE A DELECTABLE TREAT
ONE I’M SURE YOU’LL JUST LOVE ALLEZ, BON APPETIT!
(A cadre of CHEFS enters bearing platters. The MAIDS look on.)

CHEFS
LES POISSONS! LES POISSONS! OOH LA LA! HERE THEY ARE!
SAY BONJOUR TO OUR FRIENDS FROM THE SEA!

CHEF 1
FISH FILLET,

CHEF 2
FISH PATE!

CHEF 3
FISH FLAMBE!

CHEF 4
FISH TARTARE!

CHEF LOUIS
IT’S A FISH....HOW YOU SAY.....JAMBORREE!

CHEF 5
CURRIED BASS!

CHEF 6
KIPPERED SMELT!

CHEF 7
FISH KA-BOBS!

CHEF 8
TUNA MELT!

CHEF LOUIS
IF IT’S GILLED, IT’S BEEN GRILLED TO A “T”!

CHEFS 1,2,3,4
FISH LIGHTLY TOASTED AND ROASTED AND STEAMED!

CHEFS 5, 6, 7, 8
TOSSED IN THE BLENDER AND TENDERLY CREAMED!

CHEF LOUIS, CHEFS
DISH AFTER DISH LIKE YOU’D WISH TO HAVE DREAMED!

CHEF LOUIS
AND NOW FOR THE GRAND FINALE
LA PIECE DE RESISTANCE
A DELICACY, BY GOLLY, YOU WON’T FIND IN RESTAURANTS!
A TIDBIT TO TEASE YOUR TASTEBUDS
WITH THAT CERTAIN JE NA SAIS QUOIS
VOILA.....

#18C. LES POISSONS MAYHEM
(CHEF LOUIS dramatically raises a silver dome to reveal SEBASTIAN, who promptly disappears under the table. CHEF LOUIS and the CHEFS dive under the table after him. Beneath the white tablecloth, it’s a volley of crab claws, wooden cooking mallets, and general mayhem. CHEF LOUIS crawls out from beneath the buffet; a crab claw tears off his trousers. Crimson, CHEF LOUIS covers himself with a serving tray, then begins picking up dome after silver dome looking for SEBASTIAN and – when he
finds him – pounds him on the head with his mallet, almost like a game of “Whack-A-Mole”. ARIEL leaps to SEBASTIAN’s aid. Finally, SEBASTIAN makes a successful escape, leaving behind a very relieved ARIEL and a very frustrated CHEF LOUIS.)

SCENE SIX: THE PALACE BALLROOM
(PRINCE ERIC runs into the room, breathless and giggling over their dinner antics.)

PRINCE ERIC
Just look at the two of us, eh? What a couple of misfits. (ARIEL enters and grins. PRINCE ERIC stares at her a moment.) You’re a quiet girl in a noisy world. I’m a prince who’d rather be a simple sailor. We’re both...... (Searching for the perfect metaphor)......fish out of water, you and me! (ARIEL blanches.) What? Did I say something wrong? I’m sorry. Who needs words anyway?

#19. ONE STEP CLOSER

PRINCE ERIC
A smile says just as much sometimes. (ARIEL smiles, reassured, even exuberant. Too giddy to contain it, she flexes us and down on her toes.) Nimble on your feet, aren’t you? Dancing beats small talk any day. (ARIEL demonstrates the dance SCUTTLE taught her.) Why sure. It’s the way your feet smile.......or laugh. It lets you say so many things

DANCING IS A LANGUAGE THAT IS FELT INSTEAD OF HEARD
(PRINCE ERIC does a little jig.)
YOU CAN WHISPER, SING OR SHOUT
WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A WORD
TRY IT, GO ON, LIKE SO...
(PRINCE ERIC repeats the step. ARIEL imitates him.)

JUST LET YOUR EMOTIONS TELL YOUR BODY WHAT TO DO
(PRINCE ERIC does a step of her own – she’s getting the hang of it)
SEE HOW MUCH A SINGLE GESTURE CAN REVEAL!
AND EV’RY LITTLE STEP EV’RY SINGLE STEP
IS ONE STEP CLOSER TO SAYING WHAT YOU FEEL.
(PRINCE ERIC patiently teaches ARIEL various formal dance steps.)

ONCE THE MUSIC HITS YOU, INHIBITIONS FALL AWAY
AND YOU FIND THAT YOU’RE EXPRESSING THINGS
YOUR VOICE DAREN’T SAY, DON’T BE AFRAID, LET GO!

SOON AS YOU SURRENDER, WHAT’S INSIDE WILL SWEEP ON THROUGH
AS THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN US DISAPPEAR!
AND EV’RY LITTLE STEP, EV’RY SINGLE STEP
IS ONE STEP CLOSER TO TALKING LOUD AND CLEAR

A DANCE IS LIKE A CONVERSATION
EXCEPT YOU NEVER NEED TO MAKE A SOUND
AND ONCE YOU’VE begun, YOU SPEAK AS ONE
GIVE AND TAKE, BACK AND FORTH, ROUND AND ROUND......

(PRINCE ERIC and ARIEL launch into a dance – then another, and another, and another.....leading into a big sweeping ballroom dance. The two of them are completely in tune with one another, moving as one, poetry in motion...)
A dance is like a conversation
except your lips don’t ever need to part
and once you’ve begun, you speak as one cheek to cheek
toe to toe, heart to heart.....

(Prince Eric and Ariel are now inches apart, gazing into each other’s eyes.... Ariel puts her head on his shoulder.)

Dancing is a language that is felt instead of heard
but it says much more than language ever could
and ev’ry little step, ev’ry single step
is one step closer... one step closer...
one step closer.....to being understood
(The dance ends. Prince Eric bows, and Ariel mimics him. Just as he moves in for a kiss, wafting through the night breeze are the magical strains of Ariel’s voice.)

#19A. Good Night

Voice
Ah-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH....

Prince Eric
Do you hear that? (Ariel shakes her head, “no”.)

Voice
AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH

Prince Eric
(Thoroughly distracted) Forgive me --- I haven’t been myself lately. It’s after midnight. I should let you get some sleep. Good night.

(Prince Eric exits hastily. Ariel, crestfallen, watches him depart.

Sebastian appears.)

Sebastian
Out of the frying pan, into the fire! The things I do for you, young lady!
Now, I know what I should do! I should march you right back home to your father ---- (Ariel’s eyes grow wide with alarm, and she shakes her head a vehement “no”). --- so you can be miserable the rest of your life.....
(Sighs heavily; he just can’t bring himself to stand in Ariel’s way) It’s true, I got no backbone. All right, child. I’m in. Now we got to make a plan to get that boy to kiss you, before it’s too late! You gotta bat your eyes, like this....Then you gotta pucker your lips, like this..... (Sebastian demonstrates; Ariel copies) Oh, that’s good! You put those two things together, you got that boy in the pam of your hand! Now come, child, off to bed with you!

#19B. Back to Ursula’s Lair

Scene Seven: Ursula’s Lair

(Ursul, Flotsam and Jetsam hover around the magic shell.)

Ursula
That was too close for comfort, boys! One day, and already they’re dining together?

Flotsam
Then dancing, cheek to cheek!
URSULA
I should’ve known! There’s only one thing more potent than my black magic.

JETSAM
The power of true love?

URSULA
Teenage hormones!

#20. DADDY’S LITTLE ANGEL (REPRISE)

URSULA
SEEMS THE LITTLE TART IS OFF TO QUITE A START—
JUST ONE NIGHT, AND PRINCEY-POO IS WALLOWING IN BLISS!
THINK WHAT THEY WILL DO BY SUNSET NUMBER TWO—

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
What?

URSULA
IDIOTS! GO UP AND BLOCK THAT KISS!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
Yes, Your Wretchedness!

URSULA
IN THE MEANWHILE, HER POOR PROUD PAPPY –
BET HE’S WOND’RING WHERE HIS BABY’S BEEN.

FLOTSAM
WORRIED SICK…..

JETSAM
SO UPSET….

URSULA
NOT HAPPY. SOON HE’LL GUESS, THEN OH YES, ALL THE FUN’LL BEGIN!

URSULA, FLOTSAM, JETSAM
DADDY AND HIS ANGEL! HOW THEY’RE GONNA HURT
WHEN OUR PLAN IS IN FULL FLOW—

URSULA
ONCE THAT KISS GOES AMISS, AH……
THEN THE GIRL WILL BE MINE! AH……
ONCE SHE’S HAD, THEN HER DAD
WILL BE CAUGHT ON MY LINE! LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA
THEN A SPELL FROM THE SHELL LA, LA, LA, LA, LA
AND UP TO HEAVEN HE’LL GO!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM
AH……

#20A. BEFORE KISS THE GIRL

SCENE EIGHT: THE LAGOON
(PRINCE ERIC and ARIEL are in a small dinghy, drifting in gentle water.
SEBASTIAN and SCUTTLE look on from nearby.)
PRINCE ERIC
No girl’s ever dared to join me out here. Too afraid they’d muddy their shoes. But not you! *(ARIEL beams.)* Peaceful, isn’t it? Not another living soul for miles and miles.

SCUTTLE
Nothing is happening!

SEBASTIAN
They spent all morning on horseback, then a picnic, now this….and not so much as a peck on the cheek! *(On the boat, ARIEL smiles at PRINCE ERIC. He smiles politely back. An awkward pause. She smiles again. He clears his throat, then smiles back.)*

PRINCE ERIC
So.....how ‘bout this weather?

SEBASTIAN
This is going nowhere fast!

SCUTTLE
Twenty-four hours left! He’ll be married off, and poor Ariel, she’ll be deep sixed!

SEBASTIAN
We gotta do something, and quick.

SCUTTLE
But what?

SEBASTIAN
We got to create the right kinda mood.

SCUTTLE
Something romantical! Candlelight and shampoo?

SEBASTIAN
Nonsense. It don’t take all that. Everything we need, we got right here.

(SEBASTIAN gestures towards the animals; creatures that inhabit both land and sea, like frogs, sans and others. He enlists them as a calypso band)

Percussion.....

#32 KISS THE GIRL

SEBASTIAN
Strings.....winds.....and moonlight....

SEBASTIAN
THERE YOU SEE HER
SITTING THERE ACROSS THE WAY.
SHE DON'T GOT A LOT TO SAY
BUT THERE’S SOMETHING
ABOUT HER
AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHY BUT
YOU'RE DYING TO TRY
YOU WANNA KISS THE GIRL.

ANIMALS
SHA LA LA
SHA LA LA
SHE DON'T GOT A LOT TO SAY
ABOUT HER
DON'T KNOW WHY
DYING TO TRY
KISS THE GIRL.
YES, YOU WANT HER,  YES, YOU WANT HER
LOOK AT HER,  LOOK AT HER,
YOU KNOW YOU DO.  YOU KNOW YOU DO
POSSIBLE SHE WANT YOU TOO,  OOO.....
THERE IS ONE WAY TO ASK HER.  KISS THE GIRL, KISS THE GIRL.
IT DON’T TAKE A WORD,  OH.....
NOT A SINGLE WORD  NOT A SINGLE WORD.
GO ON AND KISS THE GIRL.

Sing with me now:

SEBASTIAN
SHA LALALALALALA, MY OH MY,
LOOK LIKE THE BOY TOO SHY
AIN’T GONNA KISS THE GIRL.
SHA LALALALALALA, AIN’T THAT SAD?
AIN’T IT A SHAME, TOO BAD, HE GONNA MISS THE GIRL.

PRINCE ERIC
You know, I really ought to know your name. Maybe I could guess.....
Alexandra? Annabelle? Beatrice?

SEBASTIAN
ARIEL, HER NAME IS ARIEL.

PRINCE ERIC
Ariel? (ARIEL SHAKES HER HEAD "YES.") Ariel! Hey, that’s kinda pretty. Okay – Ariel....

SEBASTIAN
NOW’S YOUR MOMENT, FLOATING IN A BLUE LAGOON
BOY, YOU BETTER DO IT SOON, NO TIME WILL BE BETTER.
SHE DON’T SAY A WORD AND SHE WON’T SAY A WORD
UNTIL YOU KISS THE GIRL!
(in spite of himself, PRINCE ERIC is drawn to ARIEL and leans forward.)

SHA LALALALALALA, DON’T BE SCARE
YOU GOT THE MOOD PREPARED
GO ON AND KISS THE GIRL.

SCUTTLE
AWK!
(SCUTTLE GETS SO CARRIED AWAY THAT HE SQUAWKS LOUDLY AND ALMOST BREAKS THE MOOD.)
SHA LALALALALALA, DON’T STOP NOW
DON’T TRY TO HIDE IT
HOW YOU WANT TO KISS THE GIRL.
SHA LALALALALA, FLOAT ALONG AND LISTEN TO THE SONG
THE SONG SAY KISS THE GIRL!
SHA LALALALALALA, MUSIC PLAY, DO WHAT THE MUSIC SAY
YOU GOTTA KISS THE GIRL.
YOU’VE GOTTA KISS THE GIRL. YOU’VE GOTTA KISS THE GIRL!
YOU’VE GOTTA KISS THE GIRL! OH! GO ON AND KISS THE GIRL!

(The song has worked its magic. At long last PRINCE ERIC leans in to plant a kiss on ARIEL’s lips. She arches her back, ready.)

URSULA
(offstage) Quickly! Block that kiss! (FLOTSAM SAPS THE STERN WITH HIS TAIL;
JETSAM, the bow. The whole dinghy sizzles and sparks in a blaze of electricity.)

PRINCE ERIC
(snapping out of the kiss) What on earth ---! (PRINCE ERIC has to steady the boat with the oars to keep it from capsizing. As quickly as it happened, it’s over.) Ariel, are you all right? (ARIEL nods. Inwardly, she is crushed. They were so close to that kiss!)

SCUTTLE
Sebastian, what was that?

SEBASTIAN
Lightning?

SCUTTLE
From underwater?

#21A. AFTER KISS THE GIRL

PRINCE ERIC
(an awkward recovery) Must be some kind of freak storm. (Starts rowing back to shore.) I ought to get back. It’s my birthday tomorrow and we’re hosting a contest. Grimsby wants me married by sunset, or else.....

(ARIEL can’t help it; a tear escapes. Bravely, she swallows her disappointment and smiles for PRINCE ERIC’s sake as they leave the bay.)

SCENE NINE: KING TRITON’S COURT
(KING TRITON with SEBASTIAN and FLOUNDER.)

SEBASTIAN
Most merciful Triton, I pray that you’ll keep calm--

KING TRITON
Where is she? Where is Ariel?

SEBASTIAN
She’d be so angry if she knew I was here!

KING TRITON
I entrust my youngest daughter to you! And what happens? I ought to have you cracked! I ought to have you shelled ---

FLOUNDER
He almost was, Your Greatness. And all for Ariel --

KING TRITON
You ought to be ashamed of yourself too! What kind of tragedy will it take ---

SEBASTIAN
A tragedy involving the Sea Witch to be exact.

KING TRITON
(his alarm growing) What did you say?
(chiming in, unable to stop truth-telling) These two eels came and they took her straight to Ursula, and she trade her voice for a pair of legs, and if the Prince doesn’t kiss her ---

KING TRITON
Her voice? She bartered away her voice to become human?

SEBASTIAN
By sunset tomorrow, that child could be giving up her very soul----

KING TRITON
Her soul?

SEBASTIAN
--and all to that wicked sister of yours. (The full gravity of the situation dawns on KING TRITON.)

KING TRITON
It’s time I settle things with her once and for all. (KING TRITON, SEBASTIAN and FLOUNDER exit.)

SCENE TEN: THE PALACE, ARIEL’S CHAMBER

#22. GRIMSBY’S ADVICE
(ARIEL sits on her bed.)

GRIMSBY
(offstage) Pardon me, young lady -- (GRIMSBY raps on the door, and opens it a crack. Modesty prevents him from entering the room) Anything else you require before bed-time? (ARIEL shakes her head “no”) Very well then. You’d best catch forty winks. A big day tomorrow---- Prince Eric must choose his bride! (Sensing her disappointment) Mustn’t look so blue. The secret to happiness, child…..we mustn’t wish for impossible things. (GRIMSBY exits.)

#23. IF ONLY (QUARTET)

ARIEL
IF ONLY YOU COULD KNOW THE THINGS I LONG TO SAY
IF ONLY I COULD TELL YOU WHAT I WISH I COULD CONVEY
IT’S IN MY EV’RY GLANCE, MY HEART’S AN OPEN BOOK
YOU’D SEE IT ALL AT ONCE IF ONLY YOU WOULD LOOK

IF ONLY YOU COULD GLIMPSE THE FEELING THAT I FEEL
IF ONLY YOU WOULD NOTICE WHAT I’M DYING TO REVEAL
THE DREAMS I CAN’T DECLARE, THE NEEDS I CAN’T DENY
YOU’D UNDERSTAND THEM ALL IF ONLY YOU WOULD TRY

ALL MY SECRETS, YOU WOULD LEARN THEM
ALL MY LONGINGS, YOU’D RETURN THEM
THEN THE SILENCE WOULD BE BROKEN
NOT A WORD WOULD NEED BE SPOKEN
(PRINCE ERIC looks out across the sea.)

PRINCE ERIC
WHAT IS IT ABOUT HER
THAT’S SO WONDERFULLY, IMPOSSIBLY FAMILIAR?
WHY DO I FEEL DIZZY IN A WAY I’VE ONLY FELT BUT ONCE BEFORE?
HOW COME WHEN SHE LOOKS AT ME
IT SEEMS LIKE TIME STOPS MOVING
ALMOST LIKE THE WAY IT DID THAT DAY UPON THE SHORE?
BUT THAT VOICE!

ARIEL
IF ONLY IT WERE TRUE, IF ONLY FOR A WHILE

PRINCE ERIC
AH, THAT VOICE!

ARIEL
IF ONLY YOU WOULD NOTICE HOW I ACHE BENEATH MY SMILE

PRINCE ERIC
WHERE'S THAT VOICE?

ARIEL
I GUESS YOU NEVER WILL, I GUESS IT DOESN'T SHOW
BUT IF I NEVER FIND A WAY TO TELL YOU SO
OH, WHAT I WOULD GIVE IF ONLY YOU COULD KNOW
(SEBASTIAN enters.)

SEBASTIAN
Bless ya, child. Tomorrow, the prince will have his pick of any princess in
the land! How can a little mermaid compete with that?

IF ONLY I KNEW HOW I'D MAKE HIM SEE THE LIGHT
IF ONLY IT WERE UP TO ME, THIS ALL WOULD TURN OUT RIGHT
AND IF I ONLY COULD I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'D DO
I'D SIMPLY WAVE MY CLAW AND MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE
AND WOULDN'T THAT SURPRISE YOU
IF YOU ONLY KNEW
(At his court, KING TRITON is sick with worry)

KING TRITON
HOW COULD I HAVE PUSHED HER
TO THE POINT OF HAVING NO ONE LEFT TO TURN TO?
WHAT IF I HAVE LOST HER, AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT SHE'S GONE!

PRINCE ERIC
AH, THAT VOICE!
KING TRITON
IF ONLY I'D HAVE KNOWN...
SEBASTIAN
IF ONLY I COULD HELP...
PRINCE ERIC
WHERE'S THAT VOICE?
ARIEL
IF ONLY THERE WERE TIME, I KNOW WE'D KISS AT LAST
PRINCE ERIC
THAT VOICE!
KING TRITON
IF I COULD TURN BACK TIME, I'LL CHANGE MY WAYS!
SEBASTIAN
JUST ONE MORE DAY FOR THAT KISS TO COME...
ARIEL
BUT TIME KEEPS RACING FORWARD
AND OUR MOMENT'S ALMOST PASSED!
KING TRITON
I'LL TRY TO UNDERSTAND...
ARIEL
IT HAS TO HAPPEN NOW...
KING TRITON
I'LL KEEP MY TEMPER LOW...
SEBASTIAN
I'D GIVE MY LIFE UP TO MAKE IT HAPPEN...
KING TRITON
I SHOULD HAVE STARTED LISTENING TO YOU LONG AGO...
PRINCE ERIC:
HOW I WISH THAT GIRL COULD HAVE BEEN THIS ONE!
ARIEL
THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE DAY UNTIL I HAVE TO GO!
PRINCE ERIC
IF ONLY...
ARIEL, SEBASTIAN & KING TRITON
OH, WHAT I WOULD GIVE IF ONLY YOU COULD KNOW...
PRINCE ERIC
AND AT THE BALL, WHAT WILL OCCUR?
MAYBE I'LL FIND THAT VOICE BUT I'LL LOSE HER...
ARIEL
IF ONLY...
SEBASTIAN
IF ONLY...
KING TRITON
IF ONLY...

SCENE ELEVEN: THE PALACE BALLROOM

#23. BEFORE THE CONTEST
(A line of COURTIERS enters, dressed and pomaded for the ball, followed by an alarming array of opportunistic PRINCESSES. PRINCE ERIC enters, dressed in royal finery, followed by GRIMSBY, who calls the gathering to order.)

#24. THE CONTEST
GRIMSBY
WELCOME DEAR FRIENDS, TO OUR CONTEST--
THE FIRST THAT OUR KINGDOM HAS EVER SEEN.
WE GATHER TODAY FOR A VOCAL DISPLAY
SO OUR PRINCE MAY AT LAST CHOOSE A QUEEN!
These six princesses posses the most accomplished voices in the land! (to the PRINCESSES) Tonight, one of you will join Prince Eric on the throne. May the best woman win! (One by one, the PRINCESSES step forward to sing.)

PRINCESS 1
(High energy, overwhelming)
LISTEN TO ME, DON'T I SOUND RICH?
LOUD, AM I NOT? PLUS I'VE GOT PERFECT PITCH
WOULDN'T YOU THINK I'M THE GIRL
THE GIRL WHO HAS EVERYTHING?

PRINCE ERIC
That's not her voice. I'll know it the moment I hear it --- (GRIMSBY pounds
his staff on the floor, signaling a rejection.)

PRINCESS 2
LISTEN TO THIS, CLEAR AS CAN BE!
YOU’LL KNOW I’M IT WHEN I HIT MY HIGH C!
AH!
(PRINCE ERIC gives GRIMSBY a look; this isn’t’ the girl. GRIMSBY pounds his staff, and PRINCESS 2 exits in s huff)

PRINCESS 3
WOULDN’T YOU THINK I’M THE GIRL
THE GIRL WHO HAS EVERYTHING?
(belt) EVERYTHING! (loud voice) EVERYTHING!
(Another look from PRINCE ERIC, another pounding from GRIMSBY)

PRINCESS 4
I’M A WORLD FAMOUS COLORATURA!
(Se sings an operatic riff; another veto, another pounding)

PRINCESS 5
MY VIBRATO IS SECOND TO NONE!
(another veto, another pounding)

PRINCESS 6
(dance exuberantly) I’M A WALKING DISPLAY OF BRAVURA!
(PRINCE ERIC makes a face. She won’t do, either. Another pounding)

PRINCESSES
IT’S SO CLEAR….CANT’ YOU HEAR?

PRINCESS 6
I’M THE ONE!
PRINCESS 1
I’M THE ONE!
PRINCESS 5, 4
I’M THE ONE!
PRINCESS 2, 3
I’M THE ONE!
PRINCESSES
I’M THE ONE!

(PRINCE ERIC is unconvinced and disheartened. GRIMSBY pounds in a frenzy to halt the singing.)

GRIMSBY
Surely one of these lovely voices matches the music in your heart –

PRINCE ERIC
I wish I could say “yes”! But she’s not here.

GRIMSBY
(to PRINCESS 2) But her father rules all Prussia. (re PRINCESS 4) She’s richer than Midas! (to PRINCESS 1) She’s one of triplets, but they’re willing to break up the set!

PRINCE ERIC
No, Grim!
GRIMSBY
You’re the death of me, boy! What am I to do? The sun has nearly set. Soon, your birthday will soon be over. You must choose someone! Perhaps if we steel ourselves... take another listen:

(ARIEL, aware that this is her last chance, enters and battles her way into the center of the throng.)

#25. ARIEL STEPS FORWARD

PRINCE ERIC

Ariel?

GRIMSBY
For heaven’s sake, child --- you mustn’t.

PRINCE ERIC

Shhh! Wait, Grimsby. Be quiet, and listen! Go ahead, Ariel.

(The whole room quiets in anticipation. ARIEL is blinking back tears, already praying for a miracle. She takes a slow, deep breath. It looks as if she’s about to attempt a note. But instead, she gets an idea. She catches PRINCE ERIC’s gaze, and then – in her own inimitable way - executes a few of the dance steps PRINCE ERIC taught her two nights earlier. When she’s done, the PRINCESSES all titter derisively. ARIEL looks to PRINCE ERIC, helpless.)

GRIMSBY
(crestfallen) Oh, child! Poor, lost child! (then to PRINCE ERIC) I had so hoped, dear Eric, that you might find love somewhere in this room.

PRINCE ERIC
(smiling, his gaze fixed on ARIEL) Perhaps, I have. I’ve just been too blind to see it.

GRIMSBY
But that’s impossible, she didn’t utter a sound.

PRINCE ERIC
No? Well, that’s funny. Because I heard every single note, as clear as a bell. (a beat, and then) That must mean something, old boy.

GRIMSBY
(Beaming) Perhaps it does. (Suddenly, wafting on the breeze, the siren call.)

VOICE

AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH

(URSULA has unleashed ARIEL’s true voice yet again.)

GRIMSBY
Can it be? Another contestant?

VOICE

AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH......

PRINCE ERIC

That’s it! That’s the voice! (PRINCE ERIC can’t help himself, the voice cuts right through him. ARIEL looks at him, panicked; her whole face is a plea.)
GRIMSBY
Oh, dear. This is most unexpected!

URSULA
AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH....
(But looking at ARIEL, PRINCE ERIC has newfound resolve.)

PRINCE ERIC
(to GRIMSBY) Tell her the competition is over. Tell her it’s too late! (ARIEL beams at PRINCE ERIC with gratitude. He leans in to kiss her.)

URSULA
(offstage) AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH!
(Just then, the sun turns bright red. URSULA peers over the wall; she’s grown to gargantuan size.) Why look! Such a gorgeous sunset! And on the third day too! Time’s up. You lose!
(With a mighty sweep of two mammoth tentacles, URSULA wipes the ball guests away and grabs for ARIEL and PRINCE ERIC with the help of FLOTSAM and JETSAM. GRIMSBY tries to help.)

GRIMSBY
Eric!

PRINCE ERIC
Ariel!
(PRINCE ERIC rushes to save ARIEL but the tentacles throw him aside and drag ARIEL away.)

GRIMSBY
Eric!

PRINCE ERIC
Ariel!

URSULA
I’m dragging you down, down, down into the depths where you belong!
(And she does just that, yanking ARIEL through the window and back down into the watery home from which she came....)

SCENE TWELVE: URSULA’S LAIR
(The school of silver fish swim by. They scatter as ARIEL (double) is dragged down by JETSAM.)

URSULA
(offstage) Say goodbye to your Prince! Your pretty dress! Your satin pumps! You’re mine now, mermaid!

FLOTSAM
Get ready to spend the rest of your days as my slave----

JETSAM
---plucking the barnacles off her back!

#26. POOR UNFORTUNATE SOULS (REPRISE)
(URSULA enters. KING TRITON follows her, furious.)

KING TRITON
Ursula!

URSULA
Brother darling! You’re right on cue!
KING TRITON
What have you done to my daughter?

URSULA
Nothing! She’s done it all to herself, trading her voice away. And for what? Human heartbreak!

KING TRITON
Give her back to me.

URSULA
Not on your life!

KING TRITON
No!

URSULA
Even drew a little heart above the “i”. Is it binding? Goodness, yes! Unbreakable, unless.....

KING TRITON
Unless?

URSULA
There is a little somethin’ we could try.

KING TRITON
Go on.

URSULA
Yes...

KING TRITON
What?

URSULA
Sign the scroll and set her free, or else she comes with me. To suffer through eternity alone. The mute little hatchling, drowning in her own sorrow, with no voice left to cry out your name. Well? I’m waiting.

KING TRITON
It’s not my soul you’re after — it’s my power.

URSULA
Which would you rather be: The King of the Sea, or a father to his little girl? (ARIEL, who is a mermaid again, is dragged forward by FLOTSAM and JETSAM.)

KING TRITON
Ariel! (ARIEL watches in horror as KING TRITON signs the scroll. URSULA snatches the trident away from her brother, who shrinks and falls, her slave forever.)
Finally! The oceans belong to me!

AND NOW YOU POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL!
TIME'S UP! YOU'RE THROUGH!
(The EELS imprison KING TRITON.)

NOW THE POWER OF POSEIDON
HAS BEEN ONCE AGAIN MADE WHOLE.
ALL THE MAGIC OF THE TRIDENT
AND THE SHELL IN MY CONTROL!
AND NOW DARK SHALL REIGN FOREVER,
OVER OCEAN, SEA AND SHOAL!
Now see for yourself how banishment feels!

YOU POOR, UNFORTUNATE SOUL!

#26A. URSULA'S DEMISE
(As URSULA cackles. In that very moment, ARIEL swims past her, grabbing the magic shell.)

FLOTSAM
Egads, look out!

JETSAM
She's got the shell!

ARIEL
AH-AH-AH-AH, AH-AH-AH-AH!
(URSULA turns and sees ARIEL holding her most prized possession, which now resolves the mermaid's voice.)

Well.....look who has my black magic now.

ARIEL
My voice.... (touching a hand to her throat) The spell is broken!

Give me back my shell.

ARIEL
(raising the shell over her head) If it breaks, you die----

You believe that? After all the lies he's told you?

Lies? What lies ---?

You told her the world above was hideous, and what was it instead?

(biting her lip) Beautiful. Beautiful beyond compare.

He's say anything to turn you against the Prince and his kind. Why, he's
shameless! He’d even say that they murdered your mother ---

ARIEL

Wait a minute! If humans didn’t kiss her, then who did?

KING TRITON

(to URSULA, as the terrible truth dawns on him) It was you, wasn’t it? All these years, I’ve been blaming them, and it was you ---

URSULA

Who? Moi? Why, I couldn’t hurt a minnow--! (ARIEL makes a sudden, irrevocable decision.)

ARIEL

Liar --! (ARIEL throws the shell offstage to destroy it. URSULA vaporizes in a cloud of hot, steamy inky, scattering her tentacles. ARIEL snatches the trident from one of them.)

URSULA

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaarrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr
FLOUNDER
It’s what she wants, Your Majesty. (with a heartfelt look to ARIEL.) More than anything. Please.
(ARIEL smiles at FLOUNDER, more grateful than she can say. With a wistful sigh, KING TRITON raises his magic trident and restores ARIEL to human form. The MERSISTERS enter swimming around ARIEL as magically her legs reappear.)

KING TRITON
You belong to his world now. (ARIEL swims to KING TRITON.)

ARIEL
(embracing KING TRITON) Thank you, Daddy. Thank you so much. (ARIEL and KING TRITON swim to the surface.)

SCENE THIRTEEN: THE BEACH
#27. FINALE ULTIMO
(PRINCE ERIC bounds in, followed by GRIMSBY.)

PRINCE ERIC
Tomorrow at sunrise, we search again.

GRIMSBY
But Your Majesty, she’s lost.

PRINCE ERIC
I won’t rest until I’ve found her.

GRIMSBY
Look, Sire. (ARIEL enters with KING TRITON.)

PRINCE ERIC
Ariel!

ARIEL
Oh, Eric.

PRINCE ERIC
Could it be? It’s been your voice, all along, hasn’t it! (noticing KING TRITON) Who are you? (KING TRITON looks up to see PRINCE ERIC – the dashing young seafarer who hopes to claim his daughter.)

ARIEL
This is my father.

KING TRITON
I’m King Triton.

GRIMSBY
(flustered) Astonishing, I must say. Why, it defies plausibility.

PRINCE ERIC
(summons his courage to KING TRITON) Your Majesty? At last, I’ve found someone who makes me eager to seize the future, and claim my birthright as King. But if I slip out to sea sometimes, I don’t think she’ll mind….because she’ll be right there next to me, keeping us both on
course. *(takes a knee)* With your permission, Sire, I’d like to make her my wife.

**KING TRITON**

My permission? Ariel can speak for herself. *(ARIEL casts KING TRITON a loving, grateful look then turns to face PRINCE ERIC.)*

**ARIEL**

Yes, Eric. Oh, yes. *(PRINCE ERIC and ARIEL exit to prepare for the wedding.)*

**GRIMSBY**

*(still flummoxed)* Can’t be happening, no. Grog after bedtime, a bad idea....

**KING TRITON**

You’re the young man’s father?

**GRIMSBY**

Heavens, no. His Majesty’s long dead. I’m his guardian, nothing more.

**KING TRITON**

Well, I wager his father would be very pleased....with both of you.

**GRIMSBY**

*(touched)* Why, thank you, sir. He’s my one shining achievement – a bright light in a dark world.

**KING TRITON**

Congratulations to us both, my friend. *(GRIMSBY is still gob-smacked y all that he’s seen.)*

**GRIMSBY**

And to you...yes....and to you.....

*(The MERSISTERS and SAILORS enter. FLOUNDER is there, too, with ALLANA at his side. PRINCE ERIC and ARIEL enter, dressed to marry. KING TRITON smiles at his daughter.)*

**KING TRITON**

IF ONLY YOU COULD STAY AND NEVER SAY GOODBYE.
IF ONLY I COULD MAKE TIME STOP, BELIEVE ME, I WOULD TRY
BUT FATHERS HAVE TO LEARN THAT DAUGHTERS HAVE TO GROW
AND IF YOU TRULY LOVE THEM
YOU MUST LET THEM GO...

**ARIEL**

AND OH, I LOVE YOU SO
IF ONLY YOU COULD KNOW!

**PRINCE ERIC**

*(turns to GRIMSBY and grins.)* “Tall tales” and “superstitious” --- eh, Grim?

**GRIMSBY**

*(incredulous)* So that’s truly the King of Sea? And she’s his daughter?
PRINCE ERIC
Does that upset you?

GRIMSBY
Goodness, no! I’m just relieved she’s royalty! (PRINCE ERIC and ARIEL board the ship.)

ENSEMBLE
AND NOW AT LAST LOVE HAS SURPASSED EACH TRIBULATION
MERMAID AND MAN FINALLY CAN JOIN AND BE ONE
NOW THEY CAN SMILE WALKING THE AISLE
HERE AT THEIR WEDDING CELEBRATION

PRINCE ERIC
SAILING FORWARD.....

ARIEL
STANDING STEADY.......

ARIEL, PRINCE ERIC
STARTING LIFE COMPLETELY READY!

ENSEMBLE
NOW THEY CAN BE WHO THEIR MEANT TO BE
NOW THEY CAN GAZE ON A NEW HORIZON
YOU BETWEEN OCEAN AND SKY
FOREVER AND ON!
(CHEF LOUIS enters with a cake.)

NOW THEY CAN WALK, NOW THEY CAN RUN.
NOW THEY CAN STAY ALL DAY IN THE SUN!

PRINCE ERIC
JUST YOU AND ME

ARIEL
AND I WILL BE....

ALL
PART OF YOUR WORLD! AHHHH!

THE END