SCENE 7: The Castle

(COGSWORTH, LUMIERE, MRS. POTTS, BABETTE and MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE pace nervously. The BEAST enters.)

BEAST
It’s time for dinner. Where is she?

COGSWORTH
I’ll go check on her. Won’t be a minute.

(COGSWORTH runs off.)

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

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

BEAST
Of course, I have! I’m not a fool.

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

MRS. POTTS
Lumiere, it’s not that easy. These things take time.

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

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

MRS. POTTS
Master, you must help her to see past all that.

BEAST
I don’t know how!

MRS. POTTS
Well, you could start by trying to make yourself more presentable.
LUMIERE
Impress her with your rapier wit.

MRS. POTTS
But be gentle.

BABETTE
Shower her with compliments.

MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE
But be sincere.

LUMIERE, MRS. POTTS
And above all...

BEAST
What???

LUMIERE, MRS. POTTS, BABETTE, MADAME
You must control your temper!

(COGSWORTH enters, alone.)

BEAST
(growling impatiently)
Well? Where is she?

COGSWORTH
(a timid squeak)
She's not coming.

BEAST
What did you say?

COGSWORTH
(even squeakier)
She's not coming.

BEAST
We'll see about that!

(The BEAST storms to the door of Belle's room. LUMIERE, MRS. POTTs and COGSWORTH hurry along behind. BABETTE and MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE exit.)

COGSWORTH
Your Lordship! Your Grace! Your Eminence! Let's not be hasty!
BEAST

(barges into Belle's room)
I thought I told you to come down to dinner!

BELLE

(yelling back)
I'm not hungry!

BEAST

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

LUMIERE

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

COGSWORTH

Please... attempt to be a gentleman.

MRS. POTTs

Deep breaths, Master... deep breaths.

BEAST

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

COGSWORTH

(under his breath)
Uhm... P... P...

BEAST

(gritting his teeth)
Please.

BELLE

No, thank you.

BEAST

Fine! Then starve!

LUMIERE

Master, please!

BEAST

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

(The BEAST roars and storms off.)
LUMIERE
What were we thinking? We will never be human again.

MRS. POTTS
Well, what would you have us do? Give up? I like this girl. I like her spunk.

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

MRS. POTTS
I think that may be the first time I’ve ever heard him use that word.

(BELLE pokes her head out of her room.)

Hello, dearie. I hope the Master didn’t frighten you too much. He can be a little temperamental.

BELLE
A little?

COGSWORTH
I am Cogsworth, head of the household. And this is Lumiere...

LUMIERE
(kisses BELLE’s hand)
Enchanté, mademoiselle.

COGSWORTH
If there is anything we can do to make your stay more comfortable. Anything... anything at all!

BELLE
I am a little hungry.

COGSWORTH
Except that.

MRS. POTTS
Cogsworth!

COGSWORTH
Well, you heard what the Master said!

MRS. POTTS
Oh, pish tosh! I’m not about to let the poor child go hungry!
COGSWORTH
Fine. Glass of water, crust of bread and then—

LUMIERE
Cogsworth! She's not a prisoner, she's our guest! We must make her feel welcome here!

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

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

COGSWORTH
Music?

(#17 BE OUR GUEST.)

LUMIERE
_Ma chère mademoiselle_, it is with deepest pride and greatest pleasure that we welcome you tonight. And now we invite you to relax. Let us pull up a chair as the dining room proudly presents... your dinner!

**Be Our Guest**

LUMIERE:

12 Be our guest! Be our guest! Put our

15 ser-vice to the test. Tie a nap - kin 'round your

18 neck cher - ie and we'll pro-vide the rest. _Soupe du
(LUMIERE):

jour! Hot hors d'oeuvres! Why, we only live to

CHIP: 

LUMIERE:

serve. Try the grey stuff... It's de-licious! Don't be-

lieve me? Ask the dishes! They can

(LUMIERE):

sing, they can dance! Af-ter

FLATWARE:

Ha

31

all, Miss, this is France! And a

58
dinner here is never second best. Go on, un-

(LUMIERE):
fold your menu, take a glance, and then—
you'll be our guest! Oui, our guest! Be our

FLATWARE: \textit{mf}
guest! Beef \textit{ragout!} Cheese \textit{souf-}

LUMIERE:
\textit{fle!} Pie and pudding \textit{en flam-be!} We'll pre-
pare and serve with flair a culi-
nary cabaret! You're a -

59
(LUMIERE):

lone and you're scared but the

FLATWARE:

Hoo-

banquet's all prepared. No one's

(LUMIERE):

gloomy or complaining while the

FLATWARE:

flatware's entertaining. We tell

LUMIERE:

jokes! I do tricks with my

FLATWARE:

fellow candlesticks. And it's
all in perfect taste, that you can bet! Come on and lift your glass. You've won your own free pass to be our guest! If you're stressed, it's fine dining we suggest. Be our guest! Be our guest! Be our guest!
MRS. POTTS:

It's a guest, it's a guest! Sakes alive, well I'll be blessed! Wine's been poured and thank the Lord I've had the napkins freshly pressed. With dessert, she'll want tea. And my FLATWARE:

Hoo-dee

dear, that's fine with me. While the
(MRS. POTTSS):

cups do their soft - shoe - ing I’ll be

bub - ling! I’ll be brew - ing! I’ll get

(MRS. POTTSS):

warm, pip - ing hot! Hea - ven’s

(FLATWARE): optional 8va

Ba da-bop ba

Ba da-bop ba

sakes! Is that a

spot? Clean it up!

Ba da-bop ba bop bop ba

(MRS. POTTSS):

We want the com - pan - y im -

pressed! We’ve got a lot to do!
108 MRS. POTTS:

Is it one lump or two? For you, our

111 ALL: MRS. POTTS: ALL:

guest? She's our guest! She's our guest! She's our guest!

114 guest! Be our guest! Be our guest!

116 guest! Be our guest!

119 ALL:

Be our guest!

124 Be our guest! Our com -
mand is your request.

mand is your request.

It's been years since we've had

It's been years since we've had

anybody here and

anybody here and

we're obsessed. With your

we're obsessed. With your
meal, with your ease,
meal, with your ease,

yes, indeed, we aim to

yes, indeed, we aim to

please. While the candle

please.

light's still glowing let us

help you, we'll keep going.
Course by course, one by one! 'Til you shout, "E-nough I'm done!" Then we'll sing you off to sleep as you di-

optional 8va

Ha ha ha ha ha

gest.

To-night you'll Ha

prop your feet up! But for

now, let's eat up! Be our guest!
COGSWORTH
Good show, everyone! Good show! Off to your cupboards now...

(The SERVANTS exit, muttering excitedly about the new guest, leaving BELLE alone with COGSWORTH and LUMIERE.)

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

COGSWORTH
Oh my goodness, look at the time. Off to bed!

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

LUMIERE
Perhaps you would like a tour?
COGSWORTH
I’m not sure that’s such a good idea.

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

COGSWORTH
(flattered)
Well... actually, I do! Right this way...

(COGSWORTH exits with BELLE and LUMIERE. The BEAST
enters carrying a tray of food for Belle.)

BEAST
Okay. I can do this. Act like a gentleman... act like a gentleman...
This’ll be good.

(COGSWORTH re-enters with BELLE and LUMIERE. The BEAST
hides.)

COGSWORTH
(points offstage)
Now that is yet another example of the late neo-classic baroque period.
And, as I always say, if it’s not baroque, don’t fix it!

(COGSWORTH laughs heartily. BELLE and LUMIERE are silent.
COGSWORTH continues the tour as he exits.)

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

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

(LUMIERE and BELLE follow COGSWORTH off. The BEAST comes
out from hiding.)

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

(The BEAST exits. COGSWORTH re-enters with BELLE and
LUMIERE trailing behind.)
COGSWORTH

(at the end of a self-serving story)
... and thanks to some quick thinking on my part the disaster was averted!

BELLE

(points to the west wing)
What's over there?

LUMIERE, COGSWORTH

Nothing!

COGSWORTH

Nothing at all of any interest in the west wing!

BELLE

Ah. So that's the west wing...

LUMIERE

(to COGSWORTH)
Nice going.

BELLE

I wonder what he's hiding there.

COGSWORTH

Um... perhaps mademoiselle would like to see something else. Over here we have exquisite tapestries dating all the way back...

(COGSWORTH and LUMIERE toddle off. #18 BELLE IN THE WEST WING. BELLE walks the other direction toward the west wing. The rose catches her eye. She moves closer... awestruck. The BEAST enters.)

BEAST

Don't touch that!

BELLE

I'm sorry!

BEAST

What are you doing here?

BELLE

I—
I told you never to come here!

BEAST

I know but—

BELLE

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

(Frightened, BELLE runs past the BEAST toward the door. He tries to stop her so he can apologize but accidentally grabs her arm, causing her to stumble.)

BELLE

Ouch. Don’t touch me!

BEAST

No, I—

BELLE

Promise or no promise. I won’t stay in this castle!

(BELLE runs out, leaving the BEAST alone.)

BEAST

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

(Distraught, the BEAST gazes into his magic mirror.)

SCENE 8: The Forest

(The NARRATORS enter. #19 WOLF ATTACK, BELLE, WOLVES and the BEAST pantomime the following:)

NARRATOR 1

Belle ran into the forest as fast as she could.

NARRATOR 2

Night was falling, a storm was approaching and it was getting hard to see.

NARRATOR 3

When she stopped to catch her breath, Belle heard the low and menacing growling of wolves!
NARRATOR 4
One wolf charged Belle head-on, and she grabbed a branch to defend herself.

(As WOLVES enter and lunge at BELLE, she desperately wields the branch. Then, a roar.)

NARRATOR 3
Suddenly, the Beast leaped out of nowhere and pulled the wolves off of Belle.

NARRATOR 1
Belle took cover as the wolves turned and attacked the Beast.

NARRATOR 4
One grabbed hold of the Beast’s forearm, wounding him.

NARRATOR 2
The Beast struggled to stay on his feet.

(The BEAST battles with the WOLVES.)

NARRATOR 3
Once the Beast hurled the last wolf away... he collapsed, exhausted and in pain.

(BELLE emerges from cover and stares at the BEAST.)

NARRATOR 1
Belle knew that this was her chance to get away... to go home.

NARRATOR 4
But as she looked at the Beast, that hideous creature... who saved her life, she could not leave.

NARRATOR 3
Belle approached the Beast and helped him to his feet.

NARRATOR 2
Then Belle and the Beast slowly made their way back to the castle.

(BELLE and the BEAST exit, followed by the NARRATORS.)
SCENE 9: The Castle

(BELLE helps the BEAST to his chair. He holds one arm painfully. MRS. POTTS, LUMIERE and COGSWORTH enter and observe from a distance. BELLE dips a clean cloth into a bowl with hot water and wrings it out. She reaches for the BEAST’s wounded arm, but he growls and pulls away.)

BELLE
Let me see. Just hold still.

(BELLE reaches for him again and gently dabs at the wound. The BEAST cringes and howls in pain.)

BEAST
Ow! That hurts!

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

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

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

BEAST
Well, you shouldn’t have been in the west wing!

BELLE
And you should learn to control your temper!

(The BEAST doesn’t have an answer for that. He and BELLE glare at each other in a silent battle of wills. The BEAST looks to MRS. POTTS and LUMIERE, who avert their eyes. BELLE dips the cloth in hot water again and wrings it out.)

Now hold still, this may sting a little.

(BELLE dabs gently at the wound on the BEAST’s arm. He winces but doesn’t pull away.)

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

BEAST
You’re welcome.
(MRS. POTTS, LUMIERE and COGSWORTH look at each other with happy surprise.)

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

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

COGSWORTH
And not a moment too soon either. The rose is losing petals at an alarming rate!

MRS. POTTS
And I can hardly bend over at all any more.

LUMIERE
Clearly, it's time for us to give them a little push.

MRS. POTTS
I have just the thing!
(to the BEAST and BELLE)
How about we warm you two up a bit with a nice bowl of soup?

(MRS. POTTS exits. COGSWORTH escorts BELLE and the BEAST to a small table. CHIP is perched on top. #20 SOMETHING THERE.)

Something There

BELLE:

There's something sweet and almost kind.

But he was
mean and he was coarse and unreigned.

But now he’s dear and so unsure.

I wonder why I didn’t see it there before.

(LUMIERE points to the chair. Taking the prompt, the BEAST lifts the chair as BELLE crosses to it. He clumsily slides the chair beneath her and she falls into it. The BEAST crosses to his chair and perches, unable to sit. MRS. POTTS returns with two bowls of soup. BELLE raises her bowl... the BEAST follows suit.)

CHIP

Cheers!

(BELLE and the BEAST drink their soup.)

MRS. POTTs

(to BELLE)

Come along, dearie. Let’s get you cleaned up.

(MRS. POTTS leads BELLE off. BELLE looks back and indicates that the BEAST should wipe his mouth. He does so.)
BEAST:

She glanced this way, I thought I saw.

And when we touched she didn’t shudder at my paw. No, it can’t be... I’ll just ignore... But then, she’s never looked at me that way before.

(COGSWORTH and LUMIERE approach.)

BEAST

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

COGSWORTH

Good!

BEAST

That’s good?
LUMIERE
Excellent!

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

LUMIERE
It has to be something special. Something that sparks her interest...

(LUMIERE whispers into the BEAST's ear. BELLE comes back cleaned up, with a bright bow in her hair.)

COGSWORTH
Look who's back!

LUMIERE
(under his breath to the BEAST)
Say something about her hair.

BEAST
(confused)
It's brown?

LUMIERE
A compliment!

BEAST
Oh.
(to BELLE)
What a... nice bow.

BELLE
Thank you!

(The BEAST looks at LUMIERE and COGSWORTH: "How'd I do?"
They nod and make "go on" motions...)

BEAST
Uh... Belle... I uh... have something to show you. But first you have to close your eyes. It's a surprise.

(BELLE closes her eyes. The BEAST leads BELLE through the halls of the castle.)
BELLE

Can I open them?

BEAST

All right... now!

(A beautiful library with stacks and stacks of books is revealed. BELLE opens her eyes and gasps with wonder.)

BELLE

I can’t believe it! I’ve never seen so many books in my whole life!

You... like it?

BELLE

It’s wonderful!

BEAST

Then... it’s yours!

(BELLE runs giddily to look at the books.)

BELLE:

New and a bit alarming.

Who'd have ever thought that

this could be?

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

BELLE

*(showing a book to the BEAST)*
This is one of my favorites. King Arthur. Have you ever read it?

BEAST

No!

*(pushes the book back, then confesses)*
I can't...

BELLE

You never learned to read?

BEAST

Only a little... and long ago.

BELLE

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

*(The BEAST and BELLE sit down to read. LUMIERE, COGSWORTH, MRS. POTTS, CHIP, BABETTE and MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE enter.)*
LUMIERE:

Well, who'd have

COGSWORTH:

thought? Well, who'd have

MRS. POTTs:

Well, bless my soul.

MADAME:

known? And who'd have

BABETTE:

Well, who indeed?

guessed they'd come together on their

LUMIERE, COGSWORTH, BABETTE, MADAME:

own? Wait and see, a few days

MRS. POTTs:

It's so peculiar. Wait and
more, there may be

something there that wasn’t there before.

COGSWORTH:

fore. Perhaps there’s

something there that wasn’t there before.

CHIP: MRS. POTTS:

fore. What? There may be

something there that wasn’t there before.

CHIP

What’s there, Mama?

MRS. POTTS

Shh. I’ll tell you when you’re older.

(The SERVANTS exit, leaving BELLE and the BEAST alone.)
BELLE

(reading)
"Then, for the third time, Arthur drew forth the sword..."

BEAST

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

BELLE

Wait and see.

BEAST

(shakes his head with wonder)
I never knew books could do that.

BELLE

Do what?

BEAST

Take me away from this place and make me forget... for a little while.

BELLE

Forget?

BEAST

Who I...

(correcting himself)
...what I am.

(BELLE looks at the BEAST. He has touched her heart. LUMIERE enters and watches them from afar.)

BELLE

We have something in common, you know.

What?

BEAST

BELLE

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

You?

BELLE

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