

A Wayne Scott • LifeHouse Production



An Original Adaptation with
Script, Music & Lyrics by
WAYNE ROBERT SCOTT

Additional Music & Lyrics by
TED EWING, DUSTIN CEITHAMER & WAYNE SCOTT

“As I Considered the Rose” a poem by
Taylor Joseph

*Inspired by the 18th Century Classic Fairy Tale
by Marie Leprince de Beaumont*

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance)

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| The Courier, Pierre | Faithful Messenger |
| Wise Old Villager | Teller of Tales |
| The Hag/Enchantress | Discerning and Wise |
| The Prince | Prideful and Selfish |
| Rose | The Beauty |
| Ivy | |
| Iris | Rose's Nasty Sisters |
| Father | Kindly Merchant |
| Mrs. Peer | Oval Magic Mirror |
| (May be Ms. or Mr.) Bristle | A Snappy Broom |
| Madame Buffet | A Jolly Stove |
| Chester Drawers | Stuffy Bureau |
| The Beast | Yeans for Redemption |

Villagers and Merchants, (Wolves, optional)

Additional Enchanted Objects

“BEAUTY AND THE BEAST”

By Wayne R. Scott

“Love Everlasting” by Ted Ewing and W. R. Scott

“Beauty in the Beast”

“Rose’s Choice”

“How We Long to be Human” by Dustin Ceithamer and W. R. Scott

SYNOPSIS OF SONGS

ACT I

Overture

1. “Ballad of the Beast” Courier, Enchantress, Prince and Villagers
2. “Father, Daughter” Father, Rose, Sisters
3. “Once Upon a Time in France” Father, Ivy, Iris, Rose, Merchants
“Father, Daughter” (Reprise) Father, Rose
“Once Upon a Time in France” (Reprise) Merchants
“Ballad of the Beast” (Reprise) Courier
4. “Dazzle the Castle” Enchanted Objects, Father
5. “We Live to Serve” Enchanted Objects, Father
“Ballad of the Beast” (Reprise) Beast
6. “How We Long to be Human” Enchanted Objects
“Once Upon a Time in France” (Reprise) Ivy, Iris
7. “Beast’s Lament” Beast

ACT II

Entr’acte

- “Once Upon a Dream” (“Once Upon a Time in France” Reprise) Beast, Rose, Prince
8. “We’re the Ones Who Really Run the Castle” Enchanted Objects, Rose
“We Live to Serve” (Reprise) Madame Buffet, Enchanted Objects
9. “Rose’s Choice” Rose
10. “Être Amoureux” (“To Be in Love”) Madame Buffet, Enchanted Objects
“Once Upon a Dream” (Reprise) Beast, Rose
11. “Love Everlasting” Enchanted Objects
“Beast’s Lament” (Reprise) Beast
“Once Upon a Dream” (Reprise) Beast
12. “Beauty in the Beast” Rose
Finale: “Être Amoureux” (Reprise) Cast Ensemble
“Love Everlasting” (Reprise) Cast Ensemble

“BEAUTY AND THE BEAST” CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

- Rose** (16-20's) The “Beauty.” She is selfless and sincere. Must make a choice to seek out inner beauty and look past the Beast.
- Beast** (20-40) A frightening creature whose scornful heart has brought him fangs and claws, turning him into the Beast.
- Father** (35-60) Kindly old merchant and father to Rose, Ivy & Iris.
- Ivy** (20-30) Jealous sister who envies the attentions her father gives her younger sister Rose.
- Iris** (20-30) Jealous sister who envies the attentions her father gives her younger sister Rose.
- Enchantress/Hag** (20-40) Discerning and wise woman who decides to teach a young foolish man a lesson.
- The Prince/
E. Object 10** (20-30) Prideful and selfish young man who is eventually restored to his normal self by true love.
- The Courier/Pierre/
E. Object 9** (20-35) Faithful messenger and teller of tales.
- Wise Old Villager/
E. Object 8** (30-50) Teller of tales.
- Mrs. Peer** (30-50) Wise old advisor to the Beast and general busybody.
- Chester Drawers** (30-60) Officious stuffy headed butler on the outside, kind and sensitive teddy-bear on the inside. Fiercely loyal to the Beast.
- Mr. Bristle** (20-40) Bubbly, frenetic and full of charisma and charm. The entertainer, the showman, always on.
- Madam Buffet** (20-40) A jolly stove with a penchant for romance.
- Dusty Pan** (10-16) Nephew of Mr. Bristle
- Villager A/Merchant/ Enchanted Object 1**

Villager B/Merchant/Enchanted Object 2

Villager C/Merchant/Enchanted Object 3

Villager D/Merchant/Enchanted Object 4

Villager E/Merchant/Enchanted Object 4

Villager F/Merchant/Enchanted Object 5

Villager G/Merchant/Enchanted Object 7

Dance Captain/Beauty Ballerina

Swing 1

Swing 2

LifeHance

T.H.E.A.T.E.R

“Beauty and the Beast”

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ACT I

Overture

PROLOGUE/SCENE 1: THE FOREST

(At the conclusion of the overture, the music transitions to a foreboding theme as The Courier runs excitedly from back of audience toward a small gathering of villagers somewhat shrouded on stage by fog.)

Courier *(Spoken over song introduction)* Help! Help me! I saw it! It's after me! I tell you - I'm being hunted down! It's true! The stories are all true! It's the Beast!

SONG: “BALLAD OF THE BEAST”

Courier Frightening and horrible and devilish and
Tracherous and dangerous and monstrous—
Beware! He's there! He's there!—
He's there! He's there! You'd better beware— !
There is a monster loose— a raging beast!
He hunted me so I could be his feast
He tracked me from the east
This wretched beast—

Villagers Foul beast!
I tell you, there's no peace with such a beast!

Villagers Foul beast!
Courier A beast!
Villagers Foul beast!

Frightening and horrible and devilish and
Tracherous and dangerous and monstrous—
Beware! He's there! He's there!—
He's there! He's there! You'd better beware— !

Villager B This courier looks like he's had a drink!
Villager C Can this be true?
W.O.V. I'll tell you what I think—
The legend will not cease— there is a beast!

Villagers Foul beast!
W.O.V. A beast!
Villagers Foul beast!
(Musical vamp)

W.O.V. *(Spoken)* Gather 'round now one and all— and hear the amazing legend of this enchanted forest!
(Song resumes; the scene described is acted out)

W.O.V. On a dark winter night once so long, long ago
Was a traveler so weary, so hungry and cold
And she came to the door of a castle of stone
And she knocked to inquire if someone was home
And she knocked to inquire if someone was home
Villagers The woman was aging— the winter was raging—
(Refrain)

The castle engaging might shelter her there.

W.O.V.

Now the Lord of the castle, a young Prince of wealth
Came to answer the door, yes, he answered himself
He was offered a rose in exchange for a bed
But the Prince only laughed and refused her instead
But the Prince only laughed and refused her instead;
The woman was aging— the winter was raging—
The castle engaging might shelter her there.

Villagers

(Refrain)

W.O.V.

So the woman had tested this Prince most unwise
And she found no compassion or love in his eyes
She revealed to the Prince what his heart could not see:
Not everything is— what we think it may be
She was an enchantress who came to test me—
Your heart cannot see!

Prince *(Voice of Beast)*
Enchantress

Because appearance is what you hold true—
Then let the world now see the real you!
The handsome Prince will cease: You'll be a beast!

Villagers

Enchantress

Villagers

Prince *(Voice of Beast)*

Foul beast!
A beast!
Foul beast! Foul beast! A monstrous beast— !
With contempt I judged by what I saw
My scornful heart has brought me fangs and claws
The handsome Prince has ceased—

Enchantress

Prince *(Voice of Beast)*

Villagers

Prince *(Voice of Beast)*

Villagers

I am a beast!
Foul beast!
A beast!
Foul beast!

Enchantress

Now this rose is enchanted, it marks all your days
'Til the time when perhaps you'll amend all your ways
And from this day 'til then, you'll be feared by all men
And only true love will restore you again—
And only true love makes a beast whole again!

Villagers

(Musical interlude)

Enchantress

(Spoken to Prince over interlude) You must love and be loved by another if you ever hope to shed
this hideous outward appearance of your inner self....this beast!

W.O.V. *(Refrain)*

It may all sound absurd but

I give you my word that

This legend you've heard is precisely the truth—

All

So beware when you're walking the forest by night
For a beast may be stalking and give you a fright
If you see him, then run just as fast as you please
Or you may be eaten— by one hungry beast!
Frightening and horrible and devilish and
Tracherous and dangerous and monstrous—
Beware!— He's there!— Beware!— He's there!
Beware!— He's there!— (Beware!— He's there!...*fades out*)
(Music continues and segues to next song)

SCENE 2: THE COTTAGE

Rose *(Awakening with a start)* Oh! Help! Help me! Someone please—!
Ivy *(Running in)* Oh, here she goes again!
Iris *(Entering)* Don't tell me— Rose is having another one of those dreams.
Ivy Yup! Come on sis— Rose! Snap out of it.
Rose Oh— good morning, Ivy. Hello Iris. Er— I must have been dreaming.
Iris Big surprise! Let me guess— a gorilla chased you to the moon!
Rose Come to think of it— it was kind of scary...mysterious...haunting. There was something about a young man— a Prince, I think. And— er— a monster.
Ivy Hoo, ha, ha! This is too much! Ha, ha, ha!
Iris Hee, hee! Oh, Rose! Stop, you're killing us! Ha, ha!
Father *(Entering)* What's all the fuss? Giving your sister a hard time again?
Ivy Oh, Father! Ha, ha! Rose is turning into a dreaming crackpot! Ha, ha!
Iris This time she hit the crackpot jackpot! Ha, ha!
Father Well, it's no wonder with all the hard work she does around here.
(Ivy and Iris suddenly stop cackling; to Rose)
Father Good morning my sleepyhead.
Rose Good morning, Father....

SONG: "FATHER, DAUGHTER"

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|--|
| Rose | | Father— |
| Father | | Daughter— what are you dreaming? |
| Rose | | Father— |
| Father | | Daughter— what can it be? |
| Rose | | I saw something awful, foreboding, and grim |
| | | I dreamt of a Prince— oh, I wonder what became of him? |
| | | Father— |
| Father | | Daughter— |
| Rose | | I can't remember— Father— |
| Father | | Daughter— |
| Rose | <i>(Putting on apron)</i> | It's all so strange— |
| | | Such dreams of danger get stranger and bizarre |
| Father | | Oh, what a dreamer! |
| Sisters | <i>(Exiting)</i> | She's just a schemer! |
| Father | | Oh, what a pleasure and a treasure you are |
| | | You often dream of adventures afar |
| | | From Timbuktu, China, to Zanzibar |
| Rose | | And though in these matters I chatter away |
| | | You listen with patience to all that I say. |
| Father | | Why should I not? You're my pride and my joy— |
| | | Despite all my hopes that you'd be a boy! |
| Rose | | You're such a tease and a conspirator— |
| Father | | And that, my dear daughter's, what fathers are for! |
| | | Daughter— <i>(He checks to see they are alone)</i> |
| Rose | | Father— |
| Father | | You're like no other— Daughter— |
| Rose | | Father— |
| Father | <i>(Hugging her)</i> | Sweet as your name— |
| | | As rare as a rose in December to me |
| | | And as lovely and fragrant as roses tend to be |
| | | Daughter— |
| Rose | | Father— |
| Father | | Eyes of your mother— Daughter— |
| Rose | | Father— |
| Father | | Beauty you are— |
| | | Follow your dreams— whether near or whether far— |
| | | My prayers are there where you are |
| Rose | | Father— |

Father Daughter—
Rose How can I thank you?
Father Daughter—
Rose Father—
Father Be all you are—
Follow your dreams— whether near or whether far—
Both My prayers are there where— you— are
(Music continues and segues to next song)

Father I love all my daughters. But I have the most hope for you, Rose. You have hopes—
and dreams for your life. And while things are not always what they appear to be, search your heart
and keep dreaming. Dreams are worth dreaming. When they come from above, you must follow
them. And as you do, all the hopes and dreams of a Father go with you. *(He kisses her forehead)*
Ahh. *(Examining pocket watch)* I almost forgot. I see it's almost time to go to the village.
Let's be on our way, shall we?

Rose Father —
Father Yes, Rose.
Rose I love you....
Father I love you too.

*(As next song begins, Rose, Father, Ivy and Iris “travel”
audience back to main stage, where they then greet
through
merchants)*

SCENE 3: (A SQUARE IN) THE FOREST

SONG: “ONCE UPON A TIME IN FRANCE”

Enchantress Once upon a time, in a village far away
(Merchants bring on carts with wares) Once upon a time, on a sunny, adventurous day
Once upon a time, as this family went their way
Everyone there had come to the square
The merchandise to compare
Father Greetings, my friends, we've money to spend
So what is on sale today?
Crowd Try our milk and bread —
And our cheese is made to spread
'Round the boulevard is the finest caviar
And since this is France— you are sure to find romance
The cuisine is fine, so go wine and dine
And shop while you have the time
(Musical “oom-pah” interlude)
Merchant A I am selling fancy pants— best you'll find in all of France
And for all aristocrats, lovely hats, fancy that!
Merchant B And we have all the latest in shoes
You'll look fine in whatever you choose
Merchant A You'll look suave! And you'll look so chic!
We're so glad that you found our boutique!
Merchant B And we're fair— just you dare compare
We can match any price in the square!
Crowd Try a little French cologne— and you'll never be alone
All the single men in view, rendezvous, wanting you!
Here are some clothes that you simply must buy
Try an imported scarf from Versailles
Oh, oui, oui! What a potpourri!
Oooh, la, la! There is so much to see!
Sisters Oh, oui, oui! What a shopping spree!

Ivy And I'll take that purse—
Iris No, me!
Ivy (*Tugging*) I want that purse!
Iris (*Tugging*) I saw it first!
Ivy You are the worst— you rat!
Iris And don't think that you'll get away with my hat!
Ivy I want that vest!
Iris Give me that dress!
Father What's all the stress?
Sisters Confess!
Iris That Ivy!
Ivy That Iris!
Sisters She's started all this mess!
Father But Rose, I fear, it does appear
You have no souvenirs—
We can well afford some, so gorge some, my dear
Rose I don't lament your sweet intent
But I am quite content
To be with my family means more than what is spent.
Father You have such uncommonly good common sense!
(*Musical interlude*)

Father (*Spoken*) I see some of my merchants are low on supplies, so I'd better be leaving now to
pick up our shipments. Rose— will you look after your sisters?
Rose Of course, Father. (*Seeing sisters fighting*) Er— I'll certainly try....

Merchants Oh, what a square extraordinaire, a debonair affair
For shopping there's nothing that ever compares
Now place your bets for who will get the very best new dress
Poor Ivy and Iris have made quite a mess!—
Father Well, I'm very sad to say— I must now be on my way
I have many things to check and inspect far away
Merchandise from my ships have sailed in
And I must go and meet all my men
So take care— and please say a prayer
That I go safely there.
(*Music continues and segues to next song*)

Rose I'll be praying for you Papa!
Ivy Oh, Father! You're always leaving us on business!
Iris We haven't finished our shopping!
Ivy If you have to go, won't you at least bring us some presents?
Iris Oh yes! We can always use some more pearl necklaces, right Ivy?
Ivy Well, Iris may want pearls— but I want rubies and emeralds because someday I may have to the
King
and Queen.
Iris Oh, Ivy! You're a worse dreamer than Rose. You'll never meet the King and Queen.
(*Rose, standing between sisters, watches the following like a tennis match*)
Ivy Will too!
Iris Will not!
Ivy Will too!
Ivy Will not!
Ivy Will too!
Iris Will not!
(*Rose shakes head, as if dizzy*)
Father Ladies, please. Rose— you haven't told me what's on your list. A Prince perhaps?
Rose Oh, Father. You have given us everything we could ever want. The only thing I could possibly
hope for is— your safe return.

Ivy Well, of course he's going to return safely. He always does. *(Aside, to Iris)* Little Miss Goody Gum Drops—

Father Rose, are you certain I can't bring you back something?

Rose Well— if you must— bring me— a rose. They're so rare around here – and so beautiful.

Father Your namesake. I will indeed, my dear.

Ivy *(Aside, to Iris)* I think I'm going to gag! Well, Iris and I better get back to our shopping. Have a good trip, Father.

Iris Au revoir. See you soon!

(Both begin exiting)

Ivy Don't forget our presents. *(Aside, to Iris)* A rose! Can you believe that?!

(Iris cackles with Ivy)

SONG: “FATHER, DAUGHTER” (Reprise)

Father Daughter —

Rose Father —

Father You're like no other— Daughter —

Rose Father —

Father Sweet as your name —
As rare as a rose in December to me
And as lovely and fragrant as roses tend to be—

Rose Father —

Father Daughter —

Rose Come back home safely —

Father Daughter —

Rose Father —

Father Beauty you are —
Follow your dreams— whether near or whether far—
My prayers are there where— you— are

Both *(Father hugs Rose and exits)*
(Song segues to)

SONG: “ONCE UPON A TIME IN FRANCE” (Reprise)

Enchantress *(Narrating)* Once upon a time, in a forest far away
Once upon a time, was a father who traveled for days
Once upon a time as this merchant went his way
So unaware that danger was there
So much to beware—
(Music becomes foreboding)
Out there— Beware!— Beware!— Beware!—
(Music transitions to haunting “Ballad of the Beast” underscore)

SCENE 4: THE FOREST

Courier *(Frantically entering from audience, meeting Father head on)*
Master! Master...

Father Pierre! My courier! Is there some mistake? I thought I was coming to meet you and our men.

Courier There are no men, Monsieur.

Father No men? I don't understand.

Courier I was trying to save you the trip. I have bad news....

SONG: “BALLAD OF THE BEAST” (Reprise)

Courier The ships you're expecting had not come to port

They have met with disaster of every sort
Not a thing has gone well; all the men went through hell
And I am the only— survivor to tell

(Refrain)

I am sorry, dear Master, to tell of disaster
The storms were much faster than we could expect
Seven ships have been wrecked or been lost out at sea
And the rest have been looted by pirates and thieves
Many men have been killed; so much blood has been spilled
And all you have left— are these debts and these bills
(Musical interlude)

Courier *(Spoken)* I am so sorry, Monsieur. There is nothing left. Nothing.
Father *(Spoken, slowly)* I am glad you are all right.
Courier I wish I could help you. But now— I need work, I have a family.
Father You have been a faithful employee. I wish you Godspeed.
Courier Sir....

(Song resumes)

Courier These woods are alive with enchantment and spells
And I am told that nearby there's a monster who dwells
Yes, I saw it myself as it hunted me down—
Be careful, Monsieur— as you travel to town—
Beware of this fiend— yes, this Beast is renowned!
(Music continues)

(Courier exits)

(Father mulls over events. The forest darkens. Fog rolls in)

Father Oh dear. My men have all died. My ships have been wrecked or looted. My merchandise is lost.
My company is ruined. I am impoverished. Destitute. And a beast may be after me....not one of
my better days. But I still have my family. And God has not left me. He's up to something.

(Cue "wolf" sound effects as fiery "eyes" and/or shadows of "wolves" appear)

My ways are not His ways— and things are not always as they seem. Hmmm. That's funny. I was
just telling Rose that this morning. Things are not always as they appear to be. I hope that's
true....because....right now....I appear to be....stalked by wolves! Ahhh!....

(The music crescendos)

That castle! It's my only hope! *(Father runs off)*

(Music builds to climax. Musical segue to next scene and song)

SCENE 5: THE CASTLE OF THE BEAST

Mrs. Peer *(Running and trying to see image on herself)* Oh, for heaven's sake! Am I the only one who can
see anything around here? Quick, everyone! Someone's coming!

Bristle What's all the commotion about, Mrs. Peer?

Mrs. Peer Bristle! It's about time somebody stirred around here! Now look at me!
What do you see?...Well!?

Bristle Er— Well, I see a tall, oval shaped, kinda grouchy, looking glass of enormous—

Mrs. Peer Not me, broom brain! Look in my magic mirror!

Bristle Oh my!

Bristle It looks like someone is running towards the castle!

Mrs. Peer That's what I thought!

Madame Buffet *(Entering with excitement)* Oooh, la, la! A visitor to the castle, oui? Time to light my fire!

Chester *(Entering with agitation)* Who called this meeting!? What's going on?! A mutiny, eh? I'm in
charge here!

Bristle *(Aside, to audience)* That's what he thinks!
Chester I heard that, Bristle! Mrs. Peer! Madame Buffet! Explain yourselves!
Mrs. Peer It appears someone is running towards the castle.
Chester What!? Why wasn't I notified!? There's not a moment to lose! Let's hope this sojourner is friendly— and assuming he is— the Master may want to meet him. Who knows? Our guest may have daughters— or nieces— or sisters— all of the female persuasion! One of them may hold the key to breaking this confounded spell!
Mrs. Peer Well, I certainly hope so.

SONG: “DAZZLE THE CASTLE”

Mrs. Peer Someone is coming, dear! And he will soon appear!
Madame Buffet This is our cue to help you-know-who
Chester So take your places, everyone! We've got a home to run!
Bristle Any job well begun is just as good as done—
All *(Other objects may enter)* Let's put a shine on the floors tonight
Polish the silver and make it bright
To sum it all up, clean whatever's in sight!
Let's dazzle the castle tonight! That's right!
Let's dazzle the castle tonight!

We have been blessed with a guest at last
Break out Le Broom, clean the room— and fast
No time to dawdle— it's time to delight—
Let's dazzle the castle tonight! That's right!
Let's dazzle the castle tonight!

Madame Buffet I'll cook cuisine like you've never seen!
Mrs. Peer I'll pour Chablis fit for royalty!
Chester I'll maitre d' just the way it should be!
All Let's dazzle the castle tonight! That's right!
Let's dazzle the castle tonight!
(Musical interlude)

Let's set a table a king would like
Let's dress it up with some candlelight
Roll out a welcome that's sure to excite
Let's dazzle the castle tonight! That's right!
Let's dazzle the castle tonight!
(Musical interlude)

Father *(Spoken; Entering frantically)* Help! Wolves! Somebody help!
Madame Buffet *(Spoken)* We've got to help the poor monsieur!
Chester *(Spoken)* We'll show those wolves who's in charge here!

All Welcome, Monsieur, we're so glad you dropped by
But you brought wolves and we're wondering why!
Oh, well! We're here to serve you no matter what!
We're gonna get the wolves and kick 'em in their fat, little butts!
By now you must be thinking that we're all a little bit nuts!
The truth is we've been in a rut!
But we're excited and delighted that you came to be here
We hope to treat you well and then compel a warm atmosphere
Although you're bound to see that maitre d's a pain-in-the-rear!
We're happy to welcome you here!
Mrs. Peer Yes, dear!
All We're happy to welcome you here!

(Tap dance)

Mrs. Peer Now just step right in, don't be fearful—
Bristle The wolves are gone, so be cheerful—
Madame Buffet Put your feet right up and relax
Chester Now it's time to get down to brass tacks
Would you be so kind to give peace of mind:
Are you here to fight or attack?

Father (*Spoken over music*) Heavens no!
All Then there is no need to be nervous!
Madame Buffet Just enjoy the meal and the service!
All Welcome here to our hall—
We're so glad you happen to call— !

We have been blessed with a guest tonight
We're here to pamper and treat you right
We aim to please and to always delight
Let's dazzle the castle tonight— —!

(*Chorus line*) We have been blessed with a guest tonight
It's been so long we must sing a song
We aim to please and to always delight— —
Let's dazzle the castle— Let's dazzle the castle—
Let's dazzle the castle tonight! That's right!
Let's dazzle the castle— Let's dazzle the castle—
Let's dazzle the castle— tonight —!
(*Music continues cheerful underscore:*)

Father (*Applauding*) Bravo! Bravo!...My, what wonderful service here! And I owe
you my life.
Madame Buffet Not at all, Monsieur. All part of le service!
Chester What brought you here?
Father Wolves.
Chester Well— er— yes— we saw that.
Father I'm afraid I'm lost.
Mrs. Peer That's what usually brings people here. Every couple of years or so. But where are
our manners? I am Mrs. Peer. This is Bristle.
Bristle (*Melodramatic*) He-l-l-l-o-o!
Mrs. Peer And the cuisine is courtesy of our own Madame Buffet.
Madame Buffet Bonsoir, Monsieur! Welcome. And bon appétit!
Chester Ahem! Ahem!
Mrs. Peer Oh yes....
Chester I am Mr. Drawers...Chester Drawers. At your service.
Father I'm pleased to meet you....although you're....all....a little....er—
All Objects Odd?!

Father Er— yes. That's it.
Bristle That's all right. We understand.
Chester I'm afraid that we— er— that is— well, the castle— er— once long ago—well— er—
Mrs. Peer Oh for heavens sake, Chester! The castle is enchanted! We're under a magic spell!
Father Enchanted....
Bristle Well,— er— ah— it's the reason we're all the way we are— instead of— human— (*Sadly*) — the
way we used to be.
Chester Well now, what did you tell him about all that for?! We can't discuss our situation with just any
Jean, Claude, or Pierre that happens by! You might as well has said that Beast lives here— er—
Father Beast?!

(*Music turns ominous, then fades out*)

Chester Ooops. Beast? Er— feast! That's what I meant! Feast away! Plenty to eat!
Father Then....it's true. The legends are true. There is a Beast. No offense, but I best be going.
Mrs. Peer Oh, please don't go!

Madame Buffet We so appreciate nice visitors.
Father I am much obliged for your hospitality, but my family is waiting.
Chester Family!? Family? Er— any daughters?
Father Why, yes.
Chester Do tell us more! Please stay— (*Kneeling*)— oh please, oh please, oh please, oh please— !
Father Thank you ever so kindly— but I must be going. You see, I am destitute and I must return to start over— my daughters— my— (*He begins crying*)— oh— I don't know what to do.... Well, I'm sorry to trouble you all.... You've been so kind.

Madame Buffet Won't you rest awhile longer, Monsieur?
Father No. Thank you. I have a long journey ahead. (*Spies enchanted rose*) If I could just trouble you for just one thing....

Bristle Anything your heart desires—
Mrs. Peer Whatever we may do to help—
Chester Your wish is our command—
Madame Buffet Oui oui!
(*The Enchanted Objects serenade Father, presenting a choreographed meal*)
(*Bristle accompanies with violin*)

SONG: “WE LIVE TO SERVE”

Chester We live to serve you—
All Objects We live to serve!
Put up your feet awhile— live in style— with a smile;
We live to serve you— we live to serve!
We live to give you— all you deserve
Chester Madame Buffet has made some soufflé—
Madame Buffet And ooooh la la! Try my fish fillet
All Objects Please stay for our sorrrée!
We live to serve you— we live to serve in every way!
Mrs. Peer You're lonely and you're lost—
Chester There's no cost—
All Objects You're the boss!
Chester We live to serve you—
All Objects We live to serve!
Mrs. Peer Your wish our command— that's the plan—
Father Thank you, Ma'am.
All Objects We live to serve you— we live to serve—
Madame Buffet Without reserve, Monsieur—
All Objects We live to serve—!
(We live to serve— we live to serve—!)

Chester And now— what else may we do to make your stay more comfortable?
Father I should be ever so grateful if I could fulfill just one of the promises I made before I left— a simple promise, really, that I made to my daughter. If I could just— (*Reaches for enchanted rose from nearby vase*) — bring her back this memento of her namesake— this lovely rose—
All Not that!

(*There is a loud and ominous roar heard. All cower to sidelines. Foreboding, agitated musical theme begins— introduction to “Ballad of the*

Beast”)

Chester It's the Master!
Bristle We're in for it now!
(*Beast darts into room. He remains in shadows*)
Beast (*Appearing with back to audience, addressing Father*) How dare you! Is this how you repay my hospitality!?

SONG: “BALLAD OF THE BEAST” (Reprise)

Beast You steal from me this precious thing I own
The only thing of beauty in my home
You're just a common thief— *(Pause)*
I am the Beast!

You come to my castle for refuge and food
And we've offered you help even though you intrude
I have given you shelter and still you want more
You'll not go unpunished! You'll have your reward!
(Musical interlude— "refrain" and vamp)

Father *(Spoken)* Oh, kind sir— I am indeed grateful for your hospitality. I humbly beg your pardon. Your courtesies have been so many that I could not imagine you would possibly be offended by my taking such a small token as a rose for my daughter...who asked for so little...unlike— her sisters.

Beast Fine words. But your vain flattery and feeble excuses will not spare you from the death you deserve.

Father Please spare me, kind sir... *(He sings, song resumes)*

I lost all possessions that I ever owned
They were all lost at sea and I'm on my way home
I must help my poor daughters, and this is my plea:
(On knees) I beg you, dear sir, please have mercy on me!
(Musical underscore continues to end of scene)

Father Please, sir! I have already lost so much!
Beast Your troubles are not my concern!
Father But it seems such a cruel blow not to bring back this flower for my daughter Rose. I assure you, I meant no harm.

Chester Er— Master— is it possible that—
Beast Silence!
Chester *(Retreating)* My feelings precisely!
Beast I will spare your life on one condition. You must give me this daughter Rose.
Father No! Ask me anything but that! You may think I have no honor, but I am not such a cruel father that I would buy my own life with the life of one of my daughters.

Beast Well, Merchant— I already think more highly of you. Your daughter will be harmed. But if she comes, she must come here of her own free will. She must come because she loves you enough to save your life. She must accept the price of being separated from all she knows and loves....these are my conditions.

Father You are indeed... a beast.
Beast I'll give you one day. By sundown tomorrow, I will accept you here— with or without your daughter. And that you may know I have at least one kernel of compassion left in me—
(He claps his hands)
(Chester and Bristle enter with sacks)

Beast My servants are placing sacks of gold on your horse. You and your daughters will never worry about debts again.
(He hands Father a golden key on a necklace)

Father And this?
Beast It is The Golden Pathfinder. It will guide you home and safely back here. Now, be off. *(Beast grabs Father)* Remember what I have said. *(He hands Father the enchanted rose)* I will expect you tomorrow. With or without your daughter. And if you do not return, you can be sure I will hunt you down....
(He exits. Father departs)

(Music crescendos. Song resumes)

Castle Objects So beware when you're walking the forest by night
For a beast may be stalking and give you a fright

If you make him a promise be sure that he's pleased —
Do not ever betray— this cunning wild Beast!

(Refrain)
Bristle *(Slow, reflective)* I'm sad for the stranger —
Madame Buffet He's facing grave danger —
Mrs. Peer Oh, Lord, help this stranger through all that befell
All *(Looking upward)* And may he be the key— to breaking this spell!
(Song segues to)

Chester It was so good to see a human. Remember what it was like before, when we were human?
Bristle How refreshing it was to see a human.
Madame Buffet It was wonderful.
Bristle How I long to be human.

SONG: "HOW WE LONG TO BE HUMAN"

All How we long to be human! God, make us human again!
We only want to be people, just plain old women and men
Chester No drawers
Bristle No bristles
No dusty pans
Mrs. Peer No waxy buildup
Madame Buffet No dishpan hands—
All Oh, how we long to be human! God, make us human again!

Bristle *(Spoken)* You know folks,

Verse 1
Bristle Confidentially, I wish I had feet
Come to think of it, shoulders would be neat
Oh, just think of it!
I'd be complete again if only I had feet again
It's really all I want and all I ask!

Mrs. Peer *(Spoken)* Oh, these hips. They're just terrible. I can't look at myself any more.

Verse 2
Mrs. Peer I hope that very soon I will get my old shape back
How I long for hips that won't go to this width
I fear a tear might appear
If I continue to be a mirror

Madame Buffet *(Spoken)* Cook, cook, that is all I do.

Verse 3
Madame Buffet Just because I look this way—
I'm the one who has to slave all day—
Over dinner—
If I wasn't hot
Wouldn't have to heat the pot
And I'd have lots more time to play!
Peer & Buffet He'd love to see his feet and stare
If he was not square
How he longed to see his legs
And not old underwear!

All How we long to be human! God, make us human again!
We only want to be people, just plain old women and men
Chester No knobs
Bristle No sweeping,
No dirt or dust
Mrs. Peer No streaks, no smudges

Madame Buffet No burns, no rust—
All Oh, how we long to be human! God, make us human again!

(Verses 1 through 4 sung together)
(Key change: Verses 1 through 4 repeated)

All *(Coda)* How we longed to be human!
(Slowly, with feeling) God, make— us— hu— man again—!
Make us human again!
To be human— to be human again— !
To be human— to be human a—

(They all hold out the last note, while Enchanted Object goes to get water and a spit bucket. They all drink and then spit in bucket)

SCENE 6: THE COTTAGE

(The Sisters Ivy and Iris are trying on ridiculous hats and admiring themselves)
Ivy Now tell me Iris, do you think I should have bought new gloves?
Iris I knew I forgot something.
Ivy We always do.
Iris What do you think of this color on me?
Ivy It looks like an eggplant threw up on it. What were you thinking?
Iris Huh!

SONG: “ONCE UPON A TIME IN FRANCE” (Reprise)

Ivy What a charming bagatelle!
Iris I am quite the Mademoiselle!
Both Only for aristocrats— lovely hats— fancy that!
Ivy And, dear Iris, why do you suppose—
Iris Not one purchase came home with dear Rose?
Iris I don't know— that's the way she is—
Both She loves to make a fuss!
Both That's all right— we'll indulge the dear—
Ivy And it leaves all the more for us!
Iris And pretty soon, when Father comes, we'll be the talk of town!
Both We'll be so rich and so world-renowned!
Both We'll be well-dressed in all the best of every fancy gown!
When men look at us, they will faint and fall right down!

Rose *(Entering)* They certainly will!
Ivy Why Rose— here you are.
Iris We were just talking about you.
Rose About me? *(Looks nervous, not realizing own beauty)*
Ivy Why, yes. Enough about us. Let's talk about you.
(Rose appears more nervous)
Iris Yes. How do you think we look?
(Rose is relieved)
Ivy Isn't this hat simply me?
(Father enters)
Iris I think mine is really over the top!
Ivy By the way, Rose, why do you insist on such simple tastes?
Iris When Father returns we'll be the richest family in the village.
Ivy And rich daughters need to attract rich husbands.
Iris And the only way to attract rich people is to look...well...rich!
Father *(Entering)* I'm afraid we have lost everything, my dear daughters. Everything is gone.

Rose Father! *(She runs to Father and hugs him.)*

Father *(Handing rose to Rose)* Do you like it, my child?

Rose Oh.... Oh yes, Father. I have never seen its like. It is Beauty itself.

Father All our ships were lost at sea— sunk by storms or looted by pirates.

Ivy & Iris *(Staring in a complete state of shock and saying in monotone)* We're poor?....

Father Our men are all gone....

Ivy & Iris We're poor?....

Father Only my Courier Pierre survived to tell the bitter tale of our loss....

Ivy & Iris We're poor?....

Father And all our merchandise— every last worldly good we've owned— gone forever.

Ivy & Iris We're poor?....

Father I'm sorry. No satins. No laces. No emeralds or rubies or pearls. Just the clothes on our backs, an exhausted horse, and— oh yes— two giant sacks of gold, which is enough wealth to last the rest of our lives....

Ivy & Iris We're....gold!? *(The sisters exit)*

Rose But Father— you said something....ominous....about the cost of this rose. There is something you haven't told us.

Father The creature— er— the man who gave us the gold— and the rose— made certain conditions.

Ivy *(Running in)* We don't have to give it all back, do we?

Iris *(Running in)* Anything but that!

Father This— person— was most generous. It's all ours to keep. But this— *(He examines the rose)* — this was his most special possession.

Ivy A rose? A lousy flower?

Iris What's so valuable about that?

Father I have taught you all to look beyond mere outward appearances. But I failed to heed my own lesson. I, too, saw very little value in the rose at first. But it is everything to this man. It is all he knows of— Beauty. After all he did to help me when I was lost coming home— I thoughtlessly took his prized possession. He was furious— and rightfully so.

Ivy But what does that have to do with us?

Father I must return— to take up service in his castle.... for the rest of my life.

Ivy & Iris What!?

Rose No! Oh.... Father! *(She hugs him)*

Ivy We can't have our father working as a servant in somebody's castle!

Iris Think of how it would look!

Father I must do it. I have given my word.

Rose All.... because....of a rose.

Ivy Well.... whose idea was it to have the rose in the first place?

Iris Who was it who scorned jewels for something so ridiculous?

Father Please! Please!

Ivy Well, she's the one who caused you to impose on this man's generosity. She's the one who caused you to offend him! She's the one who should work in his castle!

Iris But, if she left— who would do all work around here?

Ivy Oh, Iris! We're rich now— we won't need her here anyway.

Iris Ohhh— that's right!

Ivy It's obvious who should go to the castle. Asking for a rose was a stupid thing to do in the first place. So working in the castle serves her right! *(The sisters exit, cackling)*

Father *(Defeated)* How members of one family— be so— different. I am afraid they are set on their course.

Rose They are right, Father.... It is I who must go.

Father No! You cannot know the gravity of what you are saying! You are young and you still have your life ahead. I will not have you go to the castle of— that monster.

Rose Monster? Father— what do you mean?

Father He is— the Beast. I have met the Beast. He is real.

Rose But those are just— fantasies— they're stories.

Father Are not most stories rooted in truth? He wants my life— or yours— as a payment for the rose. He gave me The Golden Pathfinder to guide my way back. And now I must return. My life— *(He begins to break)*— is but a little price to pay— for you. *(Crying)* But oh, how I shall miss my Rose— my beauty.

Rose No, Father. I won't let you do this. I will go.
Father I have seen this Beast— this terror— this monster— and you have not. And you think I'm going to give him— it— my youngest daughter to spare my own life?
Rose Yes, Father.
Father Never!

(The intermittent sound of thunder and rain begins)
(Musical underscore begins— “Father, Daughter”)

Rose Father...it is you who does not understand. We are not asking this Beast to kill me in your place. We are asking that I be allowed to save your life. He has given us a choice. He is at least a creature with some sense of honor. And such a creature cannot be without hope if it— if he— loves roses as he does. I am not afraid of him.

Father But— he— is— a— Beast!
Rose A Beast— may be tamed.
Father No! You're much too idealistic!
Rose *(After a deadly pause)* And where did I get that?...
Father *(Fingering “Golden Pathfinder”)* I— I think that I have lost my way.
Rose No, you haven't. You know what is right. You always have.
Father He will not accept you.
Rose Why not?
Father He said to take my place you must go willingly— *(With great feeling)*— and how can you go willingly to such an awful fate?
Rose Do you think I would not go willingly to spare the life of my own dear father?
(Rose takes the “Golden Pathfinder”)
Father *(Turns from Rose)* Rose, I love you all the more for what you are trying to do. But you must listen to reason. *(Rose sneaks off)* If nothing else, I ask you to heed my counsel as your beloved father. I could never think of allowing you to go. There's no telling what danger— *(He realizes Rose has left)* No! Rose! Please don't! Rose! Come back! *(As he exits)* God, what have I done? What have I done? Lord... help us.
(Music climaxes and segues to)

SCENE 7: THE CASTLE OF THE BEAST

(All is dark. Gradually, the Beast is lit as a shadowy figure, his back to audience. He is staring at a portrait the audience can see of The Prince he once was. He bows his head momentarily, then touches the portrait. As the song introduces climaxes, Beast dramatically turns toward the audience, who now sees his face for the first time in our story)

SONG: “BEAST’S LAMENT”

Beast Where? Where is love?
 Will it ever touch this face?
 What I would give—
 To find a fleeting trace
 I wander darkened hallways
 I search the woods for signs—
 Is it merely an illusion that
 I am not meant to find?
 Will there ever be a love that
 I can know is truly mine?

(Rose enters from behind Beast. She does not see his face. As he continues his lament, she listens and slowly moves toward portrait)

Beast No more love, no beauty, no compassion
 No tender mercies will come my way
 No more hope, no gracious sweet communion —
 I lost it all on that fateful day!

*(Looking at empty
rose vase)*

Oh— Fateful day!
Oh— Fateful day!
Condemned to live alone—
Is there no way to atone—?
(Musical interlude)

(Beast realizes Rose is present and turns to her. Her face registers terror and she faints beneath the portrait. Beast screams “No!” He covers the portrait and then kneels beside Rose)

Beast

*(Picks up
enchanted rose)*

No more love, no beauty, no compassion
No tender mercies will come my way
No more hope, no gracious sweet communion
I lost it all— on that fateful day—!
(Music crescendos)

(Black out)

(End of Act I)

INTERMISSION

ACT II

Entr’acte

SCENE 1: THE FOREST (ETHEREAL DREAM)

(As fog rolls in, The Prince and Rose (double) dance a ballet sequence in shadowy lightning. Although she dances with The Prince, it is the voice of The Beast we hear. The Prince’s countenance is that of longing and sadness. Although his lips do not move, he says much with his eyes and gestures)

SONG: “ONCE UPON A DREAM”

Voice of Beast

Once upon a dream, there were carefree yesterdays;
Once upon a dream, there was nothing that stood in my way;
Once upon a dream, I knew everything to say;
I had it all— no prison of walls—
But now I know darker days.

Voice of Rose

Won't you speak to me?
And reveal who you may be
I have seen your face
But I'm not sure of the place
Are you from afar?
Won't you tell me who you are?
I recognize the tears in your eyes—
And somehow I'm not surprised

Voice of Beast

Once upon a dream— not all things are what they seem
Once upon a dream— look beyond what you think you have seen
Once upon a dream— there is more beyond extremes
You hold the key— to who I may be—

Just look in my heart and see—
You hold the key— to who I may be—
Just look in my heart and see— !
(*Music continues as transition to next scene and ends*)

(*At the end of the song, the ballet is abruptly ended by the appearance of The Beast, who takes The Prince away. There is the sound of the Beast's growls, as if struggling. Rose screams. There is a black out and continued screams from Rose. The lights brighten gradually to reveal*)

SCENE 2: THE CASTLE OF THE BEAST

(*The Enchanted Objects run into view, some bumping into one another. All are startled and concerned*)

Chester What is it? Who's screaming?! What's going on?
Mrs. Peer It must be the young lady!
(*The Enchanted Objects assemble around Rose*)
Rose (*On floor, tossing, unconscious— she screams again*) Ahhh! No— Don't take him away! No! Please! Come back! Come back! (*Rose screams once more. She opens her eyes, sees all The Enchanted Objects, pauses to take it all in, and screams again*)
Mrs. Peer There, there now. You'll be all right. You must have had a bad dream.
Madame Buffet Yes, dear— you were having a nightmare.
Rose (*Blinking incredulously*) And I'm not now!?
Mrs. Peer Oh, dear. I'm afraid we are rather intimidating. But, after all, this is an enchanted castle and we happen to be—
Chester Enchanting! (*Amused at himself*) Ha, ha, ha! Simply enchanting— that's us! Welcome! Mr. Drawers— Chester Drawers— at your service, dear.
(*He kisses her hand and then continues ridiculously up her arm*)
Mrs. Peer (*Peering through her lorgnette*) Chester, really! You're steaming my glass.
Bristle (*To Chester*) Show off! (*To Rose*) Bristle here! I hope you're well rested— We wouldn't want you to feel— sweepy!
(*All groan*)
Madame Buffet You'll have to forgive her, my dear. Her manners need some brushing up.
(*All groan.*)
Madame Buffet Oops! Did I say that!? Tee hee! I'm as bad as she is! I'm Madame Buffet.
Rose I'm pleased to meet you.... although.... you're.... all.... a little.... er—
All Objects Odd!?
Rose Er— well, yes.
Mrs. Peer That's all right, dear. (*Aside, to others*) She's just like her father! (*To Rose*) We're used to being called that. You must be the one called "Rose." And I am Mrs. Peer.
Rose I am— but how did you—
Bristle We met your father. A splendid gentleman he is.

(*Music begins*)

Chester And it's our business to know everything about everyone who comes to the castle! After all, my dear, we're the ones who run the castle.

SONG: "WE'RE THE ONES WHO REALLY RUN THE CASTLE"

All Objects We're the ones who really run the castle
The major and the minor hassles
Are given our meticulous repair
We're the ones who really run the castle
The ones who make it shine and dazzle
Without us nothing here would have a prayer
As you will soon observe— we only live to serve
We're here to serve with verve and flair!

Chester *(Taking Rose aside)* I'm the one who really runs the castle
I'm the tapestry and they're the tassels
I'm the one on whom the Master most depends
Yes, you'll find I really run the castle
Even though the work has left me frazzled
Bristle *(Aside)* He really is a stuffy bag of wind!
Chester *(Refers to Bristle)* Forget that other bore— my service is “top drawer!”
And I will serve with verve and more!

All Objects Time to get dressed into your best
Just stand right here, we'll do the rest
And we agree on a guarantee:
That you'll be quite a sight to see
(Musical interlude)

As the ones who really run the castle
We'd say you're really dressed to dazzle
We're glad you came to be our special guest
It's been awhile since we— have had such company:
A lovely Rose from head to toes!

Now don't be shy, have a seat— here's why
We want you comfy and satisfied!
If our service isn't what you expect
We'll all collect unemployment checks —
Hope you're happy, dear!

Rose *(Spoken)* Oh, yes!
(Sung)

I thank you all so kindly
I'll never feel alone
As long as you're all with me
All Consider this your home away from home — 'cause
We're the ones who really run the castle
Just let us know of any hassles
We aim to please and put your mind at ease
Chester It's on the house— no bill
All Objects We're honored and we're thrilled!
We'll be sure that your served— with— skill —!

(Segue to)

(Rose is served a meal during the following)

SONG: “WE LIVE TO SERVE” (Reprise)

Madame Buffet We live to serve you— we live to serve!
All Objects We welcome you, my dear—
Have no fear, we are here!
We live to serve you— we live to serve!
We live to give you— all you deserve—!
(Musical interlude transitions to “Once Upon A Dream”)

(Beast enters at side, observing. He is unseen by the others)
Mrs. Peer I know this place takes a little getting used to, my dear.
Rose Oh, I feel much better now— thanks to all your kindnesses.
Mrs. Peer Yet you're still troubled, aren't you?
Rose I already miss home so much. And I had the strangest, most troubling dream.
Bristle Can you tell us about it?

Rose I was dancing with a young man. Yes— and he looked familiar. I've seen his face and his eyes— before. He wouldn't tell me who he was. But, I had the distinct impression that he— that he is here— somewhere.
(The Enchanted objects exchange knowing looks)

Rose He must be— a prisoner. Yes, a prisoner of— of the Beast. Just as I am. Aren't you afraid of the Beast?

Chester Afraid of the Beast? Afraid of the Beast!? Hoo, ha, ha, hee! Ha! Ha! Ha!

Beast Rose.

Chester *(Gasping)* The Beast!
(Music transitions to subdued "Ballad of the Beast")
(The Enchanted Objects retreat to another area, where they are seen eavesdropping)

Rose *(Not turning toward him; cautious, yet resolute)* Good morning— sir.

Beast I am... the Beast. You will call me that, please.... Have you come of your own freewill to stay in my castle?

Rose I have.

Beast I thank you.

Rose *(Suddenly turning toward Beast)* Thank me?! Sir!...What choice did I have? You gave me none. I could not let my father waste away here on account of some stupid rose!
(Pause. The Enchanted Objects cower, clearly afraid of what may come)
(Music stops)

Beast Do you....hate me, then?
(Pause)

Rose You have given me little reason to like you.

Beast If your father had returned to me— alone— I would have returned him to you.

Rose You would? Do you mean to say I have come here for nothing?

Beast No. You did the right thing. You would have been glad to see him return but you would also have been ashamed because you sent him, as you thought, to die as my prisoner here.

Rose But— I could not have let him come here.

Beast You have passed the test with honor.

Rose You— you are a cruel beast.

Beast *(Stepping closer to her)* May I have a closer look at you?

Rose Are you— are you going to eat me?
(The Enchanted Objects giggle but are silenced by the Beast's withering glance)

Beast Eat you? Of course not. Have I frightened you— that is *(Self-conscious)*— in any way I could avoid?

Rose Well— you are a Beast— I couldn't think of any other reason why you would lure me here.

Beast *(Angrily)* I told your father no harm would come to you! *(Pause)* No, you don't have to say anything. I am a Beast. But you may trust my word—no harm will come to you in my castle or on my lands.

Rose But— why? Why am I here?

Beast I have no— companions.

Chester *(Aside)* Well, thanks a lot! I guess we're just talking knick knacks!

Beast *(Aware of the comment)* Human companions.

Rose You might have kept my father here, then. He has had so many more interesting experiences and —

Beast I— er— I specifically wanted a young woman.

Rose Oh? *(She is still frightened.)*

Beast *(Turning from her)* I am looking for a wife. Rose....will you marry me?

Rose Oh— Oh my. What can I say?

Beast Answer yes or no— without fear. You have shown yourself to be noble. So I know you will be honest.

Rose Then— I must answer— no, Beast. *(Rose, torn, looks anxiously between Beast and objects)*

Beast I am very— ugly— am I not?— *(The moment is poignant and lingers)*

Rose You are certainly— er— very hairy.

Beast You are being polite. Who can blame you? *(Beast heads to Fireplace)* Who could ever— love— a beast?

(Music begins: "Beast Lament" transitioning to "Beauty in the Beast")