

LIBRETTO VOCAL BOOK

Disney **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 & John Musker
and written & directed by John Musker & Ron Clements

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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

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
SOMEHOW 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, Sailors, Prince Eric, Grimsby

SOLO

I'LL TELL YOU A TALE OF THE BOTTOMLESS BLUE

SAILORS

AN' IT'S HEY TO THE STARBOARD, HEAVE HO!

SOLO

BRAVE SAILOR, BEWARE, 'CAUSE A BIG 'UNS A-BREWIN'

ALL

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 here where the seas meet the skies, surrounded by nothing but water—

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!

SAILOR

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!

ALL

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!

ALL

HOLD ON, GOOD LUCK, AS DOWN YOU GO!

VOICE

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

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 of his treasures?

PRINCE ERIC

Treasures? You mean like this?

(holds a silver chalice aloft)

SAILOR 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.)

ERIC Or this?

(brandishes a candelabra)

SAILOR 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.)

(PRINCE ERIC)

ERIC . Or this?

(raises a gilded fork)

SAILOR 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—I

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!
EV'RYTHING 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-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!

ALL

THERE'S MERMAIDS OUT THERE IN THE BOTTOMLESS BLUE

ALL

AN' IT'S HEY TO THE STARBOARD, HEAVE HO!
WATCH OUT FOR 'EM, LAD, 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; it catches the sun's rays; it makes prisms in the air.)

ARIEL

(admiring it)

Why, it's beautifull

(A splash, and FLOUNDER appears. He's a rambunctious young fish, and Ariel's best friend.)

FLOUNDER

Hey, Ariell! There you are!

(Ariel hides the fork behind her back.)

ARIEL

Flounder!

FLOUNDER

(gazing at the strange terrain)

Whoa. Freaky.

ARIEL

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

FLOUNDER

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

ARIEL

Is that so?

FLOUNDER

Sure! We're not scared of sharks. Or boats. Or fishermen.

(with a nervous gulp)

What's a "chum bucket"? Are those for real?

ARIEL

You *are* afraid, aren't you?

FLOUNDER

No, I'm not! I'm here now, aren't I?

(a telling beat)

With you.

ARIEL

Flounder, you're blushing ...

FLOUNDER

It's sunburn. You get it up here.

ARIEL

Are you flirting with me?

FLOUNDER

Gross! Blech! No way!

(then)

But if I was -- ?

(Ariel ruffles Flounder's fins and gives him a peck on the head. Flounder 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.)

(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—*voilà!* A Pompadour-able. And all thanks to—

ARIEL

(marveling)

The dinglehopper!

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

Howza 'bout a swap?

(brandishes an old-fashioned tobacco pipe with an enormous bowl)

I got something stupelicious! Museum quality, really. A banded, bulbous ... snarfblatt.

(Ariel and Flounder "ooh" and "ahh.")

Second cousin to the tuba.

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! The concert! 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, Flounder. 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 WINDWARD and LEEWARD, two trumpetfish. 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 ...

(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 y'all!

(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 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

MERSISTERS

AH, WE ARE THE DAUGHTERS OF TRITON
GREAT FATHER WHO LOVES US AND NAMED US WELL:

AQUATA

AQUATA

ANDRINA

ANDRINA

ARISTA

ARISTA

ATINA

ATINA

ADELLA

ADELLA

ALLANA

ALLANA

MERSISTERS

AND ARIEL!

IN CONCERT WE HOPE TO ENLIGHTEN
THE HEARTS OF THE MERFOLK WITH MUSIC'S SWELL
AQUATA ...

AQUATA

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA

MERSISTERS

ANDRINA ...

ANDRINA

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA

MERSISTERS

ARISTA ...

ARISTA

AH-AH-AH-HA-HA

MERSISTERS

ATINA ...

ATINA

AH-AH-AH-HA-HA

MERSISTERS

ADELLA ...

ADELLA

AH-AH-AH-HA-HA

MERSISTERS

ALLANA ...

ALLANA

AH-AH-AH-HA-HA

MERSISTERS

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, Atina'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* 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 going 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 backup 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

KING TRITON

I can govern a kingdom, but I can't control my own 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.

(KING TRITON)

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 THREE: 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.)

FLOTSAM

Oh, Mistress of the Deep ...

JETSAM

Beauty of the Brine ...

FLOTSAM

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

JETSAM

Declaring a national holiday—

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

URSULA

(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!

VEXX

To think ... your very own flesh and blood—

MORIA

(with a venomous hiss)

And he double-crosssssssed you—

EELS

His own sister—

(Ursula plots.)

HYDRA

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

KRAKEN

In the shadowy depths of a serpentine sea—

URSULA

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! Don't blow your fuses, ~~my~~ ...
darlings

(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.)

(URSULA)

It should've been mine ...

#6 - Daddy's Little Angel

Ursula, Flotsam, Jetsam

ALL mine ...

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 sea snakes ...

(a menacing purr)

The perfect gift for a spurned, dangerously unstable child.

MOST OF ALL, DADDY 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!

EELS

DADDY'S LITTLE ANGEL!
DADDY'S LITTLE SWEET!
SUCH A LITTLE FRILLY FEMME
SHE WAS SEAWEEED AND SPICE
AND EV'RYTHING NICE
AND I DREAMED
AND I SCHEMED
HOW TO PUT HER ON ICE!
DADDY'S LITTLE ANGEL -
HOW COULD I COMPETE

(URSULA)

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

EELS

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, EELS

NO, NO!

URSULA

IT WAS SAD

THOUGH, WHEN DAD

CAUGHT THAT RARE AND VERY LETHAL FLU

FLOTSAM

SO TRUE!

JETSAM

POOR YOU!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM, EELS

BOO HOO!

URSULA

WITH NO SISTERS IN THE LINE ABOVE ME

I INHERITED THE WHOLE ~~WATER~~ SHOW!

SOLO — WAS IT FUN?

OH, A TON!

SO MUCH FUN, I FORGOT

THAT MY DAD

ALSO HAD

AN ADDITIONAL TOT

SOLO — YES, A SON

(URSULA)

SOLO STILL AGE ONE
BUT I FIGURED, SO WHAT?
'TIL THAT SNOT-NOSED LITTLE BABY GREW

FLOTSAM, JETSAM, EELS

HE GREW

URSULA

AND GREW

FLOTSAM, JETSAM, EELS

AND GREW

ALL

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! — All

FLOTSAM

SWEET—

JETSAM

BUT RATHER WILD

ALL

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, JETSAM

DADDY'S LITTLE ANGEL!

EELS

DADDY'S LITTLE PET!

URSULA

DADDY'S LITTLE PRICELESS GEM!

SOLO

SO SASSY

SOLO

SO SMART

FLOTSAM, JETSAM, EELS

THE KEY TO HIS HEART

URSULA

RUIN HER

AS IT WERE

IT'LL RIP HIM APART!

ALL

YESSS!

ALL

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!

ALL

DADDY'S LITTLE ANGEL!

URSULA

YES, INDEEDY, I KNOW!

ALL

DADDY'S LITTLE ANGEL!

URSULA

TRUST ME, FELLAS, I KNOW!

ALL

LA LA LA LA LA LA

LA LA LA LA LA,

LA LA LA LA LA LA!

#6A - Daddy's Little Playoff

GLIZOX

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 Dad, 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.)

ARIEL

(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.)

(ARIEL)

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

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 EV'RYTHING?

LOOK AT THIS TROVE, TREASURES UNTOLD
HOW MANY WONDERS CAN ONE CAVERN HOLD?
LOOKING AROUND HERE, YOU'D THINK
SURE, SHE'S GOT EV'RYTHING

I'VE GOT GADGETS AND GIZMOS A-PLENTY
I'VE GOT WHO'S-ITS AND WHAT'S-ITS GALORE
YOU WANT THING-A-MABOBS? 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--
WHADDYA 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?

(ARIEL)

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 KNOW 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

Tell me, child. You got trouble in da mind?

ARIEL

(practically leaping out of her skin)

Sebastian!

SEBASTIAN

What is all this?

ARIEL

Er ... ah ... just a few knick-knacks I'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

Sailors

(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 toward 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!
HEAVE HO, HEAVE HO!
STOW THE MAINSAIL!
BATTEN THE HATCHES!

PRINCE ERIC

I don't want 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?

GRIMSBY

Our kingdom needs a queen!

PRINCE ERIC

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—

GRIMSBY

Swim, sire? Is that a prerequisite?

PRINCE ERIC

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.)

Cali

Well, whaddaya know—

ARIEL

~~Be~~ Be quiet! They'll hear you!

SCUTTLE

Oooh, I gotcha, I gotcha. We're being Intrepidacious.

(Ariel covers Scuttle's beak, as Prince Eric stares out to sea, over the heads.)

PRINCE ERIC

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

GRIMSBY

Perhaps you're not looking hard enough.

(A roll of low thunder. Ariel can't help but notice the dashing young man.)

ARIEL

I've never seen a human this close before.

Me neither!

Lilah, Maddie, Phoebe

ARIEL

I thought you were an expert.

SCUTTLE

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—

ARIEL

I dunno. I think he's really handsome.

FLOUNDER

(wounded)

You do?

PRINCE ERIC

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.)

SAILOR—*cruise*

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 atmospherical's goin' haywire!

ARIEL

Careful, Scuttle! Watch out!

(The wind blows Scuttle away and out of sight. Flounder dives to take cover below.)

SCUTTLE

Ariel!

SAILOR — Brecken

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.

SAILOR — TJ

Man overboard!

(The ship breaks apart and Prince Eric is swallowed up 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-AH-AH ...

(Beneath the water, Ariel rescues Prince Eric, guiding him back up, 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.)

#9 — Part of Your World (Reprise)

Ariel

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 ...

GRIMSBY

(offstage)

Ahoy! Somebody! Anybody!

SCUTTLE

On your way, kid ... before we're divulged!

(Reluctant to leave the Prince behind, Ariel panics. She wants some tiny vestige of him, some tidbit of proof that this encounter actually happened. Impulsively, she slides 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!

Ariel

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 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: MERSISTERS' "GIRL CAVE"

(The Mersisters are huddled in a circle, gossiping.)

#10 - *She's in Love*

Mersisters, Flounder

AQUATA

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

ANDRINA

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 AND 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! Do you notice anything weird about you-know-who?

FLOUNDER

You mean Ariel? I'll say!

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 / *Mersisters*

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

SHOOP, SHOOP
SHOOP, SHOOP
SHOOP, SHOOP
SHE LAYS THERE LIKE A LOX!
SHOOP, SHOOP
SHOOP, SHOOP

ALL

SHE HAS LOST HER HEAD!

FLOUNDER / *Mersisters*

AND SHE SIGHS, AND SHE SWOONS
AND SHE'S HUMMIN' LITTLE TUNES

AH ...
AH ...

ALL

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!

SEA CAST

FLOUNDER / MERISISTERS

SHE'S IN LOVE!

SHE'S IN LOVE!

SHE'S FLIPPED, IT NEVER FAILS!
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?

SEA CAST

FLOUNDER

SHE'S IN LOVE!

SHE'S IN LOVE!

SHE'S FOUND A DEEP-SEA HUNK!
AND NOW SHE'S AS 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-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

SEA CAST

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!

SEBASTIAN

(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?

(SEBASTIAN)

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 know 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

PRINCE ERIC

WHERE DID SHE GO?
WHERE CAN SHE BE?
WHEN WILL SHE COME AGAIN
CALLING TO ME?
CALLING TO ME ...
CALLING TO ME ...

SOMEWHERE THERE'S A GIRL
WHO'S LIKE THE SHIMMER OF THE WIND UPON THE WATER
SOMEWHERE THERE'S A GIRL
WHO'S LIKE THE GLIMMER OF THE SUNLIGHT ON THE SEA
SOMEWHERE THERE'S A GIRL
WHO'S LIKE A SWELL OF ENDLESS MUSIC
SOMEWHERE 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!

Pilot (Grimsby enters.)

PILOT

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?

PILOT

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

(PRINCE ERIC)

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 same 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

Sebastian, Sea Creatures

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

(Flounder and 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

SOLO

DOWN HERE ALL THE FISH IS HAPPY
AS OFF THROUGH THE WAVES DEY ROLL

SOLO

THE FISH ON THE LAND AIN'T HAPPY
THEY SAD 'CAUSE THEY IN THE BOWL

SOLO

BUT FISH IN THE BOWL IS LUCKY
THEY IN FOR A WORSE FATE

SOLO

FLOUNDER

ONE DAY WHEN THE BOSS GET HUNGRY

SEBASTIAN

GUESS WHO GON' BE ON THE PLATE!

BASS

UH OH

SEBASTIAN

UNDER THE SEA

SEA CREATURES

UNDER THE SEA

UNDER THE SEA

UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN

NOBODY BEAT US, FRY US, AND EAT US IN FRICASEE

SEA CREATURES

UNDER THE SEA

SOLO

WE WHAT THE LAND FOLKS LOVE TO COOK
UNDER THE SEA WE OFF THE HOOK
WE GOT NO TROUBLES, LIFE IS THE BUBBLES
UNDER THE SEA

SEA CREATURES

OOH
WHOA

SEA CREATURES

LIFE IS THE BUBBLES UNDER THE SEA
OH, UNDER THE SEA

SOLO

UNDER THE SEA
SINCE LIFE IS SWEET HERE
WE GOT THE BEAT HERE NATURALLY
EVEN THE STURGEON AN' THE RAY
THEY GET THE URGE 'N' START TO PLAY

SEA CREATURES

UNDER THE SEA
UNDER THE SEA
HEY!

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, THAT BLOWFISH BLOW!

(Dance break. High-spirited ad-libs.)

SEBASTIAN

AH, UNDER THE SEA
UNDER THE SEA
WHEN THE SARDINE
BEGIN THE BEGUINE
IT'S MUSIC TO ME!

SEA CREATURES

UNDER THE SEA
UNDER THE SEA
WHEN THE SARDINE
BEGIN -
IT'S MUSIC TO ME!

SEBASTIAN

WHAT DO THEY GOT

SEBASTIAN, SEA CREATURES

A LOT OF SAND?
WE GOT A HOT CRUSTACEAN BAND

SEBASTIAN

EACH LITTLE CLAM HERE KNOW HOW TO JAM HERE
EACH LITTLE SLUG HERE CUTTIN' A RUG HERE
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!

SEA CREATURES

UNDER THE SEA
UNDER THE SEA
OH ...
AH ...
UNDER ...
UNDER THE SEA!

#12A -- After "Under the Sea"

Sebastian, Sea Creatures

(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!
WHERE 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, SEBASTIAN

UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN

EACH LITTLE SLUG HERE
CUTTING A RUG HERE

SEA CREATURES, SEBASTIAN

UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN

WE GOT A HOT CRUSTACEAN BAND HERE

SEA CREATURES, SEBASTIAN

UNDER THE SEA

SEBASTIAN

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 CREATURES

OH ...

AH ...

(The sea creatures exit.)

SEBASTIAN

See child, that's what I'm talking about!

(glances about to discover that 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--

(KING TRITON)

(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 this in his own two hands.

KING TRITON

(offstage, enraged)

ARIEL - I

(When Ariel hears her father's voice piercing 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 --

ANDRINA

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 in 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)

Ariel

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

(ARIEL)

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 - I

(Ariel hears voices and realizes she isn't alone.)

#14 - Sweet Child

Flotsam, Jetsam

FLOTSAM

Poor child.

JETSAM

Poor, sweet child.

(Sure enough, Flotsam and Jetsam have come to her aid.)

SPIKE

She has a very serious problem, hasn't she?

SPIRA

Mmm. If only ...

... there were something ...

FLOTSAM, JETSAM

... we could do.

ARIEL

Who are you ~~men~~?

FLOTSAM, JETSAM

SWEET CHILD ...

EELS

POOR CHILD ...

FLOTSAM, JETSAM

SO TRAGIC!

EELS

SO MISUNDERSTOOD!

DEAR CHILD ... FLOTSAM, JETSAM

EELS

SAD CHILD ...

FLOTSAM

LIFE'S LOOKING--

JETSAM

SHALL WE SAY--

EELS

NOT GOOD?

FLOTSAM, JETSAM

No.

FLOTSAM

WHO WILL EASE HER WOES AND WORRIES?

JETSAM

WHO WILL HELP HER GET HER MAN?

FLOTSAM, JETSAM, EELS

SWEET CHILD

PERHAPS THE SEA WITCH CAN

ARIEL

You can't possibly mean ... Aunt Ursula?

SOLO

SHE KNOWS YOUR DREAMS ...

ARIEL

Father says her magic is evil!

SOLO

SHE'LL GRANT YOUR PRAYER ...

ARIEL

Please, I have to go--

SOLO

SHE'LL CAST A CHARM--

SOLO

A TINY SPELL--

SOLO

WHY THE ALARM?

SOLO

NO ONE'LL TELL—

SOLO

NO ONE WILL CARE!

SOLO

IT'S YOUR AFFAIR!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM EELS

SWEET CHILD!

FLOTSAM

DEAR CHILD!

JETSAM

POOR CHILD!

EELS

SAD CHILD!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM EELS

WE'LL BRING YOU TO HER LAIR RIGHT NOW!

BET IN HALF A SEC

YOUR PRINCE AND YOU ARE RECONCILED ...

FLOTSAM, EELS

Together ...

JETSAM EELS

Forever ...

ARIEL

(a torturous moment ... then relents)

Take me to her!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM EELS

SWEET CHILD!

(Flotsam and Jetsam usher Ariel toward Ursula's Lair, in the deepest recesses of the ocean floor.)

FLOUNDER

(offstage)

Hello! Ariel!

(Suddenly, Flounder appears. He's been trailing Ariel after all!)

(FLOUNDER)

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.)

BLAZE

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

ARIEL

(blanching)

I'm not so sure ...

ARIMNA

Now, now ... mustn't get cold fins ...

(Ursula appears. Ariel stares, agog.)

URSULA

Don't be shy, Ariel darling! It's me — your Auntie Ursula!

ARIEL

I shouldn't be here —

URSULA

Nonsense! We're family.

ARIEL

Father says you're wicked and hateful —

URSULA

Mmm, 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?

(URSULA)

(draws Ariel in closer)

Now tell dear old Auntie everything.

ARIEL

I'm in love with someone. A human.

URSULA

Mmm ... 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?

#15 — Poor Unfortunate Souls

Ursula

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 THAT 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 UNFORTUNATE SOULS
 IN PAIN, IN NEED

URSULA / EELS

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

URSULA / EELS

(URSULA)

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 a 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 the 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!

URSULA

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.

ARIEL

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 GOSSIPS 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

(URSULA)

YOU POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL. > **URSULA / EELS**
IT'S SAD, BUT TRUE
IF YOU WANT TO CROSS A BRIDGE, MY SWEET
YOU'VE GOT TO PAY THE TOLL
TAKE A GULP AND TAKE A BREATH
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, I'll never see my family again.

#15A - Act One Finale

Ursula, Ariel

(ARIEL)

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 up 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-AH-AH-AH ...

URSULA

Sing and keep singing!

ARIEL

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

(As Ariel's voice soars, Ursula traps it in her glowing shell.)

URSULA

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

(Ursula exits with the eels. Suddenly, Ariel starts to float toward 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.)

la, Ariel

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 in 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 enter and watch the encounter from the water.)

SCUTTLE

Well, look who got beached! Hmmm. There's something different. Don't tell me - I'll de-syphon it for myself. Aha! 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!

Jo

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!

Kallie

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 perambulating.

SEBASTIAN

She'll do no such thing—

Brooklyn

Lily

Sure she will. Come on now—upsie-daisy!

(Ariel shakes her head "no.")

Sadie

What's this? You givin' up so soon?

That's not like you!

Brook

#16 - Positivity

Scuttle, Gulls

(Three GULLS appear from behind the rocks. Flounder, in guppy mode, exits amid the commotion. Sebastian steps onto the sand. Scuttle addresses Ariel.)

(SCUTTLE)

Ya gotta have a little gumption—a "can-do" kinda attitude! Take it from a gull who knows ...

NOW LOOK AT ME—YA 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 LOTSA CONFIDENCE!
'CAUSE THOUGH I LACK AN AWFUL LOT
THERE IS ONE THING I GOT—

I GOT POSITOOVITY!
I GOT POSITOOVITY!
IT GIVES ME THE ZAM AND THE ZOW AND THE YODDA-LODDA-LODDLE
THAT'S WHY I WALK WITH A WIGGLE IN MY WADDLE!
'CAUSE ONCE YOU'VE HEARD THAT WORD
THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T DO!
SO LET THAT POSITOOVITY WORK FOR YOU!

Awwk!

SEBASTIAN

"Positoovity"? Why, there'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 'TIL YOUR WISH COMES TRUE
THE TIP IS TO TAP INTO SOMETHING THAT YOU BELIEVE

SOLO

- 1 — 'CAUSE WITH THE ZIG AND THE ZUG AND THE ZIZZERZEE
- 2 — THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T BE!
- 3 — YA SEE, IT'S REALLY YOUR PREROGITIVE

GULLS

AH ZIZZERZEE

ALL

YOU SIMPLY CAN'T THINK NOGGATIVE!

SOLO

- 1 THEN THERE'S YOU JUST SITTIN' THERE
SMACK DOWN FLAT UPON YOUR DERNIÈRE
- 2 IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANNA BE
WELL, YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE SHRUBBERY
- 3 SO STAND RIGHT UP, AND DUST YOUR SEAT
AND WALK REAL TALL UPON YOUR OWN TWO FEET
- 4 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 encouragement. "You go, gull!")

ALL

AND NOW YOU KNOW THAT WORD,
THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T DO!

SCUTTLE

SO GO GET SOME POSILICITY!
YOU CAN BET ON POSITRICITY!
AND JUST LET THAT POSITRINITY ...
No, positroonity ...
poositonomy?
Is it ... posit—
What is it?!

ALL

AWK!
AWK!
AWK! AWK! AWK! AWK!
AWK!
AWK!
AWK!
AWK! AWK! AWK!

ALL

(exasperated)

POSITOOVITY!

SCUTTLE, ALL

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 gulls)

Shoo, shoo.

(The gulls flap and scatter.)

Miss, are you all right?

#16A - On the Beach

(PRINCE ERIC)

You ... you seem very familiar. Have we met? Yes ... of course! I've been looking for you, everywhere! Please, you must tell me: 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 stands and tries to pantomime the truth — she's the one!)

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

(Suddenly, 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 ... you'll be fine. 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.)

AWK!

#16B - Positaggity

Scuttle, Gulls

SCUTTLE

Bravo, Ariel! Now that's what I call "reeling him in"!

(Sebastian, however, is mortified.)

SEBASTIAN

This is gonna get me in real hot water!

(Sebastian scampers off after Ariel and Prince Eric.)

Hadley

Rylan B

Can you believe that guy? What a crab!

SCUTTLE, GULLS

ONCE YOU KNOW THAT WORD
THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T DO!
AND THAT'S HOW POSITOOVITY ...
WORKS FOR YOU!

le, Gulls

SCENE TWO: KING TRITON'S COURT

(King Triton, flanked by trusty ^{Leeward/}Windward, Allana and Aquata, is apoplectic with worry.)

WINDWARD

Your Majesty!

KING TRITON

Have you found her?

LEEWARD

WINDWARD

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

KING TRITON

So keep looking until you do—!

LEEWARD

Yes, sire.

^{Leeward/}(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

(gets 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.)

MAID

#1 The poor child washed ashore, like kelp! #2 Perhaps it was a horrible shipwreck. #3 We'll never know the truth; she won't speak. #4 Not a single, solitary word. Do what you > HEAD MAID must to make her presentable; a scrub in the tub, a proper frock ...

(The maids duck behind a screen, where Ariel awaits them in a sumptuous, claw-footed tub, surrounded by bubbles. A maid inquires of Ariel.)

MAID

Getting your strength back, dearie?

MAID

#1 I can't help but wonder ... what must she be thinking? #2 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, Maids, Grimsby

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!

(ARIEL)

JUST SEEING IT FEELS SO GOOD
I'D SCREAM IF I ONLY COULD!

(As 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
SOMEWHERE BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS!

MAID :

LOOK AT HER THERE
LOOKING 'ROUND!
WON'T MAKE A SOUND

MAID :

JUST KEEPS ON GAWKING -

MAID :

WEIRD HOW SHE'S NOT TALKING!

(The two pairs of maids now switch positions.)

MAID .

LOOK AT HER STARE

MAID

LUCKY MISS!

MAID .

CHOSEN LIKE THIS
TO STAY FOR DINNER

MAID

WHAT DOES HE SEE IN HER?

HUSH NOW, GIRLS - SHE'S SIMPLY SHY!

MAIDS

Hmmph!

MAIDS

JUST PICTURE THE TABLE CHAT!

MAIDS

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 ...

(sees 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.)

PRINCE ERIC

Good evening.

#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.)

dies
quietl
come

SCENE FOUR: THE PALACE KITCHEN

(CHEF LOUIS, a culinary perfectionist, French to the core with an affinity for blades, orders CHEFS about as he prepares dinner.)

CHEF LOUIS

Attention, Attention! La 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

(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 THE BONES

AH MAIS OUI

ÇA C'EST TOUJOURS DELISH

LES POISSONS, LES POISSONS

HEE-HEE-HEE, HAW-HAW-HAW

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

THEN 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! Shh ...

(CHEF LOUIS)

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

#18A - 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 its 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 hand bell, and Chef Louis enters.)

#18B -- Les Poissons (Reprise)

Chef Louis, Chefs

SOLO

1 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

2 A DELECTABLE TREAT
ONE I'M SURE YOU'LL JUST LOVE

ALL ALLEZ, BON APPÉTIT!

(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 PATÉ!

CHEF 3

FISH FLAMBÉ!

CHEF 4

FISH TARTARE!

CHEF LOUIS

IT'S A FISH -- HOW YOU SAY? -- JAMBOREE!

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

TOSSSED IN THE BLENDER AND TENDERLY CREAMED!

CHEF LOUIS, CHEFS

DISH AFTER DISH LIKE YOU'D WISH TO HAVE DREAMED!

(Chefs present a giant serving cart.)

CHEF LOUIS

AND NOW FOR THE GRAND FINALE

LA PIÈCE DE RÉSISTANCE

A DELICACY, BY GOLLY

YOU WON'T FIND IN RESTAURANTS!

A TIDBIT TO TEASE YOUR TASTE BUDS

WITH THAT CERTAIN JE NE SAIS QUOIS

VOILÀ!

#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

(PRINCE ERIC)

A smile says just as much sometimes.

(Ariel smiles, reassured, even exuberant. Too giddy to contain it, she flexes up 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

(Ariel does a step of her own - she's getting the hang of it.)

SEE HOW MUCH A SINGLE GESTURE CAN REVEAL

AND EVERY LITTLE STEP

EVERY SINGLE STEP

IS ONE STEP CLOSER

TO SAYING WHAT YOU FEEL

(Prince Eric patiently teaches Ariel various formal dance steps.)

ALL

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.)

ERIC

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

ROUGH

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-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 palm of your hand! Now come, child, off to bed with you—

#19B - Back to Ursula's Lair

SCENE SEVEN: URSULA'S LAIR

(Ursula, 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, Flotsam, Jetsam

(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

THEN THE GIRL WILL BE MINE!

ONCE SHE'S HAD, THEN HER DAD

WILL BE CAUGHT ON MY LINE!

THEN A SPELL FROM THE SHELL

AND UP TO HEAVEN THEY'LL GO!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM

AH

AH

LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA

LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA!

tsan

#20A Before "Kiss the Girl"

SCENE EIGHT: THE BAY

(Prince Eric and Ariel are in a small dinghy, drifting in gentle waters. 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 toward the animals; creatures that inhabit both land and sea, like frogs, turtles, swans and otters. He enlists them as a calypso band.)

Percussion ...

#21 - Kiss the Girl

Sebastian, Animals

(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

YES, YOU WANT HER
LOOK AT HER, YOU KNOW YOU DO
POSSIBLE SHE WANTS YOU TOO
THERE IS ONE WAY TO ASK HER
IT DON'T TAKE A WORD
NOT A SINGLE WORD
GO ON AND KISS THE GIRL

Sing with me now:

SHA LA LA LA LA LA, MY OH MY
LOOK LIKE THE BOY TOO SHY
AIN'T GONNA 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
LOOK AT HER, YOU KNOW YOU DO
OOO ...
KISS THE GIRL, KISS THE GIRL
OH ...
NOT A SINGLE WORD

(YA YA, WO WO, HOO HOO, ETC.)

SEBASTIAN

SHA LA LA LA LA LA, 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!

ANIMALS

YOU WANNA KISS THE GIRL

PRINCE ERIC

... Ariel?

(Ariel shakes her head "yes.")

(PRINCE ERIC)

Ariel? Hey, that's kinda pretty. Okay - Ariel ...

SEBASTIAN, ANIMALS

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 LA LA LA LA LA, DON'T BE SCARED
YOU GOT THE MOOD PREPARED

SCUTTLE

GO ON AND KISS THE GIRL

AWK!

(Scuttle gets so carried away that he squawks loudly and almost breaks the mood.)

SHA LA LA LA LA LA, DON'T STOP NOW
DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT
HOW YOU WANT TO KISS THE GIRL

AWK!

SHA LA LA LA LA LA, FLOAT ALONG
AND LISTEN TO THE SONG
THE SONG SAY KISS THE GIRL
SHA LA LA LA LA LA, MUSIC PLAY
DO WHAT THE MUSIC SAY
YOU GOTTA KISS THE GIRL
YOU'VE GOTTA KISS THE GIRL
YOU WANNA KISS THE GIRL
YOU'VE GOTTA KISS THE GIRL
GO ON AND KISS THE GIRL!

(The song has worked its magic. At long last, Prince Eric leans in to plant a memorable kiss on Ariel's lips. She arches her back, ready.)

URSULA

(offstage)

Quickly! Block that kiss!

(Flotsam zaps 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 enters 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?

FLOUNDER

(chiming in, unable to stop truth-telling)

These two eels came and they took her straight to Ursula, and she traded 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 settled things with her once and for all.

(King Triton, Sebastian and Flounder exit.)

**SCENE TEN: ARIEL'S CHAMBERS / THE SHIP /
KING TRITON'S COURT****#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, Eric, Sebastian, Triton

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

(ARIEL)

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 ACHIE BEHIND 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 her. Tomorrow, the Prince will have his pick of any princess in the land! How can a little mermaid compete with that?

(SEBASTIAN)

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'D 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!

SEBASTIAN

OH!

ARIEL

THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE DAY UNTIL I HAVE TO GO!

PRINCE ERIC

IF ONLY ...

KING TRITON, SEBASTIAN, ARIEL

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**#23A - 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.)

#24 - The Contest**Princesses****PILOT**

WELCOME, DEAR FRIENDS, TO OUR CONTEST -
THE FIRST THAT THIS KINGDOM HAS EVER SEEN!
WE GATHER TODAY FOR A VOCAL DISPLAY
SO OUR PRINCE MAY AT LAST CHOOSE A QUEEN!

These six princesses possess the most accomplished voices in all the land!

(to the princesses)

GRIMSBY

Tonight, one of you will go home with the crown! May the best woman win!

(One by one, the princesses step forward to sing.)

PRINCESS 5

(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 EV'RYTHING?

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 a huff.)

PRINCESS 4

WOULDN'T YOU THINK I'M THE GIRL
THE GIRL WHO HAS EV'RYTHING?

(belt)

EV'RYTHING!

(head voice)

EV'RYTHING ...

(Another look from Prince Eric; another pounding from Grimsby.)

PRINCESS 6

I'M A WORLD-FAMOUS COLORATURA!

(She sings an operatic riff. Another veto; another pounding.)

PRINCESS 1

MY VIBRATO IS SECOND TO NONE!

(Another veto; another pounding.)

PRINCESS 3

(dances exuberantly)

I'M A WALKING DISPLAY OF BRAVURA!

(Prince Eric just makes a face. She won't do, either. Another pounding.)

PRINCESSES

IT'S SO CLEAR ...
CAN'T YOU HEAR?

PRINCESS 6

I'M THE ONE!

PRINCESS 1

I'M THE ONE!

PRINCESS 5

I'M THE ONE!

PRINCESSES 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

(re: Princess 2)

But her father rules all Prussia.

(re: Princess 4)

She's richer than Midas!

(re: Princess 1)

She's one of triplets, but they're willing to break up the set!

PRINCE ERIC

No, Grim!

GRIMSBY

You'll be the death of me, boy! What am I to do? The sun has nearly set. Soon, your birthday will 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

Ursula

PRINCE ERIC

Ariel?

GRIMSBY

For heaven's sake, child—you mustn't.

PRINCE ERIC

Shh! 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 very dance steps he taught her two nights before. 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 to 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-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

(offstage)

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

(But, looking at Ariel, Prince Eric has new found resolve.)

PRINCE ERIC

(to Grimsby)

Tell her that the competition is over. Tell her she'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 a 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 the mighty sweep of two mammoth tentacles, Ursula wipes the ball guests away and grabs for Ariel and Prince Eric to help.)

Grimsby tries

GRIMSBY

Eric!

PRINCE ERIC

Ariel!

(Prince Eric rushes to save Ariel but the tentacles throw him aside and drag Ariel away.)

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

(A school of silver fish swim by. They scatter as Ariel is dragged down by Jetsam.)

URSULA

(offstage)

Say good-bye to your Prince! Your pretty dress! Your satin pumps! You're mine now, mermaid!

VEXX

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

HYDRA

--plucking the barnacles off of her back!

#26 -- Poor Unfortunate Souls (Reprise)

Ursula

(Ursula enters. King Triton follows her, furious.)

KING TRITON

Ursula!

URSULA

Brother darling! You're right on cue!

KING TRITON

What have you done with 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!

IT SO HAPPENS THAT YOUR DAUGHTER SIGNED A CONTRACT

(Jetsam swims forward with the contract.)

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 SOMETHING WE COULD TRY

KING TRITON

Go on.

URSULA

Yes ...

PERHAPS WE COULD ARRANGE A SORT OF TRADEOFF
MAYBE SWAP YOUR DAUGHTER'S SOUL FOR, SAY, YOUR OWN

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.*)

URSULA

Finally! The oceans belong to me!

AND NOW YOU POOR UNFORTUNATE SOUL!
TIME'S UP! YOU'RE THROUGH!

(*The eels imprison King Triton.*)

Ursul

(URSULA)

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

(Ursula cackles. In that very moment, Ariel swims past her, grabbing the magic shell.)

FLOTSAM

Egads, look out!

JETSAM

She's got the shell!

VOICE

AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH

(Ursula turns and sees Ariel holding her most prized possession, which now releases the mermaid's voice.)

URSULA

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

ARIEL

My voice ...

(touching a hand to her throat)

The spell is broken!

URSULA

Give me back my shell.

ARIEL

(raising the shell over her head)

If it breaks, you die--

URSULA

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

KING TRITON

Lies? What lies—?

URSULA

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

ARIEL

(biting her lip)

Beautiful. Beautiful beyond compare ...

URSULA

He'd 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 kill 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 off stage to destroy it. Ursula vaporizes in a cloud of hot, steamy ink, scattering her tentacles. Ariel snatches the trident from one of them.)

URSULA

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaagggggggggggggghhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

FLOTSAM, JETSAM

Ursula!

EELS

No!

(King Triton rises from his imprisonment.)

KING TRITON

Ariel!

ARIEL

Daddy!

(Ariel swims to King Triton and returns his magic trident, which glows in the hands of its rightful owner.)

#26B - Ariel's Transformation

(ARIEL)

Can you ever forgive me? I've caused you such terrible worry, thinking only of myself, not you, not my sisters, not this place -- the only place I've ever truly called my home --

KING TRITON

(silencing her)

I'm the one who's at fault, Ariel. Cursing humans, when all along --

ARIEL

There's goodness in people, Daddy. I know. I've seen it.

KING TRITON

Even when I couldn't. I'm proud of you, Ariel. Your mother would have been, too.

(and then, heartfelt)

Somehow, in the blink of an eye, when my back was turned, you grew up.

(King Triton embraces Ariel tightly as Flounder and Sebastian appear. Ariel still can't help gazing wistfully up toward the surface. King Triton can't help but notice.)

You love him very much, don't you?

(Ariel nods.)

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*

Triton, Ariel, Ensemble, Eric

(Prince Eric bounds in, followed by Grimsby.) **pilot**

PRINCE ERIC

Tomorrow at sunrise, we search again.

PILOT

But Your Majesty, she's lost.

PRINCE ERIC

I won't rest until I've found her.

PILOT

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,

(PRINCE ERIC)

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 by 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.

(KING TRITON)

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 "superstitions" — eh, Grim?

GRIMSBY

(incredulous)

So that's truly the King of the 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!

PRINCE ERIC, ARIEL

STARTING LIFE COMPLETELY READY!

ENSEMBLE

AND NOW THEY CAN BE WHO THEY'RE MEANT TO BE
NOW THEY CAN GAZE ON A NEW HORIZON
HERE BETWEEN OCEAN AND SKY
FOREVER AND ON!

(Chef Louis enters with a cake.)

NOW THEY CAN WALK
NOW THEY CAN RUN
NOW THAT AT LAST THEIR STORY'S BEGUN!

PRINCE ERIC

JUST YOU AND ME ...

ARIEL

AND I WILL BE ...

ALL

PART OF YOUR WORLD!
AH!

(CURTAIN. END OF PLAY.)

#28 - Bows

#29 - Exit Music