

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Written by

Barry Luc

Based on, If Any

Address
(412) 312-3111

1 EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - NIGHT

A MAGNIFICENT CASTLE. Resplendent, bespeaking great wealth and power. The grounds and stonework immaculate.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Once upon a time in the hidden heart of France, a handsome young Prince lived in a beautiful castle...

RACK FOCUS to a single RED ROSE clinging to a rose bush on a stormy spring night. A WEATHERED HAND plucks the rose.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Although he had everything his heart desired, the Prince was selfish and unkind.

2 INT. BALLROOM ENTRANCE - CASTLE - NIGHT

TIGHT ON THE PRINCE being groomed by his servants. (We do not see their faces.) A FRENCH MAID paints an exotic animal mask on the Prince's face with a feather brush. A TALL VALET drapes the Prince with an elaborately bejeweled coat.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

He taxed the village to fill his castle with the most beautiful objects...

The MAID dusts his wig with powder -

MAID

Poof poof...

- while a MAJORDOMO holds a POCKET WATCH, indicating that they are running late.

MAJORDOMO

Master, it's time.

With a haughty wave, the Prince instructs his FOOTMAN to bring more light.

FOOTMAN

Oui, maître.

A CANDELABRA is lifted to the preening Prince as he looks at himself in an ornate HAND MIRROR.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

... and his parties with the most
beautiful people.

3 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

3

The ornate room is filled with BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE from all corners of the world, each on display for the Prince's pleasure. A circle of eligible maidens bow their heads.

Seated in a throne chair dominated by a majestic COAT OF ARMS, the Prince snaps his fingers impatiently at an ITALIAN MAESTRO, who smiles, revealing comically rotten teeth.

The maestro sits at a harpsichord and motions to his wife, a LARGE DIVA holding a TINY BICHON FRISE. As the music begins, the Prince steps forward.

The diva fills the room with a voice as big as her frame.

The Prince performs a ROUNDELAY with several debutantes:

DIVA

Oh how divine Glamour, music and
magic combine
See the maidens so anxious to shine
Look for a sign that enhances
Chances
She'll be his special one

4 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

4

The dance speeds up. The Prince connects momentarily with a beautiful woman -- but quickly moves on when his eye catches someone even more dazzling:

DIVA

What a display! What a breathtaking
thrilling array
(coos to the dog)
Every prince, every dog has his day
Let us sing with passion, gusto Fit
to bust - oh Not a care in the
world

KNOCK KNOCK. The Prince stops. Then a gust of wind blows open the windows. Sconces flicker and go dark. The figure enters in silhouette, hobbling on a CANE.

Furious, the Prince grabs a lit candelabra from the Footman.

He rudely pushes through the crowd, sweeping people from his path. He crosses to the windows, finally revealing --

AN OLD BEGGAR WOMAN shivering from the rain. She looks to the Prince with hope and offers him -- A RED ROSE.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Then, one night, an unexpected intruder arrived at the castle, seeking shelter from the bitter storm. As a gift, she offered the Prince a single rose.

The PRINCE'S HAND waves her off. The woman begs on her knees.

The Prince motions to the staff.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Repulsed by her haggard appearance, the Prince turned the woman away. But she warned him not to be deceived by appearances, for beauty is found within.

The majordomo and footman approach to usher her out. The woman lowers her head as if to cry --

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And when he dismissed her again, the old woman's outward appearance melted away to reveal...

Suddenly, the old woman's cape and hood cocoon. AN ERUPTION OF LIGHT as she transforms into...

NARRATOR (V.O.)

...a beautiful Enchantress.

The wind picks up inside the room. Frightened, the Prince falls to his knees.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The Prince tried to apologize but it was too late. For she had seen that there was no love in his heart.

As the Prince begs for mercy, his body begins to transform. His jewelry pops off. His clothing rips as he grows larger.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

As punishment, she transformed him into a hideous beast...

The guests scream in horror and flee. But pushing his way through the crowd, A YOUNG BOY slips into the ballroom, watching in wonder as -- the PRINCE'S SHADOW twists into the SHADOW OF A HIDEOUS BEAST.

The boy's mother frantically follows him inside --

BOY'S MOTHER
Chip! Chip! Oh my...

-- just as the doors slam shut, leaving the staff, the entertainers and the dog trapped in the room.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
... and placed a powerful spell on
the castle and all who lived there.

5 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

5

CLOSE ON a portrait of the handsome prince -- as the beast's giant paw slashes it.

6 EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

6

Years later, the enchanted castle stands isolated. The property is surrounded by an ice hedge. The only sound is the grim winter wind. As we move closer:

NARRATOR (V.O.)
As days bled into years, the Prince
and his servants were forgotten by
the world. For the Enchantress had
erased all memory of them from the
minds of the people they loved.

7 EXT/INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

7

At the highest window of the west wing, we see THE BEAST. The ROSE, already wilting, floats before him. To protect it, the beast has covered it with a glass bell jar.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
But the rose she had offered was
truly an enchanted rose. If he
could learn to love another and
earn their love in return by the
time the last petal fell, the spell
would be broken. If not, he would
be doomed to remain a beast for all
time.

TIGHT ON THE ROSE -- another petal drops.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

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

8 EXT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - MORNING

8

The front door of a cozy cottage opens to reveal -- BELLE, a pure beauty blessed with intelligent, fiercely inquisitive eyes.

With book in hand, she takes a deep breath of morning air and gazes toward the church which peeks above the village rooftops.

BELLE

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

Belle looks at the clock on the church counting to 8am. Wait for it. 3. 2. 1.

9 EXT. VILLENEUVE - MORNING

9

On cue, the villagers begin their day. A HOUSEWIFE opens a window, nods to a WOMAN shaking out a rug nearby. A BUTCHER opens his shop, waves to a COBBLER moving past with his cart.

VILLAGERS

Bonjour. Bonjour. Bonjour. Bonjour.

An old VAGRANT is the only one to notice Belle, smiling at her as he's tossed inside a HOLDING TANK by two GENDARMES.

VAGRANT

Bonjour.

Belle weaves between the villagers, making herself invisible. She passes a harried BAKER, buys a baguette --

BELLE

There goes the baker with his tray
like always The same old bread and
rolls to sell

Belle approaches JEAN, the potter, tending to his MULE.

BELLE

Every morning just the same Since
the morning that we came To this
poor provincial town

JEAN
Good morning, Belle

Jean scratches his head, trying to remember something. He searches his cart which is loaded with pottery.

BELLE
Good morning, Monsieur Jean. Have you lost something again?

JEAN
I believe I have. Problem is, I can't remember what. Well, I'm sure it will come to me.

As she leaves:

JEAN
Where are you off to?

BELLE
To return this book to Pere Robert.
It's about two lovers in fair
Verona.

JEAN
Sounds boring.

Later -- Belle passes SCHOOL BOYS as they march into the school house. Their heads turn in unison.

SCHOOL BOYS
Look there she goes That girl is strange, no question

The NASTY HEADMASTER ushers them in impatiently.

NASTY HEADMASTER
Dazed and distracted, can't you tell?

As the boys scramble into school, Belle steps on the stones over the duck pond -- revealing GIRLS forced into "woman's work" chores, washing clothes in the circular laverie.

They're surrounded by women kneading clothes on barrels.

WASHER WOMEN
Never part of any crowd 'Cause her head's up on some cloud

LITTLE GIRLS
 No denying she's a funny girl That
 Belle

A FLIRTATIOUS FARMER approaches a PRETTY FISHMONGER'S WIFE.

FARMER
 Bonjour, good day, how is your
 family?

PRETTY FISHMONGER'S WIFE
 (pointed)
 Bonjour, good day, how is your
 wife?

THE FISHMONGER pops up next to his wife, sending the would-be-Lothario into retreat. Another fishmonger, the shrewish CLOTHILDE, accosts him:

CLOTHILDE
 I need six eggs

The FARMER points out the price. Belle moves past.

CLOTHILDE
 That's too expensive

BELLE
 There must be more than this
 provincial life

10 INT. CHURCH VESTRY - DAY

10

Belle escapes into the peace and serenity of a country church. Jolly PERE ROBERT looks up as she enters.

PERE ROBERT
 Well! If it isn't the only bookworm
 in town. So where did you run off
 to this week?

BELLE
 Two cities in Northern Italy. I
 didn't want to come back.

Belle hands "Romeo and Juliet" to Pere Robert, who dutifully returns it to the shelves of the town's "library": a COUPLE DOZEN BOOKS in total. She remains hopeful.

BELLE
 Have you got any new places to go?

PERE ROBERT

I'm afraid not. But you may reread
any of the old ones that you'd
like.

BELLE

Thank you, Pere Robert. Your
library almost makes our small
corner of the world feel big.

He smiles. Belle picks up a new book and smiles back.

PERE ROBERT

Bon voyage.

11 EXT. VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - DAY

11

ANGLE ON BELLE -- nose planted in her book, she walks down
into the crowded market which is just being set up. Belle
passes TOM, DICK, and STANLEY - all burly, tough guys.

TOM, DICK & STANLEY

Look -- there she goes The girl is
so peculiar

Belle buys jam then glides past an APOTHECARY's open cart:

APOTHECARY

I wonder if she's feeling well

Belle ducks under CHEESE SELLERS carrying their trays:

CHEESE SELLERS

With a dreamy far-off look And her
nose stuck in a book What a puzzle
to the rest of us Is Belle

Behind her, FLORISTS pass with huge bouquets. It's a glorious
parade but Belle remains oblivious as she continues to
read...

BELLE

Oh... isn't this amazing? It's my
favorite part because you'll see
Here's where she meets Prince
Charming But she won't discover
that it's him 'Til chapter three

THREE FASHION-CRAZED VILLAGE LASSES -- ALL DRESSED IN THE
SAME STYLE -- POP THEIR HEADS FROM THE WINDOWS OF THE DRESS
SHOP. THEIR MOTHER, WHO IS BESOTTED WITH BELLE, HEADS OUTSIDE
WHEN SHE SEES HER:

VILLAGE LASSES' MOTHER

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

HER DAUGHTERS FOLLOW, SEETHING WITH JEALOUSY:

VILLAGE LASS #1
But behind that fair facade I'm
afraid she's rather odd

VILLAGE LASSES' MOTHER
(greets Belle)
Very different from the rest of us

VILLAGE LASSES
She's nothing like the rest of us
Yes, different from the rest of us

BELLE SLIPS THROUGH THE CROWD.

VILLAGERS
Is Belle

12 EXT. VILLAGE PROMONTORY - DAY

12

LOOKING DOWN ON THE VILLAGE IS GASTON, A DASHINGLY HANDSOME WAR HERO CLAD IN A DAZZLING GOLD BREASTPLATE. THE ONLY THING BIGGER THAN HIS MUSCLES IS HIS EGO. STRAPPED ON HIS SADDLE IS A MUSKET AND THE SPOILS OF HIS HUNT: RABBIT, FOX, AND FOWL. RIDING BESIDE HIM IS GASTON'S LONG-SUFFERING AIDE-DE- CAMP AND DEVOTED BEST FRIEND LEFOU.

THROUGH HIS SPYGLASS, GASTON SPOTS BELLE.

GASTON
Look at her, LeFou. My future wife.
Belle is the most beautiful girl in
the village. That makes her the
best.

LEFOU
But she's so well-read, and you're
so...
(about to say "not")
Athletically inclined.

GASTON
I know. Belle can be as
argumentative as she is beautiful.

LEFOU
Exactly, who needs her, when you've
got us!

GASTON

Yes, but ever since the war I've
been missing something. And she's
the only girl I've met who gives me
that sense of...

LEFOU

Je ne sais quoi?

GASTON

I don't know what that means.

13 EXT. VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - DAY

13

Gaston and LeFou ride through the village gates. Gaston motions toward Belle in the village square. Geese flock around her feet, seeming to follow her.

GASTON

(singing)

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

As Gaston passes, the lasses try to catch his eye.

VILLAGE LASSES

Look there he goes, isn't he dreamy
Monsieur Gaston, oh he's so cute Be
still my heart I'm hardly breathing
He's such a tall, dark, strong and
handsome brute

As Gaston dismounts, the lasses get splattered with mud from his horse's hooves. LeFou shoots them a look, whispers:

LEFOU

It's never gonna happen, ladies.

Noticing Belle crossing the market, Gaston starts off in pursuit. He grabs flowers from the PERFUME STALL and makes a bouquet. As they each make their way through the market:

The image swells to reveal the whole village, singing.

ALL

Look there she goes a girl who's
Strange but special A most peculiar
mademoiselle It's a pity and a sin
She doesn't quite fit in!

VILLAGE LASSES
But she really is a funny girl

VILLAGE MEN
A beauty but a funny girl

ALL
She really is a funny girl that
Belle!

Slightly out of breath, Gaston finally catches up with Belle.

GASTON
Good morning, Belle! Wonderful book
you have there.

BELLE
You've read it?

GASTON
Well, not that one. But, you know.
Books.
(hands her the flowers)
For your dinner table. Shall I join
you this evening?

BELLE
Sorry, not tonight.

GASTON
Busy?

BELLE
No.

A mortified smile and Belle is off. LeFou approaches.

LEFOU
So. Moving on?

GASTON
No, LeFou. It's the ones who play
hard to get that are always the
sweetest prey.

GASTON
That's what makes Belle so
appealing. She hasn't made a fool
of herself just to gain my favor.
What would you call that?

LEFOU
Dignity?

GASTON
It's outrageously attractive, isn't it?

Gaston looks at the village lasses standing outside of the tavern. They all give him the eye. Gaston saunters over.

14 EXT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - DAY

14

Belle hears the tinkle of a sweet MUSIC BOX tune wafting out of her father's basement workshop.

15 INT. CELLAR WORK ROOM - BELLE'S COTTAGE - DAY

15

Belle descends into to her father's dusty work room. Sunlight spotlights MAURICE hunched over his workspace. Belle quietly watches as he sings along with the music box theme.

MAURICE
How does a moment last forever? How
can a story never die? It is love
we must hold on to Never easy --
but we try

Maurice tinkers with gears on the box, which depicts an artist in a Parisian garret, painting his wife's portrait as she holds a red rose above their baby.

MAURICE
Sometimes our happiness is captured
Somehow a time and place stand
still Love lives on inside our
hearts And always will
(seeing Belle)
Oh, good, Belle, you're back. Can
you please hand me the --

Before he can say the word "screwdriver" it's in his hand.

MAURICE
And the --

Tweezers. Then Belle hands him a small hammer...

MAURICE
No no I don't need --

... just as a spring pops off.

MAURICE
Actually yes, that's exactly what I
need.

He goes back to tinkering. Belle gazes at other music boxes, each a small work of art, depicting famous landmarks from around the world.

BELLE

Papa, do you think I'm odd?

MAURICE

My daughter? Odd? Where did you get an idea like that?

BELLE

I don't know. People talk.

MAURICE

Oh. People. This village may be small, small-minded even, but small also means safe.

Maurice can see this line of argument doesn't do much for his daughter.

MAURICE

Even back in Paris, I knew a girl who was so different, so daring, so ahead of her time that people mocked her until the day they found themselves imitating her.

BELLE

Just tell me one more thing about her.

Maurice turns to the music box as if to change the subject. But looking back up to Belle's eagerness, he relents.

MAURICE

Your mother was... fearless.
Fearless.

With that, Maurice closes his music box.

16 EXT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - DAY

16

As Maurice carefully loads his music boxes onto his wagon, Belle tends to the family's old glue horse, PHILIPPE.

Maurice climbs into the wagon, and smiles down at his daughter.

MAURICE

What would you like me to bring you from the market?

BELLE

A rose like the one in the
painting.

MAURICE

You ask for that every year.

BELLE

And every year, you bring it.

MAURICE

Then I shall bring you another. You
have my word. Come on, Philippe!

BELLE

I'll see you tomorrow!

MAURICE

Tomorrow! With the rose!

As Maurice rides away, Belle's warmth gives way to concern.

BELLE

(to herself)

Stay safe...

17 INT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - TACKROOM - DAY

17

Surrounded by design sketches, Belle's workbench features a small model of her 'washing machine' prototype. Belle places the miniature barrel in position... fastens a rope to a leather strap... shaves chips off a block of soap... collects the soap chips in a small sack... and rushes out.

18 EXT. VILLENEUVE - LAVERIE - DAY

18

A young WASHER GIRL watches as --

Belle tosses clothes and some soap chips into an empty BARREL and rolls it into the fountain! It bobs on its side. Tying the other end of the strap to the mule's harness, she sets him walking around the circular laverie...

WASHER GIRL

What are you doing?

BELLE

The laundry.

With a smile, Belle points to the rotating barrel, which now resembles a very early Whirlpool washing machine. Belle takes her book and quietly begins to read. After a moment, she looks up to find the washer girl staring at her, speechless.

BELLE

Come!

Belle waves for the girl to join her.

19 EXT. VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - LAVERIE - DAY (LATER)

19

The NASTY HEADMASTER emerges from the school house to see --

The barrel is now filled with sudsy clothes. Belle is sitting with the washer girl. She holds a book open, teaching the girl to read.

WASHER GIRL

(struggling)

The blue bird flies...

BELLE

...over the dark wood.

NASTY HEADMASTER

What on earth are you doing?

He is joined by the fishmonger CLOTHILDE, outraged.

NASTY HEADMASTER

Teaching another girl to read?

Isn't one enough?

Belle locks eyes with the headmaster, then turns back to the girl. The headmaster seethes.

CLOTHILDE

We have to do something.

20 EXT. VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - LAVERIE - DAY (LATER)

20

Belle's washing machine is hauled out of the laverie and dumped onto the ground. She collects her laundry from the dirt, trying to remain poised before the gawking crowd.

21 EXT. VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - DAY (LATER)

21

Gaston shakes his head and laughs, absolutely smitten.

GASTON

You are the wildest, most beautiful
thing I've ever seen. No one
deserves you, but at least I know
our children will be beautiful.

A reverse angle reveals Gaston was addressing his reflection
in a shop window.

LEFOU (O.S.)
Am I catching you at a bad time?

GASTON
What is it, LeFou?

LEFOU
A certain damsel is in distress.

GASTON
Oh well. It's hero time.
(to his reflection)
I'm not done with you yet.

And he's off. LeFou steps up to the mirror.

LEFOU
Me neither.

22 EXT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - DAY (LATER)

22

Gaston follows Belle back to her cottage.

GASTON
Belle! Heard you had a little
trouble with the headmaster. He
never liked me, either. Can I give
you a little advice about the
villagers, though? They're never
going to trust the kind of change
we're trying to bring.

Pursuing her into her garden, he trampling cabbages.

BELLE
All I wanted was to teach a child
to read.

GASTON
The only children you should
concern yourself with are... your
own.

Belle looks for a way out. She doesn't like where this is
going.

BELLE

I'm not ready to have children.

GASTON

Maybe you haven't met the right man.

BELLE

It's a small village, Gaston. I've met them all.

GASTON

Maybe you should take another look. Some of us have changed.

She climbs the steps to her cottage door. Gaston follows close behind.

BELLE

Gaston, we could never make each other happy. No one can change that much.

GASTON

Belle, do you know what happens to spinsters in our village after their fathers die?

Gaston motions to the street, where we find AGATHE, a spinster, late 30's, dirty and homeless, rattling her cup: "alms for the poor?"

GASTON

They beg for scraps, like poor Agathe. This is our world, Belle. For simple folk like us, it doesn't get any better.

BELLE

I might be a farm girl, but I'm not simple. I'm sorry, but I will never marry you, Gaston.

Gaston keeps the gallant smile plastered as she shuts the door in his face.

23 EXT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - SUNSET

23

Belle watches Gaston leave. She opens the door.

BELLE

Can you imagine? Me, the wife of that boorish, brainless...

She turns away from the home she thinks she will never escape.

BELLE

Madame Gaston, can't you just see
it Madame Gaston, his little wife
No sir, not me, I guarantee it

BELLE

I want much more than this
Provincial life...

24 EXT. VILLAGE PROMONTORY - SUNSET

24

Belle races up the hills to the outskirts of town. When she reaches the highest point, we circle around to reveal the town spread out beneath her.

BELLE

I want adventure in the great wide
somewhere I want it more than I can
tell And for once it might be grand
To have someone understand I want
so much more than They've got
planned

As the last rays of light fade we RISE to reveal a forest in the distance, where the skies begin to rage. A swirling wind and a streak of...

25 EXT. WOODS - EVENING

25

Lightning. The sky flashes. The wind picks up. Worried, Maurice urges Philippe on.

MAURICE

The woods are lovely, aren't they
Philippe...? I only wish I
recognized them. Do you know where
we are? Because I don't.

As the woods get darker, a WITHERED TREE that looks like an ELDERLY PERSON'S CANE is struck by lightning.

MAURICE

Whoa!

The tree splits in two, one half falling into the road, revealing... a HIDDEN PATH. Philippe whinnies nervously.

MAURICE

Hmm... yes, we can go this way.
Walk on! One path closes, another
one opens.

They leave the blocked road and head down the path. Maurice looks down to see a light snow cover on the ground. Philippe snorts.

MAURICE
It's all right boy, it's just a bit
of snow... in June.

And they descend into --

26 EXT. ENCHANTED WOODS - EVENING

26

We have entered another world. A light, whirling snow descends on Maurice, dusting his coat. The clippity-clop of hooves echo in stillness.

Suddenly, A WHITE WOLF roars out of the bushes, barely missing them. Gaze darting, Maurice notices WHITE WOLVES running on an icy ledge above him. The wolves keep pace, massing to overrun him.

MAURICE
Go, Philippe! Hurry!

Maurice urges his horse on, but his rickety cart starts to buckle. A HARNESS IS LOOSE.

The wolves leap in front of the cart, which comes undone, tipping over on its side. The chest of music boxes smashes open on the ground. Maurice is launched up onto a ridge -- and finds himself face-to-face with the snarling and scarred ALPHA WOLF.

Terrified, Maurice turns and begins sliding down the snowy ridge -- towards a trio of wolves waiting below.

MAURICE
Philippe!

As Maurice drops from the ridge, Philippe appears beneath him -- and Maurice lands on his back!

MAURICE
Go! Go!

Philippe rides. PAWS crush twigs -- SLAVERING JAWS -- EYES mad with hunger -- a gleam of FANGS -- Philippe gallops. Maurice races toward the CASTLE ICE GATES -- which churn open as the wolves draw near.

Maurice and Philippe speed through the gates as the wolves skid to a stop, their HOWLS turning to YELPS OF FEAR.

27 EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - EVENING

27

Maurice stares in open-mouth awe at THE BEAST'S CASTLE. A grey edifice seemingly growing out of stone and reaching to troubled skies. It feels like a place hiding its face from the world.

MAURICE

(to Philippe)

Oh Philippe, you saved my life...
They'll have to get their dinner
somewhere else.

ANGLE ON MAURICE -- as he draws near the castle, he notices a colonnade filled with WHITE ROSE BUSHES. Just beyond, he sees the door to the STABLES swinging in the wind. A LAMP has been lit inside. As if inviting a tired traveler.

Maurice strokes Philippe's neck.

MAURICE

Water, fresh hay. Looks like you're set, old friend. Rest here...

Warily, Maurice peers out at the intimidating castle.

MAURICE

While I pay my respects to our unwitting host... whoever that may be...

He leaves. Philippe stares uneasily at a statue of a horse.

28 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - EVENING

28

Cautiously, Maurice approaches the castle door. He gazes up at a row of TORCHES held by sculpted iron hands. The hands are so life-like, does a double-take.

MAURICE

Hm.

Then --

29 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

29

-- the DOOR OPENS with a creak. Maurice peers in.

MAURICE
Hello? Anyone home?

Silence. Flashes of lightning illuminate a once-elegant space now fallen into disrepair.

MAURICE
Forgive me, I don't mean to intrude. I need shelter from the storm. Hello?

Maurice puts his hat and coat on a COAT RACK at the entrance.

Maurice turns, not seeing the coat rack shake the snow off.

Maurice explores, scanning the room and its FURNITURE -- TABLES, CHAIRS, A FEATHER DUSTER. A MANTLE CLOCK AND CANDELABRA SIT ON A TABLE. As Maurice passes them, the candelabra slowly TURNS -- as if watching him. This is LUMIÈRE, formerly head footman to the Prince.

LUMIÈRE
Must have lost his way in the woods...

The candelabra continues craning -- while the mantle clock beside it remains rigid. Meet COGSWORTH, every bit the stiff-upper-lip majordomo.

COGSWORTH
(whispers)
Shut up, you idiot.

Hearing this, Maurice spins -- but sees only an ordinary candelabra and clock on the table. Curious, he approaches, leaning down to the clock...

MAURICE
Mm... extraordinary.

He picks up the candelabra, inspecting it.

MAURICE
This is beautiful...

An echo of eerie harpsichord music makes Maurice turn toward the ballroom. He places the candelabra back down and exits.

LUMIÈRE
A man of taste.

COGSWORTH
He was talking about me.

30 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

30

Maurice walks through a door into a dark cavernous room. His eyes adjust to the light and he realizes he's in a VAST BALLROOM. Once the scene of joy, the ballroom knows only solemn decay. Suddenly --

CADENZA

Oops!

-- The harpsichord stops playing. Wary, Maurice goes back to --

31 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

31

Maurice crosses to a crackling fire, speaking to his unseen host.

MAURICE

Wherever you are, I'm just going to warm myself by the fire...

Maurice warms his frozen fingers, rubs his hands together to spread the heat.

MAURICE

That's better. Oh, much better...

As Maurice turns to warm his backside, he hears the clink of silverware from an adjoining room.

32 INT. DINING ROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

32

Maurice enters to find a vast dining room dominated by a BANQUET TABLE where a meal has been set out.

MAURICE

Oh, thank you!

Famished, Maurice sits, tears off a hunk of bread and devours it ravenously.

As Maurice looks around for something to wash down the food, a CUP OF TEA slides into his hand. Maurice calmly gives the cup a double-take. Meet CHIP, an 8 year-old boy tea cup. He whispers:

CHIP

Mom said I wasn't supposed to move because it might be scary. Sorry.

Maurice chews, smiles benevolently.

MAURICE
It's all right.

And bolts from the table.

33 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

33

Like any sane person, Maurice backs toward the door. He bows and calls into the shadows...

MAURICE
Thank you. Really, I cannot thank
you enough for your hospitality...
(takes his coat and hat)
... And kindness.

A flash of lightning briefly illuminates a BEASTLY SHAPE on the staircase. At the next flash -- THE SHAPE IS GONE.

34 EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - NIGHT

34

Maurice rides Philippe away from the castle. He notices the colonnade filled with rose bushes again.

MAURICE
Roses! Yes...

Maurice dismounts, checking to see that he hasn't been followed from the castle. He strokes his nervous horse, leaving him outside as he enters.

MAURICE
Can't go home empty handed... I
promised Belle a rose, didn't I? I
think it's safe...

We catch GLIMPSES of A DARK SHAPE moving atop the colonnade. A taloned PAW. A swishing TAIL.

Philippe snorts, sensing danger. Maurice spies a single PERFECT WHITE ROSE among the others.

CLOSE on the beast's EYES. Enraged. Wounded.

Maurice reaches for it.

MAURICE
Ow!

Pricked by a thorn, he pulls his hand back -- then tries again. He PICKS the rose -- only to hear a booming ROAR from above.

ANGLE ON MAURICE -- terrified as the dark shape leaps down from the colonnade. Maurice drops the rose, stumbling and falling as a DARK SHADOW is cast over him.

Philippe breaks his harness, whinnies in terror and flees, charging through the castle grounds and out the ice gates.

35 EXT. VILLAGE PROMONTORY - DAY

35

A first whisper of dawn as Philippe bursts out of the forest. He thunders down to the village.

36 EXT. BELLE'S COTTAGE - DAY

36

The sun is fresh on the horizon, and Belle is already up. A whinny disturbs her. She looks up to find Philippe, thirsty and exhausted.

BELLE

Philippe?

Belle puts strokes the horse's neck as he drinks deeply from the trough.

BELLE

What happened? Where is Papa?!

Belle goes still. Notices Philippe's torn straps and tattered reins. In dread, her gaze darts to the woods.

BELLE

Take me to him!

37 EXT. WOODS - DAY

37

Sunlight barely seeps through the thick branches lighting Belle's way as Philippe gallops past the FALLEN CANE TREE.

38 EXT. ENCHANTED WOODS - DAY

38

Belle races through the enchanted woods, coming upon Maurice's tipped over wagon. She sees the broken chest and scattered music boxes.

With a mix of apprehension and determination, Belle sets her jaw, and continues the gallop until the path brings her to...

39 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - DAY

39

Belle dismounts Philippe. Finding a THICK BRANCH, she wields it like a club, then bravely crosses to the castle and enters.

40 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - DAY

40

Club held high, ready to defend herself, Belle cautiously eases the door open and peeks inside.

The atmosphere of the castle presses in on Belle. Creepy DRAGON STATUES on the staircase seem like they're watching. Eerie SHADOWS stretch down impossibly long hallways.

LUMIÈRE

Look, Cogsworth. A beautiful girl.

COGSWORTH

I can see it's a girl. I lost my hands, not my eyes.

LUMIÈRE

But what if she is the one? The one who will break the spell?

Belle reacts. Quickly moves towards the voices --

BELLE

Who said that? Who's there?

Belle reaches the spot where she heard the voices. No one there. Only a clock and candelabra. Suddenly, a COUGH echoes through the castle. Belle grabs the candelabra and climbs a long staircase. The clock shudders with dread.

41 INT. PRISON TOWER - CASTLE - DAY

41

Belle follows the cough up a labyrinth of stairs until she reaches the dark prison tower and a GRATED IRON DOOR.

BELLE

Papa!? Is that you?

Belle sees Maurice through a grate in the door. He looks terribly pale and sick, coughing.

MAURICE (O.S.)

Belle? How did you find me!?

Belle puts the candelabra down and clutches his hands.

BELLE

Oh, your hands are ice. We need to
get you home.

MAURICE

Belle, you must leave here at once.
This castle is alive! Now go,
before he finds you!

BELLE

Who?!

The beast roars. Belle spins quickly, swinging her club to strike, but the figure jumps onto another staircase. Belle searches the shadows. The voice circles her.

BELLE

Who's there? Who are you?

THE BEAST (O.S.)

Who are you?

BELLE

I've come for my father.

THE BEAST (O.S.)

Your father is a thief.

BELLE

Liar!

THE BEAST (O.S.)

HE STOLE A ROSE.

In Belle's wide eyes, we see her guilt.

BELLE

I asked for the rose. Punish me,
not him!

MAURICE

No, he means forever. Apparently
that's what happens around here
when you pick a flower.

BELLE

A life sentence for a rose?

THE BEAST

I received eternal damnation for
one. I'm merely locking him away.
Now... do you still wish to take
your father's place?

BELLE

Come into the light.

The figure remains still. Belle grabs hold of Lumiere and thrusts the candle forward, illuminating a HIDEOUS HORNED FACE. Belle's eyes go wide as she clearly sees THE BEAST.

The only part of him that seems human are his eyes. BLUE.

DEEP. SOULFUL. And flicked with pain when he sees Belle's revulsion.

THE BEAST
CHOOSE!

MAURICE

Belle, I won't let you do this. I lost your mother. I won't lose you too. Now go!

Maurice falls into a terrible coughing fit.

BELLE
Alright, Papa. I will leave.
(to the beast)
I need a minute alone with him.

The beast doesn't respond.

BELLE
Are you so cold-hearted that you won't allow a daughter to kiss her father goodbye?
(off his proud grunt)
Forever can spare a minute!

Intrigued by her defiance, the beast moves toward her, reaching out with his massive paw. Belle closes her eyes, bracing herself for his retaliation. Instead, she hears -- CLANG.

Belle opens her eyes to find herself eye to eye with the beast's chest. He has reached high above her head to pull down an iron lever, unlocking the door.

THE BEAST
When this door closes, it will not open again.

42 INT. PRISON CELL - CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

42

Belle rushes in and embraces her father.

BELLE

I should have been with you.

MAURICE

Belle, listen to me. It's all right. Live your life. Forget me.

BELLE

Forget you? Everything I am is because of you.

MAURICE

I love you, Belle. Don't be afraid.

BELLE

I love you too, Papa...

She pulls him close.

BELLE

I'm not afraid.
(whispers)
And I will escape, I promise.

MAURICE

What?!

With that, she pivots and swings her father through the door just as the beast slams it shut. Maurice trips to the ground, giving the beast a second to turn to Belle. They lock eyes.

THE BEAST

You took his place.

BELLE

He is my father.

THE BEAST

He's a fool. So are you.

The beast turns and drags Maurice away.

BELLE

Don't hurt him!

Through the latticework, Belle sees the beast and her father disappear down the corridor. She rushes to the window and watches the beast carry her father down the spiral staircase of the prison tower.

MAURICE

Belle! I'll come back! I promise!

Once she is alone, Belle cannot help herself. She slumps to the floor and the tears come. We FADE OUT.

43 INT. CELL - PRISON TOWER - DUSK

43

Belle huddles in the corner. The cell door swings opens.

LUMIÈRE (O.S.)
Forgive my intrusion, mademoiselle,
but I have been sent to escort you
to your room.

Belle wipes her tears and stands. She grabs a small stool,
ready to strike.

BELLE
My room? But I thought --

LUMIÈRE (O.S.)
What? That once this door closes it
will not open again, RARRR? I know,
he gets so dramatic.

Belle bounds out of the cell, raising the stool to hit a
grown man. Instead, she sees... a candelabra wave at her.

LUMIÈRE
'Allo.

BELLE
AHHH!

Like seeing a mouse, Belle bashes the candelabra. It grunts
as it clatters on the stone floor. The candles extinguished.

WHOOSH -- the first candle relights. WHOOSH -- the second.
Illuminated by the two arm candles, Belle makes out EYES and
a rudimentary "FACE" in the design.

LUMIÈRE
(recovering)
Oh, you are very strong. That's a
great quality!

BELLE
What are you?

The arms light the main candle to reveal a rakish smile.

LUMIÈRE
I am Lumière.

BELLE
And you can talk.

Cogsworth appears, out of breath.

COGSWORTH

Of course he can talk, it's all he ever does! Now Lumiere, as head of the household, I demand that you put her back in the cell at once!

Officially freaked out now, Belle retreats to her cell, in search of a better weapon.

LUMIÈRE

What do you want to be for the rest of your life, Cogsworth: a man or a mantle clock?

They turn back to Belle, re-emerging from the cell.

LUMIÈRE

Ready, miss?
(to Cogsworth)
Trust me.

44 EXT. ROOFTOP WALKWAY - CASTLE - EVENING

44

Holding Lumière, Belle follows Cogsworth across a stone walkway high above the grounds. Her eyes dart, looking for an escape route. Instead, she sees how vast the castle and woods are.

LUMIÈRE

You must forgive first impressions, I hope you are not too startled.

BELLE

Why would I be startled? I'm talking to a candle.

LUMIÈRE

Candelabra, please. Enormous difference. But consider me at your service. The castle is your home now, so feel free to go anywhere you like --

COGSWORTH

Except the west wing!

Lumière throws him a 'would-you-please-shut-up' look.

COGSWORTH

Which we do not have.

BELLE

Why, what's in the west wing?

LUMIÈRE

Uh... nothing. Storage space.
That's it.

Belle looks back at the spooky tower of the west wing.

LUMIÈRE

This way, please!

COGSWORTH

To the east wing.

LUMIÈRE

Or as I like to call it, the only
wing! Watch your step s'il vous
plait.

45 INT. CORRIDOR/BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - EVENING

45

Belle stands outside the bedroom door, anticipating worse
squalor...

LUMIÈRE

Welcome to your new home. It's
modest, but comfortable...

Instead, the door opens to --

46 INT. BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - EVENING

46

-- the most beautiful, magical room she's ever seen. The
entire ceiling is a painting of white clouds in a blue sky.
There is a LARGE DRESSER and a COMFORTABLE BED. Opulence.

BELLE

It's... beautiful.

LUMIÈRE

Of course. Master wanted you to
have the finest room in the castle.

Lumière leaps onto the bed and - POOF - dust fills the air.

LUMIÈRE

Oh dear! We were not expecting
guests.

PLUMETTE, a feather duster, swoops into the room, giving the
surfaces a quick dusting.

PLUMETTE

Enchanté, Mademoiselle! Don't worry, I'll have this room spotless in no time!

She lands in the arms of Lumière, whose candles burn a little hotter once she speaks in her sexy French accent.

PLUMETTE
(sotto)
This plan of yours is... dangerous.

LUMIÈRE
I would risk anything to kiss you again, Plumette.

He moves to embrace her, but she stops him.

PLUMETTE
No, my love. I've been burned by you before. We must be strong.

LUMIÈRE
How can I be strong when you make me so weak?

Cogsworth clears his throat. Belle backs away from the strange creatures.

BELLE
Is everything here alive?
(picks up a HAIR BRUSH)
Hello, what's your name?

Cogsworth looks up at her, puzzled.

COGSWORTH
Um... that's a hair brush.

Belle hears a loud SNORE behind her, and turns to see the DRESSER bursting open with an operatic "aaaaaaa!" Belle shrieks and steps back.

LUMIÈRE
Do not be alarmed, mademoiselle.
This is just your wardrobe. Meet Madame De Garderobe. A great singer.

COGSWORTH
When she can stay awake.

GARDEROBE
Cogsworth! A diva needs her beauty rrr-

MADAME DE GARDEROBE yawns loudly.

LUMIÈRE

Ah, stay with us, Madame! We have someone for you to dress!

Garderobe's gilded arms stroke Belle's shoulder and face.

GARDEROBE

Finally. A woman. Pretty eyes. Proud face. Perfect canvas. Yes! I will find you something worthy of a princess.

BELLE

But I'm not a princess.

GARDEROBE

Nonsense! Now, let's see what I've got in my drawers.

Garderobe's doors open and a few moths fly out.

GARDEROBE

Oh, how embarrassing.

Garderobe places a large HOOP over Belle's head, and proceeds to create an outfit using fabric and her pinking-shear hands. FROUFROU, a piano stool, runs in, barking like a dog.

GARDEROBE

Come here, Froufrou. Come help mama!

Froufrou tugs at the fabric, helping Garderobe complete the outfit -- which is garish and too too much, all wrong for Belle.

GARDEROBE

Perfetta!

Lumière and Cogsworth put on a game smile.

LUMIÈRE

Mm. Subtle. Understated. I love it!

With a deep bow and a whistle for Froufrou, Lumière drags Cogsworth out. Plumette and Froufrou follow. Garderobe calls out after her beloved dog.

GARDEROBE

Froufrou, send my love to the maestro!

The door closes. Belle is alone. Garderobe instantly falls asleep with a big SNORE. Belle has one beat of... where the hell am I? She ducks down, then crawls out from underneath the enormous dress, which remains standing.

Belle looks around the room with one thing in mind: escape.

She quickly moves to the window. Opens it. She looks down at the 100 foot drop leading to the grounds.

Belle turns back to the room, and gazes at the dress. An idea taking shape.

47 EXT. COUNTRY INN - NIGHT

47

A LAMPLIGHTER is hard at work outside as we hear fiddle music coming from the inn.

48 INT. COUNTRY INN - NIGHT

48

Amidst the animal heads, antlers, and drunken villagers, there is an even sadder sight -- GASTON. He drowns his sorrows in ale while LEFOU listens.

GASTON

Picture it, LeFou -- a rustic cabin. My latest kill roasting on the fire. Adorable children running around us while my love rubs my tired feet. But what does Belle say? "I will never marry you, Gaston."

LEFOU

You know, there are other girls.

The village lasses perk up. "Yes! There are other girls!"

GASTON

A great hunter doesn't waste his time on rabbits.

The lasses deflate. "Awww!" LeFou decides it's time to cheer up his best friend/boss. Thus begins "GASTON."

LEFOU

Gosh it disturbs me to see you
 Gaston looking so down in the dumps
 Every guy here'd love to be you
 Gaston Even when taking your lumps
 There's no man in town as admired
 as you You're everyone's fa-vor-ite
 guy Everyone's awed and inspired by
 you And it's not very hard to see
 why

LeFou gives a nod (and a large tip) to the FIDDLE PLAYER in the corner, who nods back, and begins to play...

LEFOU

No one's slick as Gaston No one's
 quick as Gaston No one's neck's as
 incredibly thick as Gaston For
 there's no man in town half as
 manly Perfect, a pure paragon! You
 can ask any Tom, Dick or Stanley
 And they'll tell you whose team
 they prefer to be on!

LeFou hops onto the bar, squeezing himself between TOM, DICK, and STANLEY.

TOM/DICK/STANLEY

Who plays darts like Gaston? Who
 breaks hearts like Gaston?

LEFOU

Who's much more than the sum of his
 parts like Gaston?

GASTON

(confidence growing)
 As a specimen, yes, I'm
 intimidating

LeFou hails a BARMAID and buys everyone a round of drinks.
 The villagers raise their mugs and cheer.

LEFOU/VILLAGERS

My what a guy, that Gaston!

Gaston stands, and clasps LeFou in gratitude...

GASTON

I needed encouragement; thank you,
 LeFou

LEFOU

Well, there's no one as easy to
 bolster as you!

... only to find himself in an uncomfortably tight hug.

LEFOU

Too much?

GASTON

Yep.

VILLAGERS

No one fights like Gaston Douses
lights like Gaston!

LEFOU

In a wrestling match nobody bites
like Gaston!

LeFou moves his shirt up his arm to show an old wrestling wound - a nice teeth impression courtesy of Gaston. The villagers gasp.

GASTON

When I hunt, I sneak up with my
quiver And beasts of the field say
a prayer First I carefully aim for
the liver Then I shoot from behind!

Gaston leaps onto the bar, and is handed a huge blunderbuss, with which he mimes shooting LeFou.

LEFOU

Is that fair?

GASTON

I don't care

And Gaston fires the rifle into the ceiling! Plaster rains down.

VILLAGERS

No one hits like Gaston Matches
wits like Gaston

LEFOU

In a spitting match nobody spits
like Gaston

GASTON

I'M ESPECIALLY GOOD AT
EXPECTORATING!

Gaston spits a big gloppy mess into a spittoon: bullseye! Then, he moves around the inn, holding court.

VILLAGERS

Ten points for Gaston!

GASTON

When I was a lad I ate four dozen
eggs Ev'ry morning to help me get
large

On one shoulder, Gaston lifts a pretty VILLAGE GIRL. On the other, he lifts LeFou.

GASTON

And now that I'm grown I eat five
dozen eggs So I'm roughly the size
of a barge!

The crowd hollers. Gaston jumps on a long table. The table's height plus his massive frame make him seem 10 feet tall.

He engages in a dance-break sword-fight with several VILLAGE MEN, besting them all, until he's perfectly positioned beneath a ceiling mural, mimicking it exactly: Gaston, saber raised, victorious in battle -- with LeFou swooning at his feet.

LEFOU

Who has brains like Gaston?
Entertains like Gaston?

GASTON

Who can make up these endless
Refrains like Gaston?

Gaston tromps on the table. He arrives at his WALL OF ANIMAL HEADS and ANTLERS.

GASTON

I use antlers in all of my
decorating!

ALL

Say it again - who's a man among
men? And let's say it once more
Who's that hero next door? Who's a
super success? Don't you know?
Can't you guess? Ask his fans and
his five hangers-on There's just
one guy in town Who's got all of it
down...

LEFOU

And his name's 'G-A-S-T... ' Uh, I believe there's another 'T' in there, it just occurred to me that I'm illiterate and I've never actually had to spell it out loud before... Gaston!

The villagers cheer as Gaston returns to his seat. Gaston slaps LeFou on the shoulder, genuinely moved.

GASTON

Ah LeFou, you're the best. How is it that no girl has snatched you up yet?

LEFOU

I've been told I'm clingy, but I really don't get it...

Just then, the door flies open to reveal a wild-eyed Maurice.

MAURICE

Help! Somebody help me! We have to go... not a minute to lose...

TAVERN KEEPER

Whoa. Slow down, Maurice.

MAURICE

He's got Belle... locked in a dungeon!

TAVERN KEEPER

Who's got her?

MAURICE

A beast... a horrible monstrous beast!

The patrons begin to laugh.

MAURICE

My daughter's life is in danger, why do you laugh!? His castle is hidden in the woods. It's already winter there!

JEAN

Winter in June?

CLOTHILDE

Crazy old Maurice.

MAURICE

The beast is real! Do you understand?! Will no one help me?!

GASTON
(ever the opportunist)
I'll help you, Maurice!

LEFOU
You will?

The villagers murmur in surprise.

GASTON
(winks at LeFou)
Everyone! Stop making fun of this man at once!

Maurice approaches. So grateful.

MAURICE
Thank you, Captain. Thank you.

GASTON
Don't thank me, Maurice. Lead us to the beast.

Maurice exits. Gaston follows, gesturing to LeFou.

LEFOU
(finally getting it)
Ohhh.

49 INT. KITCHEN - CASTLE - NIGHT

49

The staff is excited as they scramble to get ready for dinner.

CHIP, the 8 year-old tea cup, rides his saucer around like a skateboard. He circles his teapot mother MRS. POTTS, a no-nonsense yet loving governess.

CHIP
Mama, there's a girl in the castle!

MRS. POTTS
Yes, Chip. We know. Slow down.

CHIP
Is she pretty? Is she nice? What kind of tea does she like?

MRS. POTTS

We'll find out soon enough. Slow down before you break your handle!

But Chip doesn't slow down. Before Mrs. Potts can chase, CUISINIER, the frustrated French chef-turned-oven, pours hot water into her to prepare tea.

CUISINIER
Heads up, Mrs. Potts!

She flushes and reacts with pleasure as if stepping into a warm bath.

50 INT. DINING ROOM - CASTLE - SAME

50

The beast enters the dining room and sits at one end of a long dining table. He looks at his place setting, surprised to find flatware and crystal. Confused, he looks up.

THE BEAST'S POV rises to find another place setting at the other end of the long table. When he notices the romantic candles, he swats his own place setting off the table in anger.

51 INT. KITCHEN - CASTLE - SAME

51

A voice bellowing from the dining room causes Lumiere and Cogsworth to turn.

THE BEAST (O.S.)
LUMIÈRE!

Cogsworth balks with terror.

LUMIÈRE
Be calm, let me do the talking.

A fuming beast storms in, and looks down at the assembled staff. Lumière is as good a liar as Cogsworth is not.

THE BEAST
YOU'RE MAKING HER DINNER!?

LUMIÈRE
We thought you might appreciate the company.

COGSWORTH

Master, I can assure you that I had no part in this hopeless plan. Preparing a dinner, designing a gown for her, giving her a suite in the east wing --

THE BEAST
YOU GAVE HER A BEDROOM!?

Cornered by the beast, Cogsworth has no choice but to...

COGSWORTH
No no, he gave her a bedroom.

LUMIÈRE
That is true. But if the girl is the one who can break the spell, maybe you can start by using dinner to charm her.

(turns to Cogsworth)
Good thinking, Cogsworth!

COGSWORTH
What?!

THE BEAST
That's the most ridiculous idea I've ever heard! "Charm the prisoner."

LUMIÈRE
You must try, master. With every passing day, we become less human.

THE BEAST
She's the daughter of a common thief. What kind of person do you think that makes her?

MRS. POTTS
Oh, you can't judge people by who their father is, now can you?

It's a loaded statement. The staff cringes, ready for his retaliation. Instead, a grunt, and then --

52 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

52

KNOCK. KNOCK. The beast stands at Belle's door while his servants stand by his side to play Cyrano.

THE BEAST

You will join me for dinner! That's not a request.

MRS. POTTS
Gently, master. The girl lost her father and her freedom in one day.

LUMIÈRE
Yes. The poor thing is probably in there, scared to death.

MRS. POTTS
Exactly.

53 INT. BELLE'S CASTLE BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

53

Actually, Belle has been actively planning her escape. Her makeshift rope of fabric hangs 50 feet out of the window.

KNOCK. KNOCK.

BELLE
Just a minute.

54 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

54

The servants react to hearing Belle's voice.

LUMIÈRE
You see, there she is. Now, master, remember. Be gentle.

MRS. POTTS
...kind...

PLUMETTE
...charming...

COGSWORTH
...sweet...

The words fly as they bury the beast with advice.

LUMIÈRE
And when she opens the door, give her a dashing debonair smile. Come come -- show me the smile.

The beast flashes the most hideous grin anyone has ever seen.

The staff GASPS in horror.

LUMIÈRE
Oh mon dieu.

Contorting his mouth, the beast turns back to the door.

THE BEAST
Will you join me for dinner?

We wait a perfect beat and then, cut to...

55 INT. BELLE'S BEDROOM/ INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS (INTERCUT) 55

Belle moves to the door.

BELLE
You've taken me prisoner and now
you want to have dinner with me?
Are you insane?

The beast's temper rises -- his eyebrows twitch, his tail
thrashes -- recognizing the signs, Plumette inches away --

PLUMETTE
He's losing it...

The beast beats his fist on the door -- WHAM! WHAM! WHAM!

THE BEAST
I told you to come down to dinner.

Belle hits back. WHAM! WHAM! WHAM!

BELLE
And I told you no!

All the banging finally wakes up Madame de Garderobe.

GARDEROBE
WHAT!? WHAT TIME IS IT!?

BELLE
I'd starve before I ever ate with
you!

THE BEAST
Well be my guest! Go ahead and
starve!
(as he leaves)
If she doesn't eat with me, then
she doesn't eat at all!

The staff hides, terrified, as the beast thunders off.

THE BEAST

Idiots!

Once the coast is clear, Cogsworth comes out of hiding with a sword and puts on a show of bravery.

COGSWORTH

You can't talk to us like that! I forbid it! I... I...

(to Lumière)

Am I too late? Shame. I was really going to tell him off this time.

LUMIÈRE

(looks past Cogsworth)

Oh master, you've returned!

Cogsworth shrieks and spins -- only to realize he's been duped.

COGSWORTH

Oh, very funny.

LUMIÈRE

Eh, I got you there!

56 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

56

Fuming, the beast returns to his lair -- a chamber of shredded furniture and walls ruined in rage. He paces, muttering. He grabs a decaying HAND MIRROR.

THE BEAST

Show me the girl.

The mirror lights up and gives him a view of Belle at the bedroom door. She turns, slides down the wall, and curls her knees up to her. A look of dread on her face.

Her fear crushes the beast. The mirror magic fades, and he is left with his own reflection and self-loathing. He lowers the mirror to reveal the glass jar by the open window.

In the jar, the ENCHANTED ROSE hangs in mid-air. The rose is wilting. Most of its petals have fallen. Rage evaporating, replaced by shame, the beast lowers his head...

... as ONE MORE PETAL DROPS.

The image moves inside the jar. We see the beast through the glass as he leans down, peering in at the petal as it reaches the bottom and shrivels. As it does, we hear a far off RUMBLE, as if the foundation of the castle is trembling.

57 EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT -- DAWN

57

From a distance, we see stone statuary crack and tumble down from the castle walls...

58 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

58

The staff is gathered; the beginning of their evening. Lumière lights the fireplace. He hears the crash of falling debris.

LUMIÈRE
Another petal fell...

PLUMETTE
Lumière, I grew three more feathers! And I just plucked yesterday.

Lumière moves to help, but his legs stiffen. He holds his flame to his knee like a heating pad.

LUMIÈRE
I know, darling -- Ow! I'm getting more metallic every day.

Suddenly, Cogsworth begins making clock sounds.

COGSWORTH
Oh, no! It's -- tick tock! -- happening again -- cuckoo! Pardon me.

MRS. POTTS
Everyone, calm yourselves. We still have time.

CHIP
Mama, am I ever going to be a boy again?

MRS. POTTS
Yes, Chip. You'll have your days in the sun again. You just leave it to me.

59 EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

59

Belle throws her makeshift rope out the bedroom window.

60 INT. BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

60

Belle looks down -- the rope is about 20 feet off the ground.
Almost there. A KNOCK on the door.

BELLE

I told you to go away.

MRS. POTTS (O.S.)

Don't worry, dear. It's only Mrs.
Potts.

Mrs. Potts bustles in on her cart with Chip.

MRS. POTTS

Oh, aren't you a vision! How lovely
to make your acquaintance.

Belle tries to block her view of the escape rope, but Mrs.
Potts is too sharp.

MRS. POTTS

It's a very long journey. Let me
fix you up before you go. I have
found that most troubles seem less
troubling after a bracing cup o'
tea.

The tea is poured into Chip, who wheels over to Belle.

MRS. POTTS

Slowly now, Chip.

Belle picks up Chip and brings him up to her mouth. Little
Chip finds himself face-to-face with the most beautiful girl
he has ever seen. She takes a sip.

CHIP

Pleased to meet you! Want to see me
do a trick?

Chip blows a huge bubble in his tea cup. It pops loudly.

MRS. POTTS

Chip.

(to Belle)

That was a very brave thing you did
for your father, dear.

Madame Garderobe's doors swing open.

GARDEROBE

Yes. We all think so.

BELLE

I'm so worried about him. He's never been on his own.

MRS. POTTS
Cheer up, my poppet. Things will turn out in the end. You'll feel a lot better after dinner.

BELLE
But he said, "If she doesn't eat with me, she doesn't eat at all."

MRS. POTTS
People say a lot of things in anger. It is our choice whether or not to listen. Coming?

And Mrs. Potts is out the door. Belle looks to Garderobe.

GARDEROBE
Go.

61 INT. KITCHEN - CASTLE - NIGHT

61

The door opens. Lumière races in to the excited staff.

LUMIÈRE
They're coming! Final checks, everyone, tout de suite!

Cogsworth waddles in after him. Plumette flutters nervously.

COGSWORTH
No, you don't! If the master finds out you violated his orders and fed her, he will blame me.

Lumiere jumps up onto the sink, navigating sudsy dishes as CHAPEAU scrubs them.

LUMIÈRE
Yes, I will make sure of it. But did you see her stand up to him? I am telling you, this girl is the one. They must fall in love if we are to be human again, and they can't fall in love if she stays in her room.

(looks at a smudged dish)
Eh, Chapeau, you missed a spot!

Lumière tosses the dish back in the sink, skipping onto a passing tea trolley. Cogsworth climbs up in pursuit.

COGSWORTH

You know she will never love him.

LUMIÈRE

A broken clock is right two times a day, mon ami, and this is not one of those times.

Lumière leaps onto the table, and uprights a champagne glass.

LUMIÈRE

Stand up straight!
(to the room)
It's time to sparkle!

He leaps again, onto CUISINIER, and sips a spoonful from a bubbling pot.

LUMIÈRE

I have no taste buds, but I can tell this is exquisite.

CUISINIER

Off! Off me while I work! Pepper, get cracking! Salt, shake a leg!

COGSWORTH

Not so loud! Keep it down!

LUMIÈRE

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

COGSWORTH

Music?!

62 INT. DINING ROOM - CASTLE - MOMENTS LATER

62

To Cogsworth's horror, Lumière guides an ambulatory HARPSICHORD into the room. This is CADENZA, our neurotic Italian maestro.

LUMIÈRE

Maestro Cadenza, are you ready?

CADENZA

(coy)

It has been so long since I've performed! I can barely even remember how...

But with an abrupt flourish, Cadenza plays show-offy scales on the ivories until -- PLUNK.

CADERNA

Another cavity.

LUMIÈRE

Maestro, your wife is upstairs,
finding it harder and harder to
stay awake. She's counting on you
to help us break this curse.

CADERNA

Then, I shall play through the
dental pain!

COGSWORTH

(whispers to Cadenza)

But Maestro. Play quietly. Please.

CADERNA

Quietly? Sotto voce? Of course. Are
there any other tasteless demands
you wish to make upon my artistry?

COGSWORTH

No, that's it.

Mrs. Potts leads Belle to the end of the long dining table.

MRS. POTTS

There you are, dear.

Lumière LEAPS onto the table. Floating at a high window,
Plummette uses a silver platter to turn a shaft of moonlight
into a SPOTLIGHT. As Lumière begins "BE OUR GUEST."

LUMIÈRE

Ma chere, mademoiselle. It is with
deepest pride and greatest pleasure
that we welcome you tonight. And
now, we invite you to relax.

Belle sits down in a chair, which moves in, bringing her
closer to the table. Lumière motions up to Plumette to steady
her shaky spotlight.

LUMIÈRE

Let us pull up a chair... as the
dining room proudly presents...

Cadenza plays a dramatic scale as a table cloth UNFURLS, and
Lumière jumps up and LANDS in a pose. Cadenza ends his scale
on the wrong note. Lumière shoots him a look, Cadenza plays
the right note, and Lumière turns to Belle and smiles.

LUMIÈRE

... your dinner.
 (sings to Belle)
 Be our guest, be our guest

The napkins on the place settings rise up and twirl. Chapeau offers Belle a napkin.

LUMIÈRE
 Put our service to the test Tie
 your napkin 'round your neck,
 cherie And we provide the rest!

Spinning quickly, Chapeau presents the following to Belle:

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

Belle reaches out to try it, but it's gone before she can.

LUMIÈRE
 Don't believe me? Ask the dishes!

The hors d'oeuvres plates go off, leaving the dinner dishes to levitate and spin.

LUMIÈRE
 They can sing, they can dance After
 all, miss, this is France!

A small guillotine on the table drops, slicing the baguette.

MENUS fly in overhead, buzzing a disgruntled Cogsworth. Belle reaches up and grabs one.

LUMIÈRE
 And a dinner here is never second
 best Go on unfold your menu

LUMIÈRE
 Take a glance and then you'll Be
 our guest, be our guest

LUMIÈRE AND COGSWORTH
 Be our guest!

Cogsworth shushes Lumière, and Lumière jabs him back. One by one the kitchen doors swing open, presenting:

LUMIÈRE
 Beef ragout, cheese souffle, Pie
 and pudding en flambé!

The fish pie explodes! A piece of cod hits Cogsworth in the face, knocking him over.

LUMIÈRE
We'll prepare and serve with flair
A culinary cabaret!

Flute glasses fill up with champagne and then break into a Bob Fosse homage. Belle grabs a glass, but Lumière snatches it before she sips.

LUMIÈRE
You're alone and you're scared But
the banquet's all prepared!

Lumière coaxes the flatware to its feet.

LUMIÈRE
No one's gloomy or complaining
While the flatware's entertaining!

The flatware hold out a napkin, into which Lumière jumps, like a trampoline. He is launched into the air, swinging between chandeliers a la Cirque du Soleil.

LUMIÈRE
We tell jokes, I do tricks With my
fellow candlesticks

CHANDELIER CANDLESTICKS
And it's all in perfect taste That
you can bet!

Lumière falls and lands back in the middle of the champagne flutes. They rise up around him.

LUMIÈRE
Come on and lift your glass You've
won your own free pass To be our
guest
(to Cogsworth)
If you're stressed, it's fine
dining we suggest.
Oui our guest Be our guest, be our
guest!

Cogsworth steps back as Lumière again takes center stage in a Martha Graham inspired solo.

LUMIÈRE
Life is so unnerving For a servant
who's not serving

Belle reaches again for food but is stopped by Lumière's melodramatic histrionics. He wraps himself in a napkin for the full Martha Graham effect.

LUMIÈRE

He's not whole Without a soul to
wait upon

Lumière does a 'tragic walk' down the table. Reaching the end, he slides down to the floor on the tablecloth, then gathers it around his neck and continues on.

Belle tries to stab a bite as the food moves past her, as if on a conveyer belt. Sliding past her, Cogsworth wobbles.

On the floor, snow swirls around Lumière. We pull out to see several "ETTES" flinging salt at him to create the effect.

LUMIÈRE

Ah, those good old days when we
were useful Suddenly, those good
old days are gone

Reaching the end of the table, plates dive and spin into neat piles --

LUMIÈRE

Too long we've been rusting Needing
so much more than dusting Needing
exercise A chance to use our skills

-- while Cogsworth lands on Lumière's lap below. Chapeau scoops them both up and drops them back on the table before Belle.

LUMIÈRE

Most days we just lay around the
castle Flabby, fat and lazy

Lumière playfully pokes Cogsworth in his pot belly -- then takes a flying leap!

LUMIÈRE

You walked in, and oops-a-daisie!

63 INT. KITCHEN - CASTLE - NIGHT

63

Mrs. Potts hops along the edge of the sink basin.

MRS. POTTS

It's a guest, it's a guest! Sakes
alive, and I'll be blessed! Wine's
been poured and thank the Lord I've
had more napkins freshly pressed!

She ascents to the top of a tiered, circular pastry table, as
napkins twirl around her. Desserts appear and circle Mrs.
Potts. Then tea cups enter on the outer circle, moving in the
opposite direction.

MRS. POTTS
With dessert, she'll want tea And
my dear, that's fine with me! While
the cups do their soft shoeing,
I'll be bubbling, I'll be brewing!

From overhead, a la Busby Berkeley, we reveal desserts,
teacups, napkins, the floor, everything circling in opposing
directions.

Mrs. Potts descends, jumping onto her tea trolley -- and
notices a smudge of icing on Chip.

MRS. POTTS
I'll get warm, piping hot Heaven's
sake, is that a spot?

She quickly steams it off him.

MRS. POTTS
Clean it up, we want the company
impressed!

The trolley rolls through the doors --

64 INT. DINING ROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

64

-- and up to Belle. Mrs. Potts pours a cup into Chip.

MRS. POTTS
We've got a lot to do -- Is it one
lump or two? For you our guest!

LUMIÈRE
She's our guest!

MRS. POTTS
She's our guest!

Finally, unable to resist, Cogsworth joins in, pushing
Lumière out of the spotlight.

COGSWORTH, LUMIÈRE, MRS. POTTS

She's our guest!

Plumette and her "Ettes" descend on a chandelier, which is lowered by Lumière. They dance; a Beyoncé homage.

ALL

Be our guest! Be our guest! Our command is your request! It's years since we had anybody Here and we're obsessed!

Lumière ties the chandelier rope around Cogsworth, who falls over, causing the light to spin. Plumette dives into a massive punch bowl, leading her "Ettes" into an Esther Williams moment.

ALL

With your meal, with your ease, Yes indeed, we aim to please

Splashes from the punch bowl launch us into a "Singin' in the Rain" moment, with Lumière dancing under the fountain. The grand finale is pure Bollywood, punctuated by explosions of candy-colored powders.

ALL

While the candlelight's still glowing, Let us help you, we'll keep going -- Course by... COURSE! One by one! Til you shout "Enough, I'm done!" Then we'll sing you off to sleep as you digest Tonight you'll prop your feet up But for now let's eat up... Be our guest! Be our guest! Be our guest! Please! Be our guest!!

As the table clears itself, whooshing back into the kitchen, Lumière whirls toward Belle, finally presenting her with --

LUMIÈRE

Pudding?!

Overwhelmed, she laughs.

65 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

65

Mrs. Potts (on her trolley cart) escorts Belle from the dining room.

BELLE

Surely you're as trapped here as I am. Don't you ever want to escape?

MRS. POTTS

The master's not as terrible as he appears. Somewhere deep in his soul, there's a prince of a fellow, just waiting to be set free.

Belle takes this in, a valuable piece of the puzzle. She looks up at the massive staircase.

BELLE

Lumiere mentioned something about the West Wing...

MRS. POTTS

Never you mind about that. Off to bed with you, poppet.

BELLE

Good night.

MRS. POTTS

Nighty-night. Straight to bed!

Mrs. Potts moves off as Belle climbs the stairs toward her room. At the top, she hurries up the staircase leading to the west wing.

66 INT. STAIRCASE - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

66

Belle sticks to the shadows. She walks up to a massive wooden door -- slightly ajar.

67 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

67

Furniture lies in rubble, curtains are shredded -- evidence of the beast's temper. Wary, Belle investigates when --

SHE GLIMPSES EYES PEERING AT HER OFF TO THE SIDE.

With a start, Belle wheels to find -- the eyes belong to a royal portrait. The subject seems to be a TEENAGE BOY but his face has been SLASHED BEYOND RECOGNITION.

Only the eyes survived. Bright blue. Engaging. Resembling the eyes of THE BEAST. She realizes that this is the "prince of a fellow" Mrs. Potts was referring to.

Belle leans in to study the painting. A ROYAL FAMILY stands by the castle. The FATHER's image has been slashed. The QUEEN remains pristine. Kind. Beautiful.

Belle moves past a large four-poster bed, its faded coverlet gray with dust, like no one has slept in it for years. On the floor, she sees a makeshift bed made of straw, torn bits of fabric and crumpled blankets: the resting place of a nocturnal carnivore.

Belle turns and sees the glow coming from the GLASS JAR by an open window leading to the balcony. Inside the jar -- THE ENCHANTED ROSE.

Mesmerized, Belle approaches the rose. She lifts the jar, leaving the rose unprotected. She reaches out to touch the rose. A shadow cuts across Belle's face.

THE BEAST
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!? WHAT DID
YOU DO TO IT!?

The beast bears down on Belle, backing her up. She puts down the bell jar.

BELLE
Nothing.

THE BEAST
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU COULD HAVE
DONE!? YOU COULD HAVE DAMNED US
ALL! GET OUT! GO!

Belle runs. The beast turns and covers the rose, panicked and protective.

68 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

68

Lumière and Cogsworth play chess on an upper landing, with Froufrou resting between them.

LUMIÈRE
Checkmate. Again.

COGSWORTH
Because you cheated. Again.

Belle appears, racing down the west wing staircase.

LUMIÈRE
Mademoiselle... what are you doing?

BELLE
Getting out of here!

Cogsworth jumps onto the chess board as Lumiere hops to the floor.

COGSWORTH

Stop!

LUMIÈRE

Go go, Froufrou!

Froufrou jumps up and starts after Belle.

COGSWORTH

Yes Froufrou, stop her!

Belle barrels down the main staircase, Froufrou in close pursuit.

Mrs. Potts enters from the kitchen, wearing a tea cosy.

MRS. POTTS

You don't want to go out there!

At the top of the stairs, Cogsworth sounds a whistle. In quick cuts, WINDOWS drop and SHUTTERS close.

Belle hits the bottom of the grand staircase and runs towards the door -- only to watch it bolt itself locked.

MRS. POTTS

Stop her!

Froufrou runs in front of Belle to block her exit, and growls.

COGSWORTH

Who's a good dog?

Then suddenly, his growls turn to playful yaps, as he stands on his hind legs and pants playfully.

COGSWORTH

What? No, it's not playtime! Bad dog! Bad dog!

MRS. POTTS

What part of 'stop her' don't you understand, dog?!

Froufrou spins and scrambles outside, scooting through the low postern door within the great front door. In his excitement, he's provided Belle with an escape!

Belle snatches her cloak from a bewildered Chapeau, and shimmies out through this same 'doggie door.'

LUMIÈRE

Please, don't go! It's dangerous!

Mrs. Potts rushes forward but it's too late. A look of dread settles on her face...

MRS. POTTS
Oh my...

69 EXT. ENCHANTED WOODS - NIGHT

69

HOWL. Philippe's hooves hit the snowy landscape. Belle races through the woods. She looks back to see if the beast followed her. She only sees a glimpse of the castle. She thinks she has escaped. Surely, she has escaped.

WOLVES HOWL NEARBY.

ANGLE ON PHILIPPE'S MUDDY HOOFPRINT -- a WOLF'S PAW smashes down over the print -- the wolf howls --

ANGLE ON BELLE -- out of the corner of her eye, she sees SHAPES OF A DOZEN WHITE WOLVES flitting through the trees, closing in on her.

Belle forges on -- the wolves are not bothering to hide anymore, they've emerged from the trees to take down their prey -- closing in fast --

-- Belle pushes through the undergrowth to find she has reached a FROZEN POND. Philippe doesn't hesitate. He gallops onto the ice, and across the pond. The sound of ice CRACKING under his hooves is deep and low. And increasing.

Philippe's hooves slide on the ice. The wolves close in.

Philippe makes it across the pond onto land. But before Belle can feel any relief --

A WOLF'S JAWS snap at Philippe's thigh. Then another. The horse bucks wildly -- causing Belle to make a controlled leap onto a snow bank. She seizes a thick branch and wields it as a club -- as the wolves surround her, jaws slavering --

Belle swings her club as one wolf lunges at her, its bared teeth like razors. She beats it away. She turns to confront another -- it bites the branch clean out of her hands.

Belle turns, looks up -- on a rock promontory, the scarred ALPHA WOLF is about to take a diving leap onto her. It jumps, and she flinches -- but just as the wolf is about to make its horrible landing --

THE BEAST APPEARS --

-- and catches it in mid-air! With supernatural force, the beast hurls the wolf across the frozen pond, howling!

All the wolves dive on the beast at once, tearing shreds from his cloak. He strikes at them -- wolves scurry, yelping --

The oversize ALPHA WOLF climbs onto the beast's back, goes for his neck. The beast slams together the wolves on his arms, dropping them -- then reaches back and seizes the Alpha. WOLF and BEAST snarl inches from each other -- the beast squeezes --

Then hurls the Alpha into a stone ledge -- CRACK -- knocking him out. The remaining pack retreats in panic, their yelps echoing through the trees.

TIGHT ON BELLE -- watching as the beast whimpers in pain. His shoulders slump. He collapses in the snow. This is her chance.

Belle could run. She looks past Philippe, to the woods -- to freedom. But then turns back, and slowly approaches the wounded beast.

Belle covers the beast with her blanket. He stirs. One eye opens.

BELLE
You have to help me... you have to stand...

CUT TO:

The beast is slumped across Philippe's saddle. As Belle takes the reins and begins the long walk back to the castle, we RISE into the sky, where we can see the border that separates the enchanted woods from the outside world, and...

70 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

70

WOLVES HOWL. Gaston's carriage moves through the scary woods, LeFou squeezed in back behind Gaston and Maurice.

MAURICE
No! I'm sure this is the way! Do you hear those wolves? That means we're getting very close to the castle.

GASTON
Look, enough is enough. We have to turn back.

MAURICE

Stop! That's it!

Maurice points up ahead to the WITHERED TREE that looks like an ELDERLY PERSON'S CANE -- THE TREE IS STANDING AGAIN, the tunnel of trees now hidden behind it. Maurice hops down from the wagon.

MAURICE

That's the tree. I'm sure of it. Of course, it was downed by lightning at the time, but now it's been restored to an upright position, through some sort of... magic. Or other.

LEFOU

(sotto to Gaston)

You really want to marry into this family?

MAURICE

So that means the castle is definitely that way!

An angry Gaston steps out and approaches Maurice.

GASTON

I'm done playing this game of yours. Where is Belle?

MAURICE

The beast took her!

GASTON

There are no such things as beasts, or talking teacups, or... magic! But there are wolves, frostbite, and starvation.

LEFOU

Deep breaths, Gaston. Deep breaths.

GASTON

So why don't we just turn around go back to Villeneuve? I'm sure Belle is at home, cooking up a lovely dinner...

MAURICE

If you think I've made all this up, then why did you offer to help?

GASTON

Because I want to marry your daughter! Now let's go home.

MAURICE
Belle is not at home! She's with the --

GASTON
IF YOU SAY BEAST ONE MORE TIME, I WILL FEED YOU TO THE WOLVES!

Gaston holds his fist to strike Maurice across the face.

LeFou runs over to intervene.

LEFOU
GASTON! STOP! Breathe. Think happy thoughts. Go back to the war. Blood, explosions, countless widows...

GASTON
Widows...

LEFOU
Yes, yes, that's it, that's it...

LeFou's voice snaps Gaston out of his rage. He puts on that Gaston smile like a Halloween mask.

GASTON
Please, forgive me, old bean.
That's no way to talk to my future father-in-law, now is it?

MAURICE
Future father-in-law...? You will never marry my daughter.

A beat. Without a word, Gaston hits Maurice, knocking him out.

LEFOU
I saw that coming...

71 EXT. REMOTE FOREST ROAD - NIGHT (LATER)

71

Maurice is now tied to a tree. Gaston secures the knot and walks to the carriage. Darkness has come over Gaston.

GASTON

If Maurice won't give me his blessing, then he is in my way. Once the wolves are finished with him, Belle will have no one to take care of her but me.

LEFOU

For the sake of exhausting all of our options, do we maybe want to consider a less gruesome alternative?

Gaston climbs into the carriage.

GASTON

Are you coming?

LeFou looks back to Maurice, an apology in his eyes. He climbs into the carriage.

Gaston and LeFou ride off, leaving Maurice to die.

72 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

72

The beast lies in his old human bed. Belle dabs a large gash on the beast's arm. The beast bares his fangs and lets out a roar.

THE BEAST

ROOOOAARRRR! Ow! That hurts!

BELLE

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

THE BEAST

If you hadn't run away, none of this would have happened.

BELLE

Well if you hadn't frightened me, I wouldn't have run away.

The household staff anxiously watches the battle of words.

THE BEAST

Well you shouldn't have been in the west wing.

BELLE

Well you should learn to control your temper.

The beast is momentarily silenced. Belle looks down at the wound she has been dabbing. It's worse than she thought.

BELLE
Try to get some rest.

The beast's breath slows to a low rumble as his eyes slip shut.

MRS. POTTS
Thank you, Miss.

LUMIÈRE
We are eternally grateful.

BELLE
Why do you care so much about him?

MRS. POTTS
We've looked after him all his life.

BELLE
But he has cursed you somehow.
(off their silence)
Why? You did nothing.

MRS. POTTS
You're quite right there, dear. You see, when the master lost his mother, and his cruel father took that sweet innocent lad and twisted him up to be just like him... we did nothing.

Belle notes their shame just as we HEAR the first notes of a beautiful melody coming from the ballroom downstairs. This is the beast's lullaby -- "DAYS IN THE SUN."

LUMIÈRE
Let him sleep.

As the staff and Belle exit, the beast stirs. We move from his face, shivering in a fever dream, to discover --

73 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

73

The YOUNG PRINCE gazes down sadly.

YOUNG PRINCE
Days in the sun When my life has barely begun

We move around to reveal that he is looking at the pale body of THE QUEEN on her deathbed.

YOUNG PRINCE
Not until my own life is done Will
I ever leave you

Behind the prince, a figure approaches: his FATHER. Cruelty written on his face. Placing his large hand on the boy's shoulder, he pulls him out of the room.

74 INT. CASTLE - BALLROOM/FOYER - NIGHT

74

In the gloomy ballroom, Cadenza plays the beautiful melody.

CADENZA
Will I tremble again To my dear
one's gorgeous refrain?

The melody drifts through the ballroom until we find Lumière and Plumette, dancing:

LUMIÈRE & PLUMETTE
Will you now forever remain Out of
reach of my arms?

75 INT. CASTLE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

75

Drifting to Mrs. Potts and Chip, as she tucks him into bed in the cupboard:

MRS. POTTS
Oh those days in the sun What I'd
give to relive just one Undo what's
done And bring back the light

The melody wafts up to:

76 INT. BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

76

Madame de Garderobe joins in:

GARDEROBE
O I could sing Of the pain these
dark days bring The spell we're
under Still it's the wonder of us I
sing of tonight

Belle turns to the window, sings:

BELLE

How in the midst of all this sorrow
 Can so much hope and love endure? I
 was innocent and certain Now I'm
 wiser but unsure

From the window, we PAN across to the castle, to the horizon
 - - where the sun is rising.

77 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - MORNING

77

The beast's eyes are closed as he feels his mother's hand on
 his head one more time. The whole staff looks on:

ALL
 Days in the sun Will return - we
 must believe As lovers do That days
 in the sun Will come shining
 through

The beast opens his eyes weakly, takes in the low light of
 sunrise. As his vision adjusts, the silhouetted figure by his
 bedside is revealed. Not his mother, but Belle. A smile forms
 on his lips, and he closes his eyes again.

In the glass jar, a petal drops as if floating on the melody.
 Belle crosses to it.

BELLE
 What happens when the last petal
 falls?

LUMIÈRE
 The master remains a beast forever.
 And the rest of us become...

MRS. POTTS
 Antiques.

LUMIÈRE
 Knickknacks.

PLUMETTE
 Lightly used houseware.

COGSWORTH
 Rubbish. We become rubbish.

BELLE
 I want to help you. There must be
 some way to lift the curse.

The staff exchange looks.

COGSWORTH
Well, there is one --

Lumière candle-smacks him, leaving a waxy smear on his face.

MRS. POTTS
It's not for you to worry about,
lamb. We've made our bed and we
must lie in it.

The BEAST opens his eyes, he's been listening. The years of shame and anguish haunt his face as he begins to remember what it is to be human.

78 EXT. REMOTE FOREST ROAD - MORNING

78

Maurice sleeps. Suddenly, we hear the branches crack around him. The sound gets closer, and just when we think that wolves have found Maurice, we see --

A HOODED FIGURE emerges from the woods. The figure looks at Maurice, his breathing making fog in the cold. Alarmed, the figure rushes up and pulls down the hood to reveal --

AGATHE. The beggar woman.

79 EXT. AGATHE'S SHELTER - WOODS - DAY

79

Agathe, her arm around Maurice, guides him into a shelter in a small clearing. Gently, she lays him down and removes her cloak, spreading it over him for warmth.

She pulls a bundle off her back and rifles through it, removes herbs, a mortar and pestle, and expertly whips up a concoction that she brings to Maurice's lips.

AGATHE
Drink.

He blinks, reviving, as he drinks it down.

MAURICE
Thank you... Agathe.

80 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - DAY

80

The beast lies in bed, still bandaged.

BELLE (O.S.)

Love can transpose to form and dignity. Love looks not with the eyes but with the mind. And therefore --

He opens his eyes to see that Belle isn't reading, she's reciting from memory. He joins in --

THE BEAST
And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind.

Belle looks up, surprised.

BELLE
So you know Shakespeare?

THE BEAST
I had an expensive education.

BELLE
Actually, "Romeo and Juliet" is my favorite play.

THE BEAST
Why is that not a surprise?

BELLE
Sorry?

THE BEAST
All that heartache and pining and -

(a beastly shudder)
There are so many better things to read.

BELLE
Like what?

The beast smiles.

81 INT. LIBRARY - CASTLE - DAY

81

The beast has lead Belle into the biggest grandest private library in all of France. The chamber is vast and lined floor to ceiling with books.

THE BEAST
Should be something here you can start with...

He turns to see Belle, speechless.

BELLE

It's wonderful.

THE BEAST

Oh. Yes, I suppose it is... Well,
if you like it so much, then it's
yours.

The beast starts to leave. He is stopped by --

BELLE

Have you really read every one of
these books?

THE BEAST

Not all of them. Some are in Greek.

BELLE

Was that a joke? Are you making
jokes now?

THE BEAST

Maybe.

Belle shakes her head but is also charmed. The beast turns
and strides out.

82 INT. DINING ROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

82

The beast eats at the table, reading a book which sits on a stand. He looks up to see Belle sit at the other end with three books. She picks up her spoon and starts to eat. The beast plants his face in the bowl. Looks up a second later having inhaled the soup, half of which is dripping from his fur. Belle attempts a smile. "SOMETHING THERE" begins.

83 EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - WOODED GLEN - DAY

83

Belle and the beast cross a stone footbridge. She reads aloud to the patient, who moves tentatively, favoring a wounded leg.

BELLE

The air is blue and keen and cold
And in a frozen sheath enrolled

The beast stops. Belle, savoring the words, keeps walking.

BELLE

Each branch, each twig, each blade
of grass Seems clad miraculously
with glass

Belle notices that she's walking alone. She turns back, sees the beast staring out soulfully:

BEAST
I feel as if I'm seeing it for the
first time.

As she follows his gaze, we reveal a splendidly desolate landscape. The very thing Belle has just described, now spread out before her.

BEAST
Is there more?

Belle smiles, pleased that for a moment at least he's become a fan of poetry. She reads:

BELLE
But in that solemn silence Is heard
the whisper Of every sleeping
thing: "Look, look at me Come wake
me up For still here I be."

Belle meets the beast's eyes. Both suddenly aware of hidden meanings in the poet's words.

84 EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - DAY

84

In the fresh snow, Belle brushes Philippe's coat. The beast looks at Belle -- she nods -- and he pets the horse. Philippe reacts skittishly, causing the beast to withdraw. Belle takes his hand and places it on Philippe. Then, as she turns away --

BELLE
There's something sweet and almost
kind But he was mean and he was
coarse and unrefined

She looks back -- sees the beast petting Philippe.

BELLE
And now he's dear and so unsure I
wonder why I didn't see it there
before

Suddenly, a snowball hits the beast. He turns to see Belle smiling.

The beast builds a huge snowball, and hurls it at Belle. It knocks her clean off her feet and into the snow. Off the beast, grinning in delight --

85 INT. DINING ROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

85

Belle reads at her end of the long dining table. She looks up and sees the beast looking at her. "May I?" She nods, goes back to her book. As he walks the length of the table:

THE 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

The beast sits. He grabs his bowl and slurps down the soup, then catches himself as he sees Belle watching him.

After a moment, she picks up her bowl and drinks the soup the same way. The beast smiles. They loudly slurp and laugh together.

86 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE / EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - DAY

86

Plumette and several Ettes remove dust bags from the chandeliers, as Belle stands on a balcony, sleeves rolled up. She scrubs a dirty window, causing a beam of sunlight to strike Cadenza. Meanwhile Chapeau mops the floor, cleaning off years of grime, revealing the shiny marble underneath.

BELLE

New and a bit alarming Who'd have
ever thought that this could be?

Through the cleaned windows she sees the beast outside, walking Philippe -- and talking to him.

BELLE

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

87 INT. LIBRARY - CASTLE - DAY

87

Belle stands on a ladder, pulling down book after book, and handing them to the beast. The staff watches from the corner.

PLUMETTE

Well, who'd have thought?

MRS. POTTS

Well, bless my soul!

COGSWORTH

Well, who'd have known?

LUMIÈRE
Well, who indeed?

The towering stack in the beast's arms teeters until the LIBRARY TABLE scoots up behind him, allowing him to set the stack down. The beast nods gratefully, and the wizened GLOBE on the tabletop nods back. As the staff moves away:

LUMIÈRE
And who'd have guessed They'd come together on their own?

MRS. POTTS
It's so peculiar, wait and see.

ALL
We'll wait and see! A few days more

ALL
There may be something there that wasn't there before.

COGSWORTH
You know, perhaps there's something there that wasn't there before.

CHIP
What, mama?

MRS. POTTS
There may be something there that wasn't there before.

CHIP
What is it, what's there?

MRS. POTTS
I'll tell you when you're older.

Chip waits a long beat.

CHIP
Okay, I'm older!

Mrs. Potts laughs.

MRS. POTTS
Oh Chip, you are a one!

Sitting in the beautiful rose garden, the beast looks up from his book as Belle approaches.

BELLE

What are you reading?

THE BEAST

Nothing.

He hides the book but Belle catches the title.

BELLE

Guinevere and Lancelot.

THE BEAST

Well actually, King Arthur and the Round Table. Knights, and men, and swords and things...

BELLE

But still... it's a romance.

The beast nods, a bit shyly.

THE BEAST

All right. I felt like a change.

BELLE

I never thanked you for saving my life.

THE BEAST

Well I never thanked you... for not leaving me to be eaten by wolves.

Belle laughs. A quiet charged moment, which ends with the SHOUTS and LAUGHTER of the servants in the castle. Belle and the beast can't help but smile.

BELLE

They know how to have a good time.

THE BEAST

Yes. But when I enter the room, laughter dies.

BELLE

Me, too. The villagers say that I'm a "funny girl," but I don't think they mean it as a compliment.

THE BEAST

I'm sorry. Your village sounds terrible.

BELLE

Almost as lonely as your castle.

He turns to her with a melancholy smile. Then, an idea.

THE BEAST

What do you say we run away?

Belle is surprised by the suggestion.

89 INT. LIBRARY - CASTLE - NIGHT

89

The beast unlocks a desk cabinet. In it, resting on velvet, its gold-leaf cover faintly glimmering with magic, is a LEATHER BOUND BOOK covered in a thick layer of dust.

THE BEAST

Another little "gift" from the Enchantress...

The beast cracks open the book to reveal AN ANTIQUE WORLD ATLAS. No countries. Just land and sea.

THE BEAST

A book that truly allows you to escape.

Belle moves closer to find the pen and ink drawing is alive.

Waves lap the beaches. Green trees sway in invisible wind.

BELLE

How amazing.

THE BEAST

It was her cruelest trick of all.
The outside world has no place for
a creature like me. But it can for
you.

The beast offers his hand and Belle takes it. He gently moves her hand to the book.

THE BEAST

Think of the place you've most wanted to see. First, see it in your mind's eye. Now feel it in your heart.

Belle nods -- this isn't a difficult decision. The moment her hand hits the page, we ENTER it, SPINNING through celestial flares -- which blur and recombine -- as the lights of Paris. We descend over the city and into...

90 INT. ARTIST'S GARRET - MONTMARTRE - NIGHT

90

... the top floor of a windmill in Montmartre.

THE BEAST
Where did you take us?

BELLE
Paris.

The beast looks out of a window and sees glittering lights.

THE BEAST
Oh, I love Paris. What would you
like to see first? Notre Dame? The
Champs-Elysées? No? Too touristy?

He turns to find Belle silent. Her eyes brimming with tears.

BELLE
It's so much smaller than I
imagined.

The beast watches Belle walk through her childhood home...
the artist's garret that Maurice recreated in his signature
music box. Abandoned years ago, the room is crumbling.

Belle finds the remains of her father's easel. A tarnished
wall mirror. Her own broken crib.

BELLE
This is the Paris of my childhood
These were the borders of my life
In this crumbling dusty attic Where
an artist loved his wife I thought
that I would find an answer Here
where his heart has always lived

BELLE
Now I see it's empty and abandoned
Easy to remember Harder to move on
Knowing that the Paris of my
childhood Is gone

Belle notices something tucked into a corner of the crib. She
pries it loose. It is a BABY'S RATTLE carved into the shape
of a rose. The beast focuses on it.

THE BEAST
What happened to your mother?

BELLE

That's the only story Papa could never bring himself to tell. And I knew better than to ask...

As she speaks, the beast notices something on a chair. The dark, pointed mask of a plague doctor. He looks up.

THE BEAST
Plague.

The revelation lands on Belle's face. She looks around.

IN QUICK TIGHT SHOTS ---

Belle glimpses what must have happened. A DOCTOR stands in the doorway, his face covered by the mask.

DOCTOR
You must leave. Now.

A bag is hastily packed, Belle's YOUNGER FATHER (barely seen) taking only what is necessary. He stops to gaze at Belle's MOTHER, who lies on her deathbed, surrounded by medicines.

BELLE'S MOTHER
Quickly... before it takes her too...

She closes her eyes, turns away.

Maurice picks up the baby... who drops her beloved rose-shaped rattle. Belle's mother touches it to her lips as husband and child disappear.

BACK TO THE PRESENT

Belle stares at the rattle.

THE BEAST
I am sorry I ever called your father a thief.

Belle lifts her head, her wet eyes look at him.

BELLE
Let's go home.

She means the castle. The beast nods, takes her hand.

LEFOU

Wow, this is some storm. At least we're not tied to a tree in the middle of nowhere, right? You know it's not too late, we could just go get him...

Gaston doesn't react.

LEFOU

It's just, every time I close my eyes, I picture Maurice stranded out there. And then when I open them, he's --

92 INT. COUNTRY INN - EVENING

92

They enter and see MAURICE surrounded by Pere Robert and Jean the potter.

LEFOU

(excitedly)

Maurice!

LeFou realizes he shouldn't be happy and tamps down his smile. Maurice and Gaston lock eyes. Gaston quickly assesses the situation.

TAVERN KEEPER

Gaston, did you try to kill Maurice?

Just when we think Gaston might run or fight or deny, he smiles warmly.

GASTON

Oh, Maurice! Thank heavens. I've spent the last five days trying to find you.

Suddenly, the villagers shift their gaze to Maurice.

MAURICE

No! You tried to kill me! You left me for the wolves!

GASTON

Maurice, it's one thing to rave about your delusions. It's another to accuse me of attempted murder.

Gaston's argument lands. The gentle Maurice feels the room slipping away from him.

JEAN

Maurice, do you have any proof of
what you're saying?

MAURICE

Ask Agathe! She rescued me!

Before Agathe can speak --

GASTON

Agathe? You'd hang your accusation
on the testimony of a filthy hag?

(to Agathe)

No offense, Agathe.

Agathe raises an eyebrow - but says nothing.

MAURICE

Monsieur LeFou! He was there. He
saw it all.

LEFOU

Me?

GASTON

You're right. Don't take my word
for it.

He puts his arm around LeFou and pulls him close.

GASTON

LeFou, my dearest companion, did I,
your oldest friend and most loyal
compatriot, try to kill the father
of the only woman I've ever loved?

All eyes turn to LeFou, who is clearly torn.

LEFOU

It's a complicated question on a
number of accounts, but... no. No,
he did not.

The crowd reacts. Maurice is crestfallen. Gaston has won.

Maurice lunges at Gaston -- who catches his flying fist,
easily subduing him.

GASTON

Maurice, it pains me to say this,
but you've become a danger to
yourself and others. No wonder
Belle ran away. You need help, sir.
A place to heal your troubled mind.

Gaston signals to Tom, Dick, and Stanley -- and Maurice turns to see them block the exit. Gaston places his large hand on Maurice's shoulder -- and squeezes. Maurice winces.

GASTON
Everything's going to be fine.

93 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - EVENING

93

The beast sits in a tub -- far too small for him. There's shadow-play on the curtain.

BEAST
I saw her in the ballroom, and I said, well, you're making this so beautiful, we should have a dance tonight. I never thought she'd actually say yes! What was I thinking?!

LUMIÈRE
No, Master, it's perfect! The rose has only four petals left. Which means tonight... you must tell her how you feel.

The beast stands, appearing above the curtain, sopping wet.

THE BEAST
I feel like a fool. She will never love me.

LUMIÈRE
Do not be discouraged.

The beast shakes his coat dry like a dog. The spray extinguishes Lumière's candles.

LUMIÈRE
She is the one.

THE BEAST
I wish you'd stop saying that!

CUT TO:

The beast plops into his a seat in front of the mirror.

THE BEAST
There is no one.

LUMIÈRE

You care for her, don't you? Well then, woo her with beautiful music and romantic candlelight...

PLUMETTE
Yes, and when the moment's just right...

THE BEAST
But how will I know?

COGSWORTH
You will feel slightly nauseous.

LUMIÈRE
Don't worry, master, you'll do fine.

MRS. POTTS
Just stop being a coward and tell Belle how you feel. And if you don't, I promise you'll be drinking cold tea for the rest of your life.

LUMIÈRE
In the dark.

PLUMETTE
Covered in dust.

LUMIÈRE
Dark and very very dusty.

Off the beast, taking this in --

CUT TO:

A brief MONTAGE, as the castle staff give the beast a verybad makeover.

LUMIÈRE
Start with the hair! Women love nice hair.

MRS. POTTS
I'll take the fingers and toes!

COGSWORTH
Chapeau, brush those teeth!

Chapeau wields scissors and a brush as Mrs. Potts pours hot water into Chip. The beast is pushed and pulled, primped and snipped. His fingers are dipped into Chip, his nails buffed by Mrs. Potts' steam, as Lumière climbs onto his horns.

LUMIÈRE

Dip dip, snip snip...

Plumette powders the beast's face --

PLUMETTE

Eyes closed, poof poof!

LUMIÈRE

And the pièce de résistance...

Chapeau places one of the Prince's old wigs on the beast. Plumette pecks his cheek with a beauty mark. The beast spins in his chair to see himself in the mirror, and -- he's totally ridiculous. The staff, dejected, takes in its handiwork.

LUMIÈRE

OK, I can fix this!

94 INT. BELLE'S BEDROOM - CASTLE - EVENING

94

Garderobe finishes dressing Belle.

GARDEROBE

Beautiful. But something is missing.

Garderobe looks up. There's dust around the gilding that glows in the moonlight. A moment of inspiration.

GARDEROBE

Ahh, yes. The finishing touch.

Garderobe sweeps her arm, and the gold dust magically whooshes down, settling on Belle's gown, and completing it.

95 INT. GRAND STAIRCASE - CASTLE - NIGHT

95

Belle is breathtaking as she is revealed on the upper landing.

Mustering his courage, the beast descends from the west wing.

She gazes over at the beast, who looks resplendent. She sees him in a new light.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" begins. From the bottom of the staircase, Mrs. Potts watches with Chip --

MRS. POTTS

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

The beast and Belle meet on the center landing and descend
the staircase. Arm in arm, they enter --

96 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE - NIGHT

96

-- the absolutely resplendent ballroom. It has been cleaned
and scrubbed to its former glory. The great windows offer a
magnificent view of the starry night.

MRS. POTTS
Just a little change Small to say
the least Both a little scared
Neither one prepared Beauty and the
Beast

As the music rises, Belle bows. The beast bows in return. She
offers him her hands -- and nervously, he takes them. They
begin to dance, gliding across the ballroom --

CAMERA sweeps up to see CARVED INSTRUMENTAL FIGURES --

VIOLIN, VIOLAS, HARP -- which have come to life and are
playing accompaniment with CADENZA -- sparkling with polish.

MRS. POTTS
Ever just the same Ever a surprise
Ever as before Ever just as sure As
the sun will rise Tale as old as
time Tune as old as song
Bittersweet and strange Finding you
can change Learning you were wrong

ANGLE ON BEAUTY AND THE BEAST -- in this moment, nothing in
the world exists except each other. Despite his bulk, the
beast is careful, gentle, graceful. The lights in the
ballroom grow dim as he lifts her, spinning. Belle is swept
away.

ANGLE ON THE HOUSEHOLD STAFF -- watching in mounting hope and
excitement. On top of Cadenza, Lumière puts an arm around
Cogsworth, pulling him closer.

MRS. POTTS
Certain as the sun Rising in the
East Tale as old as time Song as
old as rhyme Beauty and the Beast

The lights come back up as the terrace doors open, allowing
Belle and the beast to step outdoors.

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

CHIP NUZZLES HIS MOTHER, AS BELLE AND THE BEAST MOVE OUT TO:

97 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - NIGHT

97

Belle and the beast stand together under the stars.

THE BEAST
 I haven't danced in years. I'd
 almost forgotten the feeling.

Mustering his courage --

THE BEAST
 It's foolish, I suppose, for a
 creature like me to hope that one
 day he might earn your affection.

BELLE
 I don't know...

THE BEAST
 Really? So you think you could be
 happy here?

BELLE
 Could anyone be happy if they're
 not free?

She gazes wistfully toward the forest.

BELLE
 My father taught me to dance. I
 used to step on his toes a lot.

THE BEAST
 You must miss him.

BELLE
 Very much.

THE BEAST
 (thinks, decides)
 Would you like to see him?

98 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

98

Belle stares into the beast's hand mirror.

BELLE
I'd like to see my father.

A glow of magic. When it clears Belle sees Maurice -- being manhandled in the village square! He looks terrified.

BELLE
Papa! What are they doing to him?!

The beast reacts to her suffering. A moment of choice.

THE BEAST
(pained)
You must go to him.

BELLE
What did you say?

THE BEAST
You must go to him. No time to waste.

Belle looks at the beast as she has never done before -- with gratitude and appreciation. She moves to return the mirror.

THE BEAST
No. Keep it with you. And you'll always have a way to look back on me.

BELLE
Thank you.

She rushes out.

99 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

99

Belle runs down the grand staircase towards the door. She stops, seeing Chapeau. He bows to her, silently, sadly. Choking back tears, she is gone.

Chapeau looks up to the landing, and sees Mrs. Potts standing there, watching. Heartbroken.

100 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE

100

The beast unclasps his beautiful coat and lets it fall to the ground. Cogsworth enters, eager for news.

COGSWORTH

Well, master, I may have had my doubts, but everything is moving like clockwork. True love really does win the day!

THE BEAST
I let her go.

COGSWORTH
You... WHAT!?

Lumière and Plumette enter behind Cogsworth, followed by Mrs. Potts.

LUMIÈRE
Master... how could you do that?

THE BEAST
I had to.

COGSWORTH
But why?

The beast doesn't answer.

MRS. POTTS
Because he loves her.

LUMIÈRE
Then why are we not human?

COGSWORTH
(angry)
Because she doesn't love him! And now, it's too late.

PLUMETTE
But she might still come back --

THE BEAST
No. I've set her free. I'm sorry I couldn't do the same for all of you.

He turns away, unable to face them.

THE BEAST
Now go. Our time is almost past.

The staff retreats. As "EVERMORE" begins, the beast pulls on a dark cape.

THE BEAST

I was the one who had it all I was
 the master of my fate I never
 needed anybody in my life I learned
 the truth too late

101 INT/EXT. TURRETS - CASTLE - NIGHT

101

He steps onto the balcony of his lair. From his POV, we see Belle mounting Philippe on the castle grounds below.

THE BEAST

I'll never shake away the pain I
 close my eyes but she's still there
 I let her steal into my melancholy
 heart It's more than I can bear

Belle sets off and the beast begins to climb the castle turrets.

THE BEAST

Now I know she'll never leave me
 Even as she runs away She will
 still torment me, calm me, hurt me,
 move me come what may

The beast climbs higher and higher, to keep Belle in sight as she gets further and further away.

THE BEAST

Wasting in my lonely tower Waiting
 by an open door I'll fool myself
 she'll walk right in And be with me
 for evermore

The beast climbs, Belle riding, until he reaches the highest turret of the castle.

THE BEAST

I rage against the trials of love I
 curse the fading of the light
 Though she's already flown so far
 beyond my reach She's never out of
 sight Now I know she'll never leave
 me Even as she fades from view She
 will still torment me, be part of
 everything I do Wasting in my
 lonely tower Waiting by an open
 door I'll fool myself she'll walk
 right in And as the long long
 nights begin I'll think of all that
 might have been Waiting here for
 evermore

The beast stands at the edge of the turret as Belle finally disappears through the castle gates.

102 EXT. VILLENEUVE - SQUARE - NIGHT

102

A horse-drawn asylum wagon thunders into the square where Maurice is surrounded by taunting villagers. The eerie driver, MONSIEUR D'ARQUE, steps out as Tom, Dick and Stanley throw Maurice into his cage on wheels. Villagers approach the wagon like 18th century rubberneckers.

Gaston leans into the wagon. The gathering crowd is just loud enough to mask a private plea to Maurice...

GASTON

Have you ever seen the inside of a mad house, Maurice? You wouldn't last a week. Just give me your daughter's hand, and I'll set you free.

MAURICE

Never.

Gaston clenches his jaw and locks the door with a CLANK.

GASTON

Take him away!

The wagon begins to move. The rubberneckers watch the wagon until they are silenced by a loud...

BELLE (O.S.)

STOP!

Belle's voice cuts through the crowd. They turn and gape at -

BELLE, DAZZLING, IN HER EVENING GOWN.

The crowd parts before her as she dismounts Philippe and moves to the wagon. They whisper as she passes --

VILLAGERS

"Belle..." "Where did she come from?" "Is that Belle..." "Look at that dress..."

Gaston stares, slack-jawed, unable to believe his eyes. We linger on the jealous village lasses, the puzzled Jean, the confused LeFou, the foul-tempered Clothilde, the bewildered Pere Robert, and in the shadows... Agathe.

Belle fearlessly strides right in front of the wagon. The horses jump up, startled. Belle runs to the locked door.

MAURICE

Belle? I thought I'd lost you!

Belle sees her father injured on the floor of the wagon.

BELLE

Open this door! He's hurt!

Monsieur d'Arque climbs down to calm her.

MONSIEUR D'ARQUE

I'm afraid we can't do that, miss.
But we'll take very good care of
him.

BELLE

My father's not crazy! Gaston...
Tell him!

GASTON

Belle, you know how loyal I am to
your family, but your father has
been making some unbelievable
claims.

JEAN

It's true, Belle. He's been raving
about a beast in a castle.

BELLE

I have just come from the castle
and there is a beast!

GASTON

We all admire your devotion to your
father, but you'd say anything to
free him. Your word is hardly
proof.

Belle pulls out the magic mirror from her sash.

BELLE

You want proof? SHOW ME THE BEAST!

In the mirror, the beast sits slumped against a turret wall.
The villagers gasp. Gaston's face registers shock.

BELLE

There is your proof!

GASTON

This is sorcery!

Gaston snatches the mirror from Belle and holds it up to the villagers.

GASTON

Look at this beast. Look at his fangs, his claws.

The villagers recoil in fright.

BELLE

No, don't be afraid. He is gentle and kind.

GASTON

The monster has put her under a spell! If I didn't know better, I'd say she even cared for him.

BELLE

He's not a monster, Gaston. You are.

(appeals to everyone)

The beast would never hurt anyone.

GASTON

I have heard of the effects of dark magic, but never seen it with my own eyes before! This is a threat to our very existence!

Raucous cries of "Gaston Gaston Gaston!" rise. Gaston holds the mirror up.

GASTON

(to the thugs)

We can't have her running off to warn the beast. Lock her up too.

Tom, Dick and Stanley strong-arm Belle into the wagon with her father.

BELLE

This isn't over Gaston, you'll see!

LEFOU

Gaston, with all due respect --

GASTON

DO YOU WANT TO BE NEXT? Fetch my horse.

Gaston hops onto the back of the wagon and addresses the crowd. The "MOB SONG" begins as we move through the frightened villagers --

GASTON
That creature will curse us all if
we don't stop him! Well, I say we
KILL THE BEAST!

TOM
We're not safe until he's dead

DICK
He'll come stalking us at night

JEAN
Set to sacrifice our children To
his monstrous appetite!

CLOTHILDE
He'll wreak havoc on our village If
we let him wander free!

GASTON
So it's time to take some action,
boys It's time to follow me!

Gaston grabs a TORCH from a villager and tosses it into a barrel of pitch. Flames rise to the sky.

GASTON
Through the mist, through the wood
Through the darkness and the
shadows It's a nightmare but it's
one exciting ride

Gaston lights Clothilde's torch, then clasps the shoulder of Monsieur d'Arque, who watches helplessly as his asylum wagon horses are commandeered by the mob.

GASTON
Say a prayer, then we're there At
the drawbridge of a castle And
there's something truly terrible
inside It's a beast, he's got fangs
razor sharp ones Massive paws,
killer claws for the feast Hear him
roar, see him foam But we're not
coming home 'Til he's dead, good
and dead... KILL THE BEAST!

Some villagers seize shovels, pitchforks, axes. Some light torches in the pitch. Others wrench a boar's head PIKE STAFF from outside the country inn. Pere Robert tries to calm the frenzy but the force of the mob pushes him back.

MOB
Light your torch, mount your horse!

GASTON
Screw your courage to the sticking place

MOB
We're counting on Gaston to lead the way

103 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

103

Gaston and LeFou crash into the woods at a full gallop.

GASTON
Call it war Call it threat You can bet they all will follow For in times like this they'll do just as I say

LeFou's doubts are growing:

LEFOU
There's a beast Running wild there's no question But I fear The wrong monster's released

MOB
Sally forth, tally ho Grab your sword, grab your bow Praise the Lord and here we go!

Gaston holds up the mirror.

GASTON
Show me the castle!

IN THE MIRROR -- Gaston sees the hidden path to the castle.

104 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

104

Plumette's head rests on Lumière's shoulder. Mrs. Potts nuzzles Chip.

LUMIÈRE

At least he has finally learned to
love.

COGSWORTH
A lot of good that does us if she
doesn't love him in return.

MRS. POTTS
No. This is the first time I've had
any real hope she would.

ANGLE ON CHIP -- he hears a distant sound -- the rumble of
MARCHING BOOTS -- puzzled, he hops to the window embrasure --

CHIP
Did you hear that, mama? Is it
her!? Is she coming back?!

The staff and Froufrou jump up, excited, and move to the
window.

They see torches in the distance.

LUMIÈRE
Could it be?

They look through the glass, distorted with frost, as the mob
moves through the garden. Lumière warms the windowpane with
his flame to see more clearly.

LUMIÈRE
Sacrebleu! Invaders.

MRS. POTTS
Ruffians!

COGSWORTH
Well, there you go. So much for
true love. Man the barricades, and
hold fast!

They hop down from the embrasure.

105 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

105

Lumière, Cogsworth, Mrs. Potts, Chip, Plumette and Chapeau
stand at the front door, forming a sad barricade.

CASTLE STAFF
Hearts ablaze, banners high We go
marching into battle -- Unafraid
although the danger just increased

CADERNZA

Move aside!

Cadenza crab-walks in from the ballroom, standing vertically and propping himself against the door. The others gather around him.

106 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - NIGHT

106

The mob hauls their boar's head battering ram up to the door.

MOB

Raise the flag, sing the song Here
we come, we're fifty strong And
fifty Frenchmen can't be wrong
Let's kill the beast!

107 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

107

CRASH! The battering ram breaks through the postern door, which falls out of the door frame.

COGSWORTH

We need help!

He lopes towards the staircase.

108 INT. ASYLUM WAGON - VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - NIGHT

108

Belle gazes out the prison bars, sees d'Arque pacing by the fountain. She whispers to Maurice --

BELLE

I have to warn the beast --

MAURICE

Warn him? How did you get away from him?

BELLE

He let me go, papa. He sent me back to you.

MAURICE

I don't understand.

She holds up the rose-shaped rattle. Maurice recognizes it immediately.

BELLE

He took me there. I know what happened to maman.

Maurice takes the rattle. Stunned.

MAURICE

Then you know I had to leave her there. I had to protect you. I've always tried to protect you... too much, perhaps...

He stops, eyes filled with tears.

BELLE

I understand.

She takes his hand and kisses it.

BELLE

Will you help me now?

MAURICE

It's dangerous.

BELLE

Yes. Yes it is.

Maurice sees the courage and determination in her eyes. And his own eyes light up with an idea.

MAURICE

Of course I could try to pick the lock. After all, it's only gears and springs. But I would need something long and sharp --

He stops as Belle, a step ahead, removes and hands him one of her long hairpins.

MAURICE

Like that. Perfect.

Maurice gets to work.

109 EXT. HIGHEST TURRET - CASTLE - NIGHT

109

Cogsworth hops up the spiral staircase and out onto the turret. He spots the beast, perched among the gargoyles.

COGSWORTH

Pardon me, master. I'm sorry to disturb you, but --

THE BEAST
She's not coming back.

COGSWORTH
No... the castle is under attack!

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

110 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - NIGHT

110

The battering ram smashes against the door.

MOB
Kill the beast! Kill the beast!

111 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

111

The door is giving way, the mob is too strong.

MRS. POTTS
This isn't working!

LUMIÈRE
I know what to do.

112 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - NIGHT

112

The battering ram smashes again.

MOB
Kill the beast! Kill the beast!

113 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

113

The castle staff has now vanished, their barricade dismantled.

A series of bolts on the door slide open one by one, top to bottom. The door unlocking itself...

114 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - NIGHT

114

The battering ram smashes the door one last time --

MOB
Kill the beast! Kill the beast!

The door swings open easily and the mob tumbles inside, to find:

115 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

115

It's EMPTY. Met by eerie silence, Gaston and the mob cautiously enter. The door barely hangs on its hinges.

Villagers hold up torches. The flickering light reveals FURNITURE. Chairs. A coat rack. A feather duster. A candelabra. A tea pot and teacup. A harpsichord.

LEFOU

Are you not the least bit concerned
that this castle might be haunted?

GASTON

Don't lose your nerve, LeFou.

Gaston looks into the mirror. ANGLE ON LeFou -- he notices Mrs. Potts. Brings his torch close to study her.

ANGLE ON THE MOB -- among them, Jean the potter stares at the eerie castle foyer --

JEAN

This place seems familiar... like
I've been here before...

Gaston approaches the west wing stairs. LeFou brings his face down to the tea pot and teacup.

LEFOU

You must be the talking teacup. And
you must be his grandmother.

Mrs. Potts' EYES open. Furious.

MRS. POTTS

Grand-mother? ATTACK!

LeFou jumps back. ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE as the furniture comes alive. Chairs kick the shins of several villagers. Plumette feathers villagers' faces furiously, causing them to have sneezing fits. As other villagers funnel in, the "Lend-a-Hand" lights outside the door bonk several of them on the head.

They're alive after all.

Chapeau spins Gaston around and is about to land a blow when GASTON GRABS LEFOU and puts him in the line of fire. LeFou becomes a human punching bag as Cadenza approaches and rears up on his hind legs. His shadow falls across Gaston, who dives out of the way -- leaving LeFou exposed.

LEFOU
Gaston!

Cadenza comes crashing down on LeFou, squashing him flat. Gaston looks down at his friend.

LEFOU
(weak, muffled)
Gaston... help...

Gaston looks from LeFou to the enchanted mirror, then to the grand staircase.

GASTON
Sorry, old friend. It's hero time.

Gaston rushes up the staircase. Lefou passes out.

116 INT. VILLAGE OF VILLENEUVE - NIGHT

116

Monsieur d'Arque paces in the square, when he notices the door to the asylum wagon is ajar. He runs to the wagon and flings open the doors, only to find it empty. D'Arque slams the doors shut -- and there's Maurice, smiling beside him.

MAURICE
Hello. Oh, I believe this is yours.

Maurice casually hands the wagon's padlock to Monsieur d'Arque -- just as Belle rides past on Philippe! As she charges out of the village gates, she tosses her ball gown to the ground.

Maurice waves to her proudly, then turns back to d'Arque.

MAURICE
She's very headstrong. Do you have children?

Off d'Arque's confusion --

117 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

117

LeFou, bruised but alive, opens his eyes, sits up -- when Plumette furiously begins feathering his face.

PLUMETTE
 (laughs)
 No one to protect you now, eh?!

LeFou swats -- and Plumette flies away, laughing.

118 INT. TURRET STAIRCASE - CASTLE - NIGHT

118

Gaston finds himself at the landing of two staircases.

Unsure which one leads to the beast, he holds up the mirror, which illuminates the right way. Gaston bounds up them.

119 INT. FOYER - CASTLE - NIGHT

119

Chip rapidly fires saucers at attackers, counting them off as he dispatches them with glee.

CHIP
 One! Two! Three! Four! Five!

Above, Cogsworth looks down from the balcony, a tinhorn general surveying the battlefield.

COGSWORTH
 Good show, Chip my boy!

Just then, a platoon of books arrives on the large table from the library, battle-ready.

COGSWORTH
 Excellent! The infantry's arrived.
 Now go and teach them a lesson!

The books rocket down into the fray, thwacking villager after villager.

COGSWORTH
 Yes, those are called books, you third-rate musketeers!

This draws the attention of Tom, Dick and Stanley. Cogsworth shudders --

COGSWORTH
 Oh, I'm off!

-- and jumps down from the balustrade, as they bound up the stairs. They face off against Cogsworth, and he backs up quickly.

COGSWORTH

Ah, terribly sorry, pardon me, I'm
just a clock!

Suddenly, Garderobe leaps out, blocking the brutes' path, and unfurls her fabric, wrapping them up.

GARDEROBE
Yes, that's it... put it on...
pretty little boys!

Tom and Dick look at each other and shriek, horrified at their girly make-overs. Stanley, however, doesn't seem to mind his new look. Garderobe cackles.

GARDEROBE
Go! Be free! Be free! Be FREE!

120 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

120

Belle on Philippe. She whips past the withered tree and down the path toward the castle grounds.

121 INT. FOYER - BALCONY - CASTLE - NIGHT

121

From the balcony, Mrs. Potts leaps onto a chandelier --

MRS. POTTS
How do you take your tea?! Piping
hot?! Or boiling?!

-- and douses villagers below with boiling water. She looks down -- seeing Jean the potter -- and gasps.

MRS. POTTS
Mister Potts?!

Suddenly, Mrs. Potts slips and drops down towards the floor. Jean the potter looks on in confusion. Chip looks on in terror.

CHIP
Mama!

But just as she's about to shatter, she is caught by a pair of human hands. Mrs. Potts gazes up at -- LEFOU, who seems as surprised as she does.

MRS. POTTS
Oh! Thank you.

Suddenly, two villagers charge at LeFou from either side. LeFou ducks, the villagers wallop one another, Mrs. Potts spits hot water in their faces, and LeFou punches one out to finish the job.

MRS. POTTS
Nicely handled!

LEFOU
Well I used to be on Gaston's side,
but we're in a bad place right now.

MRS. POTTS
You're too good for him anyway...

LeFou nods, emotional.

MRS. POTTS
Shall we get back to it, then?!

Below, Cadenza bucks and rages against villagers, besting them repeatedly as he plays elaborate trills.

CADENZA
Such sweet music! Ha ha, I'll play
you like a concerto!

Clothilde watches this, and seethes.

CLOTHILDE
(points to Cadenza)
Silence that harpsichord!

Clothilde's cry rallies a group of villagers, who raise their axes to turn maestro Cadenza into firewood.

GARDEROBE
Maestro!

Cadenza looks up to see her.

CADENZA
Darling! At last!

GARDEROBE
(shock becomes rage)
I'm coming, my love! That's it! The
fat lady is singing!

Garderobe belts out a deafening high note and throws her massive girth off the balcony, sending Clothilde and the villagers below scattering. She lands with a graceful THUD.

CADENZA

Bravissima!

Before the villagers can retaliate, Cadenza's "teeth" shoot out of his mouth like machine gun rounds. BAM BAM BAM!

Lumière runs around with gunpowder trail, creating a line of firecracker explosions that send villagers scattering.

LUMIÈRE
Watch your toes!

In the chaos, we find Agathe, moving quietly through the villagers and up the stairs. What is she up to?

As villagers pour out the doors, Lumière and Cogsworth meet at the base of the stairs.

LUMIÈRE
Bon voyage! Safe trip home!

COGSWORTH
And stay out!

122 EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - NIGHT

122

Belle rides Philippe towards the castle. She kicks his flanks and they double their speed.

123 EXT. HIGHEST TURRET - CASTLE - NIGHT

123

Gaston steps slowly up onto the beast's turret. The beast senses his presence, turns. They lock eyes. Gaston cocks his pistol.

GASTON
Hello, beast. I am Gaston. Belle sent me.

124 INT. TURRET STAIRCASE - CASTLE - NIGHT

124

Belle races up the stairs to the turret.

125 EXT. HIGHEST TURRET - CASTLE - NIGHT

125

With no hope left, the beast turns away from Gaston, whose finger tightens on the trigger.

GASTON
Were you in love with her? Did you honestly think she'd want you?

He fires. The beast drops over the edge.

On the turret below, his claws make contact with the slanted rooftop and break his fall. He hugs the rooftop, heaving.

Gaston looks down over the edge of the turret. He pulls his crossbow and reaches back over his shoulder to draw an arrow from his quiver -- but there's nothing there.

Gaston spins to see Belle, and his arrows gripped in her hands.

GASTON

Belle?

BELLE

Where is he?!

With that, Belle snaps Gaston's arrows over her knee, and tosses them away. Gaston grabs her arm.

GASTON

When we return to the village, you will marry me, and the beast's head will hang on our wall!

BELLE

NEVER.

She pulls away -- and uses this pivot to grab the barrel of Gaston's pistol. They struggle.

With Gaston on the back foot for a split second, Belle yanks the pistol hard. Gaston, not letting go, swings with it, and seeking balance on a loose stone, he drops off the side of the turret!

Gaston's reflexes are quick. He lets go of the pistol, grabbing a gargoyle and swinging himself down through a window of the turret. He lands on the spiral staircase.

Gaston's pistol, in the meantime, clatters down, coming to rest on the landing of a stone footbridge below.

126 EXT. CASTLE - VARIOUS TURRETS - NIGHT

126

Wounded, the beast climbs around the lower turret. All around him, turrets quaver and crack. The castle is imploding.

GASTON (O.S.)

I'm coming for you, beast!

Gaston continues down until he reaches the bottom of the spiral staircase. He drops to a window box below, and jumps sideways onto another.

The beast makes a second leap, onto another parapet. Tiles slide away beneath him as he scrambles to hang on.

Belle reaches the landing at the bottom of the spiral staircase, and leaps down onto another adjacent landing. She looks out, trying to see the beast through the turrets.

The beast swings around a third parapet and leaps onto another.

He's now as far as he can get from Gaston.

Finally, Belle reaches a point where she can see the beast on the faraway turret. She screams out as his grip slips.

BELLE

NO!

The beast's head turns.

THE BEAST

Belle?

And he spots her.

THE BEAST

(roars)

BELLE! You came back!

BELLE

I tried to stop them!

THE BEAST

Stay there! I'm coming!

Gaston drops onto the walkway lined with gargoyles, landing directly between the beast and Belle. He sneers -- the upper hand is still his. His eyes search for a weapon... he grabs a stone spire, and breaks it off.

With superhuman agility, the beast makes a giant leap from the far parapet back toward the central turrets. Back toward Belle.

Belle descends the stairs, finally reaching the beast's lair.

The beast lands on the gargoyle walk and Gaston jumps out, bringing his club cracking down on the beast's back. The beast roars in pain. But he pushes past Gaston.

With Gaston landing blow after blow on the beast's back, the beast staggers down a set of stairs onto the landing of a stone footbridge (where Gaston's pistol came to rest earlier).

BELLE
Stop! Gaston, no!

Belle watches the beast lumbering across the footbridge -- which crumbles under each mighty footfall.

The beast reaches the cupola on the far side, directly parallel to the lair. One giant leap stands between him and Belle...

Gaston lifts the club to deliver the death blow -- when the beast snatches it. He yanks the club away and hurls it against a far wall.

With a snarl, the beast's paw is around Gaston's throat. He lifts Gaston and swings him out over the edge of the landing.

GASTON
(snivelling)
No. Don't let me go. Please. Don't hurt me, beast. I'll do anything.

TIGHT ON THE BEAST -- his features twisted with rage and hate --

but he controls himself -- and his anger fades.

THE BEAST
I AM NOT A BEAST.

He sets Gaston down.

THE BEAST
Go. Get out.

Gaston scrambles to his feet, and the beast lunges, chasing him away down the outer staircase of the cupola.

127 EXT. BALCONY - CASTLE - NIGHT

127

Belle gazes proudly into the beast's eyes, across the final chasm that separates them.

128 EXT. CASTLE - CUPOLA - NIGHT

128

The beast has just enough distance for a head start to leap across to the lair balcony.

BELLE
No! It's too far!

But the beast has already gotten down on all fours. His hind claws dig into the stone. And then he's off, gaining speed as he runs on all legs. Belle gasps -- and the beast leaps.

He's airborne, flying over the chasm -- and he just makes it to the balcony -- landing on all fours! He rises, and smiles.

BOOM! The beast roars in agony. Past him, across the chasm, Belle spots Gaston on the crumbling walkway, pistol back in hand. He grins as he reloads for the kill shot -- and as Belle watches, helpless, he takes aim again -- and fires.

The beast drops -- just as the walkway beneath Gaston collapses. In an instant, there's nothing beneath his feet, and he disappears, screaming, in a cascade of stones.

Belle cradles the beast's head. Anguished. He lies there, breathing heavily. Softly, the beast rests his paw on Belle's hand. Fading, his eyes look at her with perfect love.

THE BEAST
You came back.

BELLE
Of course I came back. I'll never leave you again.

THE BEAST
I'm afraid it's my turn to leave.

BELLE
We're together now. It's going to be fine. You'll see.

THE BEAST
At least I got to see you one last time.

The paw drops as the beast dies in her arms.

BELLE
No... please, no...

129 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - NIGHT

129

As villagers stagger away in defeat, Lumière turns to Plumette, takes her in his arms, about to give her a V-Day kiss.

LUMIÈRE

We did it, Plumette. Victory is ours.

Plumette is silent in Lumière's embrace.

LUMIÈRE
Plumette...? Oh! My dear
Plumette...

Cogsworth helps Lumière lower Plumette to the ground. Opposite them, Garderobe stands beside Cadenza, reunited at last.

GARDEROBE
Oh, maestro! You were so brave!
Goodbye, my love...

Her arms retract -- as the footlights inside her dim and die.

CADENZA
Darling! No, don't leave me!

Cadenza sobs. We move along the few keys he has left until they freeze into silence. We TILT UP to the music stand. No hint of a face. Froufrou emerges from the foyer, pawing at his master and mistress, then goes still. Nothing more than a piano stool now.

Mrs. Potts frantically approaches Cogsworth and Lumière.

MRS. POTTS
CHIP! CHIP! Have you seen Chip!? He ran off! Oh, where is my little boy
--

Lumière and Cogsworth watch in horror as Mrs. Potts' face disappears into the painted ornamentation of the tea pot.

CHIP
Mama!

Lumière turns to Cogsworth, panicked that Chip might see what's happened.

COGSWORTH
Oh no.

Just as he leaps up, his features fade away and gravity takes over. The saucer plummets, shattering. But Chapeau catches Chip in mid-air -- and lovingly places him, inanimate, onto the trolley cart beside Mrs. Potts.

Chapeau straightens himself nobly, and becomes a coat rack. All around Cogsworth and Lumière, the staff goes still.

COGSWORTH
 Lumière... I... TICK... can't...
 CHIME... speak...

LUMIÈRE
 It's all right, Cogsworth.

COGSWORTH
 I... can't... TICK... Lumière, my
 friend... TOCK... it was an honor
 to serve with you.

The only sound Cogsworth makes is 'tick tock, tick tock.'
 Lumière is alone. Surrounded by objects.

LUMIÈRE
 The honor was mine.

Lumière does a final twirl and stiffens. He is a candlestick.

130 INT. BEAST'S LAIR - WEST WING - CASTLE - NIGHT

130

ANGLE ON THE BELL JAR. The final rose petal drops -- just as
 a HOODED FIGURE appears. We move up to reveal: AGATHE.

BELLE
 (to the beast)
 Please, don't leave me. Come back.

TIGHT ON BELLE -- her lips touch the beast's forehead in a
 kiss.

BELLE
 I love you.

Hearing these words, Agathe smiles benevolently and places
 her hand on the bell jar -- which explodes and releases a
 wave of rose petals, whirling into the air.

A golden light begins to emanate from Agathe. It encircles
 the beast and he too begins to rise. Belle gets to her feet,
 watching as the beast is lifted and enveloped by the swirling
 aurora, and then buffeted gently back down to reveal --

THE PRINCE

He lands on his feet and looks down at his hands, his arms,
 his chest. He turns -- and sees Belle.

PRINCE
 Belle...

Slowly he steps toward her, and she to him.

In silent disbelief, Belle runs her fingers through his hair. She looks into the Prince's blue eyes. It is him. Tears of grief turn to tears of joy as they lean in for their first kiss.

131 EXT. CASTLE - DAWN

131

Magic explodes outwards. And with it, the dawn breaks. The castle transforms like someone is giving it a wash of gold. The magic spreads across the balcony as the sun rises on the terrace, traveling down the castle facade -- creepy stone gargoyles turn into noble statuary --

132 EXT. TERRACE - CASTLE - DAWN

132

As the light passes over, an upside-down FROUFROU transforms back into a tiny BICHON FRISE basking in the sun. He leaps up and chases his tail (still a tassle), then trots over to CHAPEAU and relieves himself on his leg -- which changes into a human foot.

Chapeau transforms back into a VALET and shoos the dog away with his walking stick. As the dog weaves through his legs, the valet loses his balance and bumps into the trolley cart holding Mrs. Potts and Chip. It starts to roll toward the stairs.

The valet backs into Garderobe, who waddles in and out of sunlight, changing from wardrobe to human to wardrobe again. Cadenza's face comes alive as he sees the wardrobe falling onto him. As it crashes, the wardrobe's doors fly open, sending out a flurry of garments. We follow them back to the ground, where the human DIVA now lies on top of the human MAESTRO.

MAESTRO

Oh, Madame.

DIVA

Oh, Maestro.

The maestro smiles his now-toothless grin. She tearfully embraces him -- as their dog joins in.

The trolley rolls past, taking us to Cogsworth, whose back is bathed in sunlight. We move around to reveal the pudgy MAJORDOMO, human except for his moustache, which still resembles the hands of a clock. He peers through his monocle, sees --

The French FOOTMAN (formerly Lumière) come into view.

COGSWORTH

Lumi re!

LUMI RE

Cogsworth, we beat the clock!

COGSWORTH

Mon ami.

They greet each other as a feather floats by, brushing the footman's nose. They look over to see --

A pile of feathers... from which the footman pulls the sexiest French MAID in history, her feathers blossoming into a dress around her.

LUMI RE

Plumette... mon amour...

And then, the greatest kiss ever. Their passion ignites a tiny flame on the footman's head, which the maid pats out. They turn as they hear --

The trolley SQUEAKING as it nears the steps, about to crash down. Mrs. Potts and Chip rattle on a tray, which suddenly jerks to a stop on the precipice. The valet has hooked the cart with his walking stick, but...

Mrs. Potts and Chip slide down the incline... shoot off the tray... and start to TRANSFORM IN MID-AIR! They sled to the bottom of the steps and skid to a halt, fully human again. CHIP hugs his MOTHER... he finally got her to skate!

MRS. POTTS

Oh, Chip! What did I tell you? Look at you -- you're a little boy again! Oh you smell so good!

From the castle grounds, astonished villagers approach, blinking, as the veil is lifted from their memory.

JEAN

Darling!?

MRS. POTTS

Mr. Potts!

JEAN

Beatrice! Chip! I remember! I do!

They embrace -- a family reunited.

A wonderful emotion-filled reunion. STABLE BOYS, KITCHEN MAIDS, ARTISANS, GROUNDSKEEPERS, GUARDS, and SEAMSTRESSES are reunited in human form.

Among the happy villagers, we find Cogsworth.

CLOTHILDE (O.S.)
Henry?

He spins to see Clothilde - his wife. Gulp.

COGSWORTH
Oh. DEAR!

She hugs him.

CLOTHILDE
I've been so lonely.

He shuts his eyes tight and whispers to himself:

COGSWORTH
Turn back into a clock... turn back
into a clock...

Lumière and Plumette embrace, then...

PLUMETTE
Lumière, look!

LUMIÈRE
Oh, my Prince!

BELLE AND THE PRINCE emerge. He rushes to Lumiere.

THE PRINCE
Hello, old friend.

Lumiere is taken aback by the warm embrace of his master.

LUMIÈRE
It's so good to see you!

Belle and the Prince are surrounded by the staff. Plumette curtsies to Belle --

PLUMETTE
You saved our lives, mademoiselle.

-- As Chip runs up and hugs her tight.

CHIP
Belle, it's me! It's Chip!

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" starts to play.

134 INT. BALLROOM - CASTLE - DAY

134

The entire village celebrates as Cadenza -- smiling with dentures -- plays the harpsichord with his beautiful wife Garderobe singing.

GARDEROBE

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

We glide past various familiar faces: LeFou; Lumière waltzing with Plumette; Cogsworth with Clothilde; Chip and his father, Jean the Potter... and finally Mrs. Potts. She beams as she watches Belle dance with the Prince, then crosses to acknowledge Maurice, who sits at an easel, sketching the celebration.

MRS. POTTS

Winter turns to spring Famine turns
to feast Nature points the way
Nothing left to say Beauty and the
Beast

Belle runs her hand down the Prince's smooth cheek.

BELLE

How would you feel about growing a
beard?

He growls playfully. As they laugh, we PULL OUT to reveal the ballroom in all its restored splendor.

ALL (V.O.)

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

CUT TO:

BLACK.