

# *Naughty Marietta*

Music by  
Victor Herbert

Original Libretto  
by  
Rida Johnson Young

Concert Version created for  
The Little Orchestra Society  
New York, NY  
by  
Alyce Mott

(LOS Concert Version)

Alyce Mott  
302 West 105<sup>th</sup> Street, #3C  
New York, NY 10025  
212-222-1871  
[alyce.mott@vherbert.com](mailto:alyce.mott@vherbert.com)

## Cast List

Marie Le Valleau	French Creole Narrator/Voodoo Queen (except for one song which can be cut if desired)	40s+	Non-singing
Marietta	Italian Contessa d'Altena	20s	Coloratura soprano
Captain Richard Warrington	American frontier soldier	30s	Tenor
Adah	Quadroon mistress of Etienne	30s	Mezzo w/low range or Alto with high range
Etienne Grandet	French son of Lt. Governor Grande & the pirate, Brau Prique (pronounced "Preek")	30s	Bass or Bass-Baritone
Simon O'Hara	Irish-American servant of Captain Dick	20-30s	Tenor
Lt. Governor Grandet	French Lt. Governor of New Orleans	50s+	Baritone
Rudolfo	Italian owner of marionette theatre	50s+	Tenor

## Time/Place

New Orleans during the 1780s. A glittering city currently owned by Spain but still dominated by the French.

Act I	Place d'Armes, main square in New Orleans
Act II, scene I	One Week later, Rudolfs's Marinette Theatre
Act II, scene II	That evening, Quadroon Ball

**Staging Notes** - this was originally designed as a concert version but you may stage as little or as much as you wish. Best to use only necessary props.

Originally staged with four music stands arranged across front of stage beside conductor on stage right, with narrator on stool w/music stand at the stage right end of music stands so she could interact with the other characters as needed. She simply turned into and out of scene. Soloists sat on a row of chairs at extreme edge of stage right (needed props under chairs).

Characters were blocked to move into and out of their scenes when presence needed and also moved so that the main soloist(s) were always as close to conductor as possible (if you are using a conductor). Original was down with blocking around stands 1 (closest to conductor), 2, 3, 4.

Costuming was primarily white tie/formal gowns in Act I except for one or two pieces to define each specific character (Special note: Marietta needs a skirt/top design for Act I so that skirt can be removed to pants as per plot. She can continue in this outfit until she goes to the ball where she either returns to beginning of Act I attire or changes to a really wonderful formal gown). Of course, let your imagination thrive and again fully stage as much as you wish.

## Musical Numbers

OVERTURE. ....	I, 1
NO. 1 - OPENING CHORUS. ....	I, 1
NO. 2 - TRAMP! TRAMP! TRAMP! (Capt Dick, Simon, Men).....	I, 6
NO. 3 - TAISEZ VOUS (Chorus). ....	I, 11
NO. 4 - NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Marietta). ....	I, 13
NO. 5 - IT NEVER, NEVER CAN BE LOVE (Capt Dick, Marietta).....	I, 17
NO. 6 - I WISH I WAS ANYBODY ELSE BUT ME (Simon, Adah). ....	I, 22
NO. 7 - 'NEATH THE SOUTHERN MOON (Adah, Etienne).....	I, 27
NO. 8 - ITALIAN STREET SONG (Marietta, Chorus). ....	I, 29
NO. 9 - FINALE (All). ....	I, 32

## INTERMISSION

NO. 10 - THE DREAM MELODY INTERMEZZO.....	II, 37
NO. 11 - DANCE OF THE MARIONETTES (Marietta, Rudolfo). ....	II, 37
NO. 12 - I'M FALLING IN LOVE (Capt Dick, Marietta).....	II, 39
NO. 13 - YOU MARRY A MARIONETTE (Etienne). ....	II, 42
No. 13a - JEUNESSE DORÉE (Men).....	II, 45
NO. 14 - THE LOVES OF NEW ORLEANS (Chorus). ....	II, 46
NO. 15 - SWEET BY AND BY (Governor). ....	II, 49
NO. 17 - LIVE FOR TODAY (Marietta, Capt Dick, Adah, Etienne, Chorus). ....	II, 52
NO. 18 - FINALE ACT II – AH SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE (All). ....	II, 60

## ACT 1

## CONDUCTOR OR MARIE VALLEAU

Naughty Marietta, the crown jewel of the work of Victor Herbert, America's first major superstar composer, premiered on the Great White Way at the New York Theatre in 1910. Producer Oscar Hammerstein had a long running competition with the Metropolitan Opera Company and therefore billed the work as a comic opera, filled the stage with big operatic voices and greatly enhanced the theatre orchestra. The cast featured the popular Italian diva, Emma Trentini and the equally celebrated tenor Orville Harrold, both of the elite world of grand opera.

## MARIE LE VALLEAU

The lavish production brought to life a score filled with songs that would become American classics. *Naughty Marietta* became a monstrous hit! Maestro, the overture if you please.

## OVERTURE

## MARIE LE VALLEAU

Mesdames et messieurs, bon soir et bienvenu! We are now in New Orleans during the 1780s. A glittering city currently owned by Spain but still dominated by the French. This is a city of joie de vie, sophistication and wealth, populated by European aristocracy, Creoles, Cajuns, native Indians and free blacks. New Orleans lies steeped in an old world class system which allows wealthy gentlemen to have their wives and own their Quadroon mistresses. [MUSIC CUE] We arrive just as dawn stretches its golden glow over the sleeping city. [MUSIC CUE] It's 5 o'clock in the morning. Venders and buyers swarm the Place d'Armes to ensure the homes of New Orleans are filled with exotic cuisine and the constant perfume of fresh cut flowers.

## NO.1 OPENING CHORUS

GIRLS

COME, COME, COME FOR THE MORNING IS BREAKING,

HASTE, HASTE, HASTE FOR THE DAY IS AWAKING,

YOUTH. LIFE, LOVE, EVERYWHERE,

GARLANDS OF ROSES RARE,

FRAGRANCE UPON THE AIR SHAKING.

COME, COME, COME, COME, COME, HASTE.

COME, COME. HASTE.

SWEET, SWEET, SWEET.

NOW 'TIS SPRINGTIME ENTHRALLING,

PEEP, PEEP, PEEP

NOW THE LOVE BIRDS ARE CALLING

CULL YOUR FLOW'RS WHILE YOU MAY,

SHORT, AH, TOO SHORT THE DAY!

PETALS WILL FADE AWAY, FALLING.

## MARIE LE VALLEAU

[MUSIC CUE] Exciting, mais oui? Exhilarating! The square is filled with the sounds of the market place as prim convent girls parade across the Place on their way to school.

GIRLS

HERE THEY COME THE CONVENT MAIDS,  
SO DEMURE AND SHY,  
CREOLE BEAUTIES EVERY ONE,  
SEE THEM PASSING BY!  
DOWNCAST LASHES, LIPS DEMURE,  
STEPS PRECISE AND STAID.  
OH LA, LA. OH LA, LA.  
I WOULDN'T BE A CONVENT MAID.  
OH LA, LA. OH LA, LA. I WOULDN'T BE A CONVENT MAID.

THERE'S MAMSELLE DE FRONTENAC,  
MAMSELLE ROSE MARIE,  
CREOLE BEAUTIES, EVERYONE,  
HIGH NOBILITY!  
LOOKING NEVER RIGHT OR LEFT,  
TO SMILE THEY ARE AFRAID.  
OH, LA, LA. OH, LA, LA.  
I WOULDN'T BE A CONVENT MAID.  
OH, LA, LA. OH, LA, LA.  
I WOULDN'T BE A CONVENT MAID.

#### MARIE LA VALLEAU

[MUSIC CUE] Do you need fresh fruits, figs, sugar cane? How about bouquets of fresh cut flowers or parrots or singing canaries? The cries of vendors compete for attention on this bright Spring morning!

GIRLS

OH, SWEET, SWEET, SWEET  
NOW 'TIS SPRINGTIME ENTHRALLING,  
PEEP, PEEP, PEEP.  
NOW THE LOVE BIRDS ARE CALLING.  
CULL YOUR FLOWERS WHILE YOU MAY  
SHORT AH, TOO SHORT THE DAY  
PETALS WILL FADE AWAY, FALLING.

COME, COME, COME, COME  
THE MORNING'S BREAKING  
HASTE THE DAY IS WALKING,  
LIFE, LOVE, EV'RYWHERE  
COME, COME, COME, COME  
THE MORNING'S BREAKING  
HASTE THE DAY IS WALKING,  
LIFE, LOVE, TOO SHORT THE DAY

MEN

CLEAR THE WAY, CLEAR I SAY!  
YOU FOOLISH VENDORS CRYING,  
WE HAVE TO SWEEP THE DUST AWAY,,  
WE HAVE NO TIME FOR BUYING,  
WE HAVE TO WORK TO CLEAR THE WAY.  
THE CASKET MAIDENS COME TODAY,  
COME TO DAY, TO MAKE ALL FRESH  
AND FAIR WE'RE TRYING.

THE CASKETTE MAIDENS COME TODAY,  
TO MAKE ALL FRESH AND FAIR  
WE'RE TRYING.  
CLEAR THE WAY!  
THE CASKETTE MAIDENS COME TODAY,  
TO MAKE ALL FRESH AND FAIR  
WE'RE TRYING.  
COME, CLEAR THE WAY!

#### MARIE LE VALLEAU

New Orleans, la vie, l'amour everywhere! You may wonder who I am. Marie Le Valleau, s'il vous plait, Voodoo Queen at your service. You are perhaps unfamiliar with Voodoo? It is not so mysterious – spirituality, African gods, ancestral roots. It keeps our heritage alive. I have my spells and herbs that heal both mind and body, and gris-gris bags to

protect both place and person from evil. I am Marie Le Valteau. I am Damballah. Damballah is all. (ENTER ETIENNE AND TWO GIRLS) Who comes?

GIRLS

Monsieur Etienne. Welcome home!

ETIENNE

Ah, Felice! Nanette! How goes everything in Little Parée?

FELICE

Oh, Monsieur. New Orleans no longer deserves such a joyful name with you away.

NANETTE

No masques. No balls. No amusement!

FELICE

No joie de vie! Nothing.

ETIENNE

Mon Dieu! We must change all that. I have brought back a chest full of souvenirs for the next Quadroon Ball.

FELICE

Ooooh, that would be next week, Monsieur. Little Parée will once again be gay now that you are safely returned from France.

ETIENNE

Come, gossip! What fortunes have been lost at dice? Who has stolen whose mistress?

NANETTE

Brás Pique, the pirate has once again been in our waters.

ETIENNE

Indeed?

FELICE

And the Place D'Armes is haunted.

ETIENNE

Really? Rather an open, airy place for a ghost.

FELICE

Unearthly singing, but no one is there! Perhaps it is the spirit of a drowned victim of Brás Pique.

ETIENNE

Nonsense.

FELICE

Everyone has heard it. A voice so sweet, so mysterious, but nobody's there. It begins a melody and then fades away.

NANETTE

La, la, la, la, etc.

(SHE HUMS THE FIRST PHRASE THE DREAM MELODY.)

ETIENNE

Enough! Someone is playing tricks on all of you. (ENTER ADAH)

NANETTE

Your father, the Lt. Governor, has offered a reward to the Voodoo Queen if she can charm away the voice.

ETIENNE

Is the Place d'Armes to be filled with torches, drums, and dancing? She should save her spells for Mardi Gras!

ADAH

I see the local riffraff is filling your head with voodoo silliness!

NANETTE

Ssst, Madam Ta-Ta! Let us leave while we are still in one piece. (THEY EXIT)

ADAH

(TO GIRLS) Boo! (TO ETIENNE) Mon cher! You have returned. I was beginning to fear . . .

ETIENNE

That I had been spliced to the yardarm by Brás Pique?

ADAH

Hardly. What were those little witches telling you of the strange spirit in the square?

ETIENNE

Something about a strange melody!

ADAH

Melody or no, 'tis no spirit unless spirits deal in hard cash! Every night someone helps themselves to my food and leaves behind gold -- foreign gold. (VOODOO DRUM CUE) 'Tis Marie Le Valteau.

ETIENNE

The Voodoo Queen herself? (MARIE TURNS IN)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

What troubles this place? Dark shadows loom . . . evil lurks . . .

ETIENNE

Straying a bit from the docks, aren't you, Madam?

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Something evil circles round this place. The crow flies. Danger is near! As well as innocence. Damballah, come, show the truth of this place.

ADAH

[ASIDE] She knows.

ETIENNE

[ASIDE] She knows nothing. Calm yourself. [TO MARIE] Madam Le Valteau, your services are not needed here.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Devil - angel. Both be here. Adah, you play with fire.

ETIENNE

Stop your babbling and go now - back where you belong.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Angel - Devil. Strange happenings. Beware Adah, the end of all you know is near.

(SHE TURNS AWAY.)

ETIENNE

Cheery sort, isn't she? Come, my sweet, it's been a very long time! (THEY EXIT)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Mysterious energies swirl around this place. Marie knows. Marie will stay and watch over Adah. Lovely Adah, a Quadroon, unfortunate to have one black grandparent, yet



fortunate to be owned by this Etienne who provides her with a house, fine clothes and money. Did I say fortunate to be owned? Ah well, there are always degrees of fortune. At least she is not toiling in the fields, but her life is not her own. (DRUM CUE,RANGERS)  
Alors, this day brings even stranger sights. Rough men in fur and leather march four abreast led by an officer who looks no better than his men.

**NO. 2 - TRAMP! TRAMP! TRAMP!**

DICK

WE'VE HUNTED THE WOLF IN THE FOREST,  
WE'VE RAIDED THE PIRATES AT SEA,  
WE HAVE NO INDENTURE,  
WE'RE OUT FOR ADVENTURE  
AS ANY ONE PLAINLY CAN SEE.  
WE'VE SMOKED THE PEACE PIPE WITH THE NATCHEZ,  
WE'VE FOUGHT WITH THE SIOUX WILD AND FREE,  
WE'VE LAUGHED AT ALL DANGERS,  
WE'RE KNOWN AS THE RANGERS.  
MY FRIENDS, MY GOOD COMRADES

SIMON  
AND ME.

DICK

TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP. ALONG THE HIGHWAY.  
TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP THE ROAD IS FREE  
BLAZING TRAILS ALONG THE BY-WAY,  
COURIER DE BOIS ARE WE,  
TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP NOW CLEAR THE ROADWAY,  
ROOM, ROOM, ROOM THE WORLD IS FREE!  
WE'RE PLANTERS AND CANUCKS,  
VIRGINIANS AND KAINUCKS,  
CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY,  
CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY.

WE'VE RANGED O'ER THE NORTH IN THE WINTER,  
WE'VE ANSWERED THE CALL OF THE WILD.  
WE'VE HEARD THE WOLF CALLING,  
WHEN NIGHT TIME WAS FALLING,  
AND BURNING LOGS HIGHER WE'VE PILED.  
WE'VE FOUGHT FOR OUR SCALPS WITH THE INDIANS,  
WE'VE WADED IN BLOOD TO THE KNEE,  
WE'VE LAUGHED AT ALL DANGERS,  
WE'RE KNOWN AS THE RANGERS,  
MY FRIENDS, MY GOOD COMRADES,

SIMON  
AND ME.

DICK'S MEN

TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP. ALONG THE HIGHWAY.  
TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP THE ROAD IS FREE  
BLAZING TRAILS ALONG THE BY-WAY,  
COURIER DE BOIS ARE WE,  
TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP NOW CLEAR THE ROAD WAY,

ROAM, ROAM, ROAM THE WORLD IS FREE,  
WE'RE PLANTERS AND CANUCKS,  
VIRGINIANS AND KAINTUCKS,  
CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY.

MEN  
TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP  
THE WORLD IS FREE  
WE'RE PLANTERS AND CANUCKS  
VIRGINIANS AND KAINTUCKS  
CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY  
CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY

CAPTAIN DICK  
WE'RE PLANTERS AND CANUCKS  
VIRGINIANS AND KAINTUCKS

CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY  
CAPTAIN DICK'S OWN INFANTRY

SIMON

This New Orleans ain't such a bad place, Captain. I'm thinking a man could better himself here!

DICK

Keep your mind on business, Simon, and take these letters to the Governor's residence. Ask for an audience for Captain Richard Warrington (ETIENNE AND ADAH REENTER.).

SIMON

And me?

(SIMON STARES AT ADAH.)

DICK

No! Not you! On your way, Simon!

ETIENNE

Keep your eyes to yourself, you mangy cur.

DICK

Not very hospitable, Sir. Captain Richard Warrington of the United States Rangers, at your service.

ETIENNE

Etienne Grandet, son of the Lieutenant Governor of New Orleans, equally at your service. We don't get many "Rangers" in New Orleans. Tell your man to keep his eyes in his head and his mind on his own business.

DICK

'Fraid we Americans don't like being told what to do.

ETIENNE

Americans? Oh yes, the new neighbors. My father is on his way here to oversee the disposal of the King's Caskette maids. You may present your papers when he arrives.

DICK

Thank you, but my orders are to contact the Spanish Governor, not a French Lt. Governor.

ETIENNE

Governor LoBlanco sailed to Spain last month on business, leaving my father in charge.

DICK

Spanish Governor, French Lt. Governor. Curious state of affairs.

ETIENNE

Shall we say it eases a tense populace. Just who are these papers of yours from?

DICK

General Washington, Sir.

ETIENNE

He has no jurisdiction here.

DICK

The Spanish King has requested American assistance in tracking down the buccaneer, Brás Pique.

ETIENNE

Indeed? What a wonderful relief, but I fear you won't find him here. I understand he never ventures nearer than Barataria.

DICK

We don't expect him to be sitting around waiting for us. We simply need the Governor's approval and a little rest. By the way, has a ship of French brides arrived yet from Mozambique Point? We happened to be there when their captain was taking on supplies and allowing his cargo to stretch their sea legs. My lads were smitten by French perfume. Once they learned the destination and purpose of that ship, there was no stopping the clamor for a bit of rest in New Orleans!

ETIENNE

Ah, you've encountered a shipment of Caskette Maids.

SIMON

Caskets, you say? Oh, no, they definitely were not lugging caskets around.

ETIENNE

Our generous king provides ample doweries placed in a small “caskette” for each maid. Are all your soldiers so free with their tongues, Captain?

DICK

Just this one. His name is Simon.

SIMON

Simon O’Hara, and I intend to better myself, ma’am!

ETIENNE

Adah, I will visit this evening. I’m sure you have many preparations which need attention.  
(SHE EXITS.)

SIMON

Be seeing ya, Miss Adah. (GAZING AFTER ADAH)

1<sup>ST</sup> MAN

The Caskette ship’s docked!

2<sup>ND</sup> MAN

Have we your permission to go, sir?

DICK

You can have the day to yourselves, men.

MEN

Hoorah!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

The Rangers all dash off to the docks, leaving an uneasy silence broken quickly by the arrival of Monsieur Grandet, the illustrious Lieutenant Governor of New Orleans.

(ENTER LT. GOVERNOR)

LT. GOVERNOR

Mon Dieu! My handkerchief, Etienne. (HANDKERCHIEF BUSINESS.) Sacre bleu! All these Caskette Maids to marry off. All this work and no one to help me. Where is that Voodoo Queen? She was supposed to come to the Place and work her magic!

ETIENNE

Father, may I introduce . . .

LT. GOVERNOR

By and by - by and by - don't bother me now. (HE FALLS ASLEEP.)

ETIENNE

The Lieutenant Governor appears to be occupied. He will meet you presently.

DICK

I'd say he's asleep. I think I'll go check to see if there's any news of the pretty little minx who escaped from Mozambique Point.

ETIENNE

Escaped?

SIMON

You mean that little Italian girl with eyes like stars, Sir?

DICK

That will do, Simon. (TO ETIENNE) I only noticed her because she seemed so different. Evidently she had not realized she would be forced to marry upon arriving in the New World.

SIMON

That little spit fire took one look at the Captain here and said if she had to take someone, she'd take him!

ETIENNE

Really!

SIMON

Yes! And did he dash!

DICK

I did not dash - I simply informed the maid that marriage was the last thing on my mind!

SIMON

She disappeared that very night!

ETIENNE

What an odd tale. A maiden alone would not be safe in that wild country.

DICK

That's why I thought I'd go over to the ship to see if they'd found her yet!(ALL EXIT)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Suddenly the square fills with crowds of men and women wanting a glimpse of this latest shipment of Caskette brides. Hmmph! Men are all the same, showing off, flirting, preening for these new arrivals, little knowing these gals are a whole lot smarter than them!

**NO.3 - TAISEZ VOUS**

MEN

OH, MAIDEN, FAIR, OH, MAIDEN FAIR,  
WON'T YOU MARRY ME?  
WON'T YOU MARRY ME?

GIRLS

TAISEZ VOUS, TAISEZ VOUS, WE'LL SEE!  
TAISEZ VOUS, TAISEZ VOUS, WE'LL SEE!

MEN

I HAVE BROAD LANDS AND A CABIN TOO!  
I'VE A RANGE WELL STOCKED WITH CARIBOU!  
I'VE A SNUG LITTLE NEST, BIG ENOUGH FOR TWO!

GIRLS

TAISEZ VOUS, TAISEZ VOUS,  
TAISEZ VOUS, TAISEZ VOUS,  
TAISEZ VOUS.  
WE'RE COMING HERE TO BE MARRIED, MARRIED, MARRIED,  
WE DON'T INTEND TO NOW BE HARRIED, NOT BY YOU!

MEN

WON'T YOU MARRY ME?

GIRLS

NOT BY YOU!  
THE KING HAS GIVEN US CASKETTES FAIR,  
OUR SMALL POSSESSIONS ARE ALL IN THERE!  
YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOW YOU'RE FAIR AND SQUARE,  
TAISEZ VOUS, TAISEZ VOUS.  
TAISEZ VOUS, TAISEZ VOUS,

MEN

WON'T YOU MARRY ME,  
MARRY MAIDEN FAIR, FAIR?  
WON'T YOU MARRY ME, MAIDEN FAIR?  
OH MARRY ME! MARRY ME!  
OH MARRY ME! MARRY ME!

OH MARRY ME! MARRY ME!  
OH MARRY ME! MARRY ME!

GIRLS  
WE'RE COMING HERE TO BE  
MARRIED, MARRIED, MARRIED,  
TAISEZ VOUS SO THERE!

MEN  
OH, MARRY ME, MAIDEN FAIR!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

[MUSIC CUE OVER DANCE] Choices are made and the overeager couples dash off to the Cathedral St. Louis and the bon père. to consecrate their marriage vows. [MUSIC ENDS]  
Etienne tries to wake his slumbering father. [DICK/ETIENNE/LT. GOV RETURN]

ETIENNE

Father? Sir? Mon Pere!!

LT. GOVERNOR

Yes, yes! I'm awake! Now where are the femmes fatales! Have they arrived yet? How much gold have we taken in?

ETIENNE

Mon Dieu! They have been here and moved on to the Cathedral to enter into wedded bliss.

LT. GOVERNOR

They have not! I've sat here two hours in this broiling sun awaiting them. They have come and gone against my strict orders. Come, Etienne, we must be after them.

ETIENNE

Before you go, Mon Pere, allow me to present Capitáin Richard Warrington. He appears to have papers from a certain General Washington to Governor LoBlanco.

LT. GOVERNOR

Well, thank God, they are not for me. I have enough to attend to. Bienvenue, Monsieur.

DICK

Thank you. The papers are a warrant from the Spanish King for the capture of the pirate, Brás Pique. In the Governor's absence, we need your approval and signature.

LT. GOVERNOR

What's that? Capture who?

ETIENNE

We must give them every assistance, Mon Pere.

LT. GOVERNOR

Oh! Yes! By and by! It's more important now that we are sure each maiden is accounted for and proper remuneration is presented to the Governor's representative! Which is me! Etienne, I leave to you the entertainment of these gentlemen. Bring them to me by and by.

(HE EXITS.)

ETIENNE

Well, Captain, I'm sure you can fend for yourself.

DICK

You would do well to remember that, Monsieur. I shall obtain that signature later.

ETIENNE

I'm sure you think you will, Monsieur. (BOTH EXIT.)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Finally, peace returns to the square! Perhaps now I can begin my spell!

MARIETTA

LA, LA, LA . . . (1ST TWO PHRASES OF DREAM MELODY)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Ha! The spirit voice! First I draw the circle with four points and place the gris-gris bag, chant my entreaties to Damballah, and charm away this golden voice! (MARIETTA ENTERS) Oh ho! This spirit be far more solid than first reported.

**NO. 4 - NAUGHTY MARIETTA**

MARIETTA

THERE ARE TWO LITTLE MAIDENS THAT LIVE IN MY HEART,

AND ONE IS SO GOOD, LIKE DIS!

SHE LOOK COMME CA, AND SHE TALK LA, LA!

LIKE BUTTER WOULD MELT, I GUESS.

BUT THE OTHER MARIETTA DAT'S ALSO ME!

HAS A TEMPER SO WARM, IT'S TORRID!

SO WHEN I AM GOOD, I AM VERY GOOD INDEED!

BUT WHEN I AM BAD, I'M HORRID!

"NAUGHTY MARIETTA, COME BE GOOD, SAYS SHE,

MAIS NON! SAYS ME!

NAUGHTY MARIETTA, YOU SHOULD, SAYS SHE,

BE GOOD LIKE ME!

NAUGHTY MARIETTA GO HOME, SAYS SHE,

MAIS NON! NON! NON! SAYS ME!

THAT NAUGHTY MARIETTA,

SHE SIMPLY WILL NOT LET HER



BE GOOD, AS SHE SHOULD,  
OUI! OUI!

COME A TIME TO THE CONVENT,  
THEY SEND ME STRAIGHT OFF,  
I'M NOT FOND OF DAT, NOT ME!  
I SAY MY PRAYER, WELL, MOST EVERYWHERE!  
AND BETTER THAN GOLD I BE.  
BUT THE NAUGHTY MARIETTA  
DAT'S ALSO ME,  
MADE DAT CONVENT SO WARM, 'T WAS TORRID!  
CAUSE WHEN SHE WAS GOOD,  
SHE WAS VERY GOOD INDEED,  
BUT WHEN SHE WAS BAD, SHE WAS HORRID.

(CAPTAIN DICK ENTERS DURING SONG)

“NAUGHTY MARIETTA, COME BE GOOD, SAYS SHE,  
MAIS NON! SAYS ME!  
NAUGHTY MARIETTA, YOU SHOULD, SAYS SHE,  
BE GOOD LIKE ME!  
NAUGHTY MARIETTA GO HOME, SAYS SHE,  
MAIS NON! NON! NON! SAYS ME!  
THAT NAUGHTY MARIETTA,  
SHE SIMPLY WILL NOT LET HER  
BE GOOD, AS SHE SHOULD,  
OUI! OUI!

(SHE SUDDENLY SEES CAPT. DICK.)

MARIETTA

Oh! You have followed me!

DICK

I should say not! Why did you run away from the ship?

MARIETTA

For fear you'd make me marry you!

DICK

Believe me, marrying you is the least of my thoughts!

MARIETTA

Ah, me too!

DICK

I value my freedom!

MARIETTA

Me, too!

DICK

I have always scorned love and such nonsense.

MARIETTA

Me, too!

DICK

You have no choice. You have accepted the King's Casket!

MARIETTA

I threw that overboard -- long time ago!

DICK

I hope you emptied it first. What do you plan to do now?

MARIETTA

You must find me other dress. You must get me . . . what you say? . . . a disguise.

DICK

I'll do nothing of the kind.

MARIETTA

The whole thing is your fault!

DICK

My fault! The Lt. Governor will find a suitable husband for you.

MARIETTA

No, no, no! I refuse every one. My family has rejected me. I have done a few bad things . . . not entirely ladylike!

DICK

What could you possibly do that was unladylike?

MARIETTA

A little of this, a little of that . . . I have . . . how you say . . . maybe a teensy little temper.

DICK

I find that hard to believe.

MARIETTA

Of course you not believe it -- because you like me! Come. You will get me the new clothes. What you think? Skin and fur from here down like a boy -- but the other part -- perhaps a little more becoming with the lace. Yes?

DICK

I'll do nothing of the sort.

MARIETTA

Oooh, if you could see how attractive I am in those things! Oooh, la, la! Come, I will be one of your soldiers. Tramp, tramp, tramp! And when I am tired, you can carry me!

DICK

That's preposterous!

MARIETTA

It's settled! You will hide me until the Caskette vessel sails away, and all is over.

DICK

I most certainly will not hide you! Sssh! Someone is coming! Quick! (ENTER SIMON)

SIMON

Sir, were you talking with someone just now?

DICK

Definitely not! Simon, go find Rudolfo, an Italian who has a marionette theatre in the Rue Carendalet. Bring him here at once.

SIMON

Aye, aye, Captain! You sure you weren't talking with someone curvy-like?

DICK

On your way now! (SIMON EXITS) Sst! Sst! Marietta! (MARIETTA JUMPS UP)

MARIETTA

So, it's all arranged. This Rudolfo will take care of me!

DICK

You're pretty sure of yourself, aren't you? I should turn you in right now but -- Oh, all right! I'll place you with this man until I can send word to your father in Italy.

MARIETTA

I shall persuade you from that!

DICK

Never!

MARIETTA

We'll see, Signor. So . . .swear friends! We need each other!

DICK

I don't need anyone!

MARIETTA

I take pity on you . . . but I will still be your friend! (SHE STICKS OUT HER HAND) Come now, you can do it! Just say it.

**NO. 5 - IT NEVER, NEVER CAN BE LOVE**

DICK

SO, HERE'S MY HAND, WE'RE FRIENDS, YOU SEE.

MARIETTA

CERTAINLY! CERTAINLY!

YOU PROMISE YOU'LL NEVER MAKE LOVE TO ME.

DICK

NO! NO! NO! YOU WILL SEE!

MARIETTA

YOU'LL NEVER TRY JUST TO KISS MY HAND?

DICK

I'M NOT THAT FOOLISH KIND OF A MAN.

BOTH

THEN I'M SURE, IF YOU'RE SURE.

AND I'M SURE, IF YOU'RE SURE.

THAT WE MUTUALLY UNDERSTAND!

WE'LL CALL IT BOND PLATONIC,

OR FRIENDSHIP TRIED AND TRUE

WE'LL CALL US JUST GOOD COMRADES,

OR SIMPLY CHUMS WILL DO.

YOU MAY SAY I'M YOUR PARTNER.

MY CLAIM ALL CLAIMS ABOVE;

DICK

BUT SOLEMNLY SWEAR!

MARIETTA

YES, SOLEMNLY SWEAR!

IT NEVER NEVER CAN BE LOVE!

BOTH  
IT NEVER, NEVER CAN BE LOVE!

MARIETTA  
I SEE I DON'T APPEAL TO YOU,

DICK  
OH WELL, YOU'LL DO!  
IN FRIENDSHIP YOU'LL FIND THAT I'M TRIED AND TRUE.

MARIETTA  
OF COURSE, ME TOO.  
I SUPPOSE YOU LOVE MUST BE TALL AND GRAND!

DICK  
I SHALL NEVER LOVE, SO HERE'S MY HAND.

BOTH  
THEN I'M SURE IF YOU'RE SURE  
AND I'M SURE, I AM SURE  
THAT WE MUTUALLY UNDERSTAND.  
WE'LL CALL IT BOND PLATONIC,  
OR FRIENDSHIP TRIED AND TRUE  
WE'LL CALL US JUST GOOD COMRADES,  
OR SIMPLY CHUMS WILL DO.  
YOU MAY SAY I'M YOUR PARTNER.  
MY CLAIM ALL CLAIMS ABOVE;

DICK  
BUT SOLEMNLY SWEAR!

MARIETTA  
YES, SOLEMNLY SWEAR!

BOTH  
IT NEVER NEVER CAN BE LOVE!  
IT NEVER, NEVER CAN BE LOVE!

( SIMON ENTERS WITH RUDOLFO.)

RUDOLFO  
Capitaine Dick? I knowa not a Capitaine Dick!

SIMON  
Sir, here's your Rudolfo!

DICK  
That'll be all, Simon! (SIMON EXITS) You are Rudolfo, the keeper of the Marionette Theatre? You have a son, Raffaello?

RUDOLFO

Si, Signor! Poor Rafaello! So biga lika dat, so deara like dis, so bada like hella. But he disappear. Poof, lika dat!

DICK

Exactly! I bring you news of that son!

RUDOLFO

Oh, Signor! Heaven bless you! Where is he, my Rafaello?

DICK

Safe enough at my father's plantation in Kentuck. He serves my mother where he does nothing all day with infinite grace.

RUDOLFO

Does nothing? Ah! That would be my Rafaello! He no lika de marionettes. He no likea da monk. He no lika spagetta. He damn poor Italiano. But how he get so far? To Kaintuck!

DICK

He managed to get himself captured by Indians.

RUDOLFO

Scalped maybe? Oh, de brown curls of Rafaello!

DICK

We rescued him long before that, took him with us and now bring you word that he is safe and happy!

RUDOLFO

Oh Signor! Safe and happy! How can I serve you? I kissa your hands, your feet!

MARIETTA

His cheek! Rudolfo! Kissa his cheek!

RUDOLFO

Who is this?

(DICK BECKONS MARIETTA TO COME FORWARD.)

DICK

Your boy was so tall?

RUDOLFO

Perhaps, si.

DICK

As I remember, this maid is not unlike Rafaello

RUDOLFO

Si, but my Rafaello was more beautiful.

MARIETTA

Grazie, Signor!

DICK

If you wish to repay me, take this maid, give her your son's clothing and announce that he has returned.

MARIETTA

Eccellente! Eccellente! Padre mio! (ATTEMPTS TO HUG RUDOLFO)

RUDOLFO

But a girila my son?

DICK

You asked how you could serve me.

MARIETTA

It is arranged. I am your son. Come Padre mio. You shall teach me to pulla da Marionette, to eata spaghetti. I will even lika da monk! (SHE LAUGHS MERRILY)

RUDOLFO

But, Senior . . .

DICK

You'll be well paid, Rudolfo.

MARIETTA

Yes, yes, my gold is almost gone, but my friend has plenty! Come, padre. (THEY START OFF.) Oh, one moment. (TO DICK) Listen to this. (SHE SINGS TWO PHRASES OF "AH, SWEET MYSTERY")

LA, LA, LA, etc. (SHE LOOKS AT HIM EXPECTANTLY)

DICK

What?

MARIETTA

Have you finished my melody?

DICK

Finished it?

MARIETTA

Remember, I sing it for you once before! It is my dream melody! I hear it - so many times when I go to sleep. I was told that he who has the power to finish my song will claim my heart!

DICK

Then why ask me?

MARIETTA

Of course, you cannot be the one. Pardon!. (SHE EXITS HUMMING)

DICK

Not the one? I should say not - the little witch! ( BEGINS HUMMING MELODY)  
La, la, la . . .what the devil am I doing? (HE EXITS. ADAH ENTERS WITH SIMON.)

ADAH

Why are you following me, little man?

SIMON

Because you are just about the most beautiful lassie I've ever laid my Irish eyes on!

ADAH

You could never afford me, mon petite cher. Besides, I am already taken. I live very well in a beautiful house provided by Etienne. Why would I give that up for the likes of you?

SIMON

You see before you one who dares to rise above his station! I have great ambitions.

ADAH

Do you?



SIMON

I shouldn't be telling you this but I'm in training to be a pirate!

ADAH

A pirate?

SIMON

Already got me a tattoo! Want to see? (ROLLS UP HIS SLEEVE.)

ADAH

Mon Dieu! You have the tattoo of Brás Pique?

SIMON

That's what my tattoo says! Some day with the help of Captain Dick, I will walk that brigand's sassy butt down the plank, take his place and swashbuckle all over the seas! And . . . then? I'll be rich as Solomon!

ADAH

You? I think you are a little crazy!

SIMON

You'll be finding I'm not at all what I'm seemin'. And soon that dandy Etienne feller won't be lookin' quite so good to ya.

NO. 6 - IF I WERE ANYBODY ELSE BUT ME

SIMON

I MUST HAVE BEEN CHANGED IN ME CRADLE,  
BY ME NURSE OR SOMETHING LIKE,  
FOR I AIN'T TURNED OUT WHAT I OUGHT TO BE  
AND NOTHING SEEMS TO BE RIGHT.

ADAH

MON DIEU! PARBLEU! MON CHER!  
ZAT IS ZE SAD AFFAIR.

SIMON

SO SOMETIMES I GET TO DREAMING,  
AS A FELLER WILL, YOU SEE  
OF A KIND OF A SORT OF A "ME" I'D BE,  
IF I WASN'T THE ME THAT'S ME.

ADAH

MON DIEU! PARBLEU! MON CHER!  
AH! CA C'EST TRES TRAGIQUE!

SIMON

I DREAM THAT I AM A PIRATE BOLD  
THAT KNOWS NO FEAR,

RAVIN', SWEARIN', TEARIN',  
SON-OF-A-SEA SICK BUCCANEER!  
I CARRIES AROUND A HUNDRED POUND  
OF IRON IN ME SASH  
AND I SHAKES ME FIST AS I GIVES A TWIST  
TO ME BRISTLING BLACK MOUSTACHE!  
ON A CORAL REEF, I EATS RAW BEEF  
WHICH I CARVES WITH ME CUTLASS TRUE,  
AND I PICKS ME TEETH WITH A GLEAMIN DIRK  
WHEN ME BLOODY MEAL IS THRO'!

ADAH  
MON DIEU! PARBLEU! BON! BON!  
YOU ARE ZE BRAVE GARCON!

SIMON  
I DREAMS OF FLOODS OF HUMAN BLOOD  
AND CHESTS OF DEAD MEN'S WEALTH.

ADAH  
OH!

SIMON  
AND THEN SOMEBODY WAKES ME UP  
AND I FIND I'M JUST MESELF!  
REFRAIN  
I WISH I WAS ANYBODY ELSE BUT ME -  
ANYBODY ELSE WOULD DO!  
IT'S AWFUL DISCOURAGING, BEING ME,  
WHEN I OUGHT TO BE YOU, OR YOU!  
I TRIES TO SMILE,  
BUT WHAT'S THE USE?  
IT HITS ME WITH A SLAM!  
WHEN I GETS TO THINKING OF THE WHO I WOULD BE,  
IF I WASN'T WHO I AM. (SIMON AND ADAH EXIT.)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Will no one allow me to work my Voodoo? Even I, Maire Le Valteau, need time to summon the gods and weave the spells. Mais non, our poor Lt. Governor wanders back from the convent, having once again missed his Caskette Ladies.

(ENTER ETIENNE, LT. GOVERNOR.)

ETIENNE

While you slept this time, mon pere, you missed a dispatch from our beloved King regarding a young, wealthy Italian Countess missing from a French convent. Interestingly enough, this Captain Warrington tells a tale of a missing Caskette bride at Mozambique Point. Do you suppose, Father, this missing maiden might be the missing contessa?

LT. GOVERNOR

By and by. Don't bother me now with that worry. Just find me these Caskette girls. There's a whole flock of them somewhere!

ETIENNE

Counts talk to Kings. Kings get angry, mon pere.

LT. GOVERNOR

Angry kings are a full ocean away, my boy. Although, that is a thought, isn't it? I wonder what the punishment is for losing a Countess?

ETIENNE

Perhaps you should get a whipping boy, mon pere.

LT. GOVERNOR

A what?

ETIENNE

A whipping boy, such as they had in olden times, to take upon themselves the punishment of royalty. Just the thing for you!

LT. GOVERNOR

Why have I never heard of the most convenient institution of the whipping boy? Look it up, now!

(HE PRODUCES A LAW BOOK)

ETIENNE

Give me a moment. Let me see, scapegoats, turncoats, ah, here it is, "whipping boy." "The whipping boy shall take any crime or misdemeanor that may be committed by said family upon his head and receive meet punishment therefor."

LT. GOVERNOR

I shall get a whipping boy at once. But where? How?

ETIENNE

He must not be French or Creole. (SIMON ENTERS.) Ah. An American. The very man!

LT. GOVERNOR

My boy!

SIMON

Mornin'!

ETIENNE

Where are your manners! This is the Lt. Governor!

SIMON

Mornin', Lieutenant Governor!

LT. GOVERNOR

We have a magnificent post to offer you. Explain, Etienne.

ETIENNE

How would you like to be the Lt. Governor's whipping boy!

SIMON

I don't think so. The name, I don't like it.

ETIENNE

A mere matter of form. No real whipping involved.

LT. GOVERNOR

Read, mon fils. Read the magnificent perquisites which go with the post of whipping boy.

ETIENNE

The whipping boy shall have three suits of fine satin embellished with gold braid. He shall dine at the royal table, shall first taste of each delicacy and first sip of every goblet of wine set before his royal master. He shall be given a royal suite and 10,000 francs per year.

SIMON

10,000 francs?

ETIENNE

Not right away, of course. Do you accept?

SIMON

Hold on a minute! What do I have to do for all this?

ETIENNE

The merest of detail -- you assume the responsibilities of the Lt. Governor's family. If anyone in his family should commit any crime, or little indiscretion, you . . . answer for it with your person. Of course, we're very nice people.

SIMON

Answer with my person? Would that be where the whipping business comes in?

LT. GOVERNOR

As Etienne says, we are really very nice people. But if you're unsure, we will seek else where. There are many waiting for the office.

SIMON

Mon Dieusey! Don't be hurryin' me!

LT. GOVERNOR

One hour! Present yourself at the Residence. If you are not there, we shall immediately find someone else. Come, Etienne, we really must find those Caskette maids! (ALL EXIT)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

I decided to seek out Adah and give her sage advice! Adah, Adah! Come speak with Maman.

ADAH

Ah, Voodoo Queen! Have you vanquished our spirit voice yet?

MARIE LE VALLEAU

I am more concerned with visions of your future from Damballah.

ADAH

I have no need of your visions, Marie Le Valteau.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

You are happy with this pirate?

ADAH

I don't know what you can mean. I know no pirate.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

There is nothing hidden from Marie. Etienne, Brás Pique, the Devil - all be the same. He grows cold, weary of you. You are Quadroon, plaything to such men. Marie knows. We have much in common, you and me.

ADAH

We have nothing in common. My Etienne will never leave me.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

I know a little maid has come from far away. She will be like a star on a dark night -  
Etienne will be guided by her alone.

ADAH

You are wrong. I have already asked my cards.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Your cards. Tarot means nothing. A little maid has come -- in dress like a boy. You  
think you know more than your Maman Marie?

ADAH

You keep calling yourself "Maman." You are not my mother! Your spells are for others.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Deal your cards all you wish. You cannot deny this maid has come. (SHE TURNS AWAY)

ADAH

Never. Look at my cards! They do not lie. They tell me all I need to know.

NO. 7 - 'NEATH THE SOUTHERN MOON

ADAH

TELL ME KINDLY FORTUNE, TELL ME,  
IF MY LOVE SHALL EVER FAITHFUL BE,  
TELL ME TRULY IF MY EVER GROWING PASSION  
IS RETURNED, OR LOST, FOREVER LOST TO ME.  
QUEEN OF HEARTS, YOU RULE, YOU RULE FOREVER!  
QUEEN OF HEARTS WHOSE POW'R SHALL EVER GROW,  
NO! NO! NO! NO! I'LL LOOK, I'LL SEE NO FURTHER!  
FOR IF 'TIS LOST.  
I CANNOT, DARE NOT, KNOW.

'NEATH THE SOUTHERN MOON,  
OH LOVE SO WARM AND TENDER!  
BY THE SOUTHERN SEA,  
OH LOVE SO WARM AND FREE!  
'NEATH THE SPREADING SHADE  
OF PALMS, IN SWEET SURRENDER;  
WHILE THE BREEZES PERFUME LADEN  
DRIFT FROM SEA.  
IN THE SOUTHLAND  
WHERE THE SCENT OF SWEET MAGNOLIA,  
STEEP THE SOUL IN DREAMS OF LONGING ECTASY.  
WHERE THE TROPIC BLOOMS SO RARE,  
BREATHE THEIR LANGOUR ON THE AIR.  
LET ME DREAM AND LOVE AND LIVE FOR THEE,  
FOR THEE!

(ETIENNE HAS JOINED ADAH - GO IMMEDIATELY ON)

ADAH

Have you met a new star to guide you through the night?

ETIENNE

It would take an extraordinary star to replace you, my dear.

ADAH

The Voodoo Queen seems certain you will leave me.

ETIENNE

Trust Marie Le Valleau? Or moi?

ETIENNE

'NEATH THE SOUTHERN MOON,  
OH LOVE SO WARM AND TENDER!  
BY THE SOUTHERN SEA,  
OH LOVE SO WARM AND FREE!  
'NEATH THE SPREADING SHADE  
OF PALMS, IN SWEET SURRENDER;  
WHILE THE BREEZES PERFUME LADEN  
DRIFT FROM SEA.

BOTH

IN THE SOUTHLAND  
WHERE THE SCENT OF SWEET MAGNOLIA,  
STEEP THE SOUL IN DREAMS OF LONGING ECTASY.

ETIENNE

WHERE THE TROPIC BLOOMS SO RARE,  
BREATHE THEIR LANGOUR ON THE AIR.

BOTH

LET ME DREAM AND LOVE AND LIVE FOR THEE,  
FOR THEE!

ADAH

Etienne, promise you'll never send me away.

ETIENNE

Why do you even ask such a thing?

ADAH

Je t'aime.

ETIENNE

You are Quadroon. I own you, my dear. Love has nothing to do with anything. You have clothes, jewels, a house. What more could you possibly need?

FELICE

News everyone! Hurry all! Rudolfo's little son has returned.

(RUDOLFO ENTERS WITH MARIETTA)

**NO. 8 - ITALIAN STREET SONG**

MARIETTA

AH MY HEART IS BACK IN NAPOLI,  
DEAR NAPOLI, DEAR NAPOLI.  
AND I SEEM TO HEAR AGAIN IN DREAMS,  
HER REVELRY. HER SWEET REVELRY  
THE MANDOLINA'S PLAYING SWEET,  
THE PLEASANT FALL OF DANCING FEET,  
OH, COULD I RETURN, OH, JOY COMPLETE,  
NAPOLI, NAPOLI, NAPOLI!  
ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING, ZING,  
BOOM, BOOM AY,  
ZING SING ZIZZY ZIZZY, ZING ZING  
MANDOLINAS GAY.  
ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AY.  
LA LA LA HA HA HA  
ZING. BOOM. AY.  
LA, LA, LA, LA, HA, HA, HA  
ZING, BOOM, AYE!

MARIETTA/CHORUS

ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING, ZING,  
BOOM, BOOM AY,  
ZING SING ZIZZY ZIZZY, ZING ZING  
MANDOLINAS GAY.  
ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AY.  
LA LA LA HA HA HA  
ZING. BOOM. AY.  
LA, LA, LA, LA, HA, HA, HA  
ZING, BOOM, AYE!

MEN

MANDOLINAS GAY!  
DANCING AS WE PLAY  
BOOM  
BOOM

LADIES

ZIZZY, ZIZZY, ZING, ZING, ZING  
ZIZZY, ZIZZY, ZING, ZING, ZING  
LA, LA!  
LA, LA!

BOTH

ZING, ZING, ZING, ZING, ZING, ZING  
BOOM, AYE

CHORUS

ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING, ZING,  
BOOM, BOOM AY,  
ZING SING ZIZZY ZIZZY, ZING ZING  
MANDOLINAS GAY.  
ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AY.  
LA LA LA HA HA HA

MARIETTA

AH!



ZING. BOOM. AY.  
LA, LA, LA, LA, HA, HA, HA  
ZING, BOOM, AYE!

ALL  
ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING, ZING,  
BOOM, BOOM AY,  
ZING SING ZIZZY ZIZZY, ZING ZING  
MANDOLINAS GAY.  
ZING, ZING, ZIZZY ZIZZY ZING ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AY.  
LA LA LA HA HA HA  
ZING. BOOM. AY.  
LA, LA, LA, LA, HA, HA, HA  
ZING, BOOM, AYE!  
LA, LA, LA, LA,  
ZING, BOOM, AYE!

MARIETTA  
AH!

ETIENNE  
Bravo! Well sung! Rudolfo, who is this pretty lad?

RUDOLFO  
My leetle son, she has returned. (MARIE LE VALLEAU TURNS BACK.)

ETIENNE  
Your little son? She has returned, eh? Well, well, my lad - you have a rare sweet voice.  
You must come sing at the Governor's Residence. We are so dull at times.

RUDOLFO  
I tella you, she isa my son!

MARIETTA  
Si, Monsieur, I lika to pull da marionette. I lika da spaghetti. I even lika da monk.

ETIENNE  
Ah ha. The lad has wit. (ENTER CAPTAIN DICK)

DICK  
Ah, Rudolfo, I see you've found your son!

ETIENNE  
You know this lad?

MARIETTA

Captain Dick isa my friend. He save poor Rafaello from being made roast pig by the Indians. He bringa me back to padre mio. (LT. GOVERNOR ENTERS)

LT. GOVERNOR

Mon Dieu! I give up. I really do. How can I find a missing Caskette Bride if the rest keep hopping about like flies. Etienne, call these people to order and read the latest dispatch from our illustrious King.

ETIENNE

Silence! Ecoutez! “His majesty, King Louis XVI offers ten thousand francs for the return of one, Marietta, Contessa D’Altena, who in the disguise of a Caskette Maiden escaped from France. Said Marietta D’Altena has a voice of rare beauty and is continually singing an unfinished melody.”

ALL

The melody! The spirit voice! We must find her.

LT. GOVERNOR

Silence! Such noise! Such confusion! Such heat! I stifle. (HANDKERCHIEF BUSINESS)

MARIETTA

(ASIDE) Am I not beautiful as a boy?

DICK

(ASIDE) You have gotten me into a very dangerous position, young lady! (ENTER SIMON)

SIMON

A pirate or whipping boy! Pirate or whipping boy! I think I’ve got me a situation here! And the day’s not yet over.

ALL

Look on his arm! Brás Pique. Seize him..

SIMON

Whoa! I ain’t no pirate! Not yet, anyway! I was only play acting! Save me, Captain Dick!

DICK

Don’t look to me, lad!

SIMON

Governor, I'll do it! I'll be your whipping boy! I'll do anything . . .

LT. GOVERNOR

Calm yourselves. 'Tis but a foolish masquerade. I know the fellow well. He is my whipping boy.

ALL

A whipping boy?

SIMON

Never to be whipped, however.

DICK

Now hold on a minute! This is one of my Rangers, Sir.

SIMON

No longer, Captain! I told you I wanted to better myself! (SEES MARIETTA) Beg pardon, Sir, but isn't that the little runaway?.

ALL

What?

(ADAH HAS BEEN WATCHING MARIETTA.)

ADAH

Ah.

MARIETTA

Non, non, Padre mio.

(SHE CLUTCHES RUDOLFO'S ARM)

RUDOLFO

Non, non, nota Caskette Maid! This lady isa my son!

ETIENNE

I think, Sir, the voice too sweet for a lad. I think this is Marietta, Contessa D'Altena.

NO. 9 - FINALE

ADAH

'TIS SHE! THE CASKETTE GIRL!

'TIS SHE!

MARIETTA

NO, NO NO NO!

I AM RUDOLFO'S FIGLIO!

ETIENNE  
SHE! A FLOWER OF ITALY  
HIGH NOBILITY  
TO THE PALACE!  
COME WITH ME!

MARIETTA (TO DICK)  
NO, NO, MY FRIEND!

DICK  
PROTECT YOUR SON, RUDOLFO!  
COME MAN, SPEAK UP!

RUDOLFO  
YES, YES, SHE IS MY SON!  
YES, YES, SHE IS MY SON!

MARIETTA  
OH! PADRE!  
OH, PADRE DEAR!

CHORUS  
SHE SAYS SHE IS HIS SON,  
THIS GIRL, HIS SON, WHAT FUN!

DICK  
PROTECT YOUR SON  
COME, SPEAK UP!  
ETIENNE  
SHE HIS DAUGHTER?  
SHE HIS SON?

MARIETTA  
OH! PADRE MIO! PADRE!  
OH, PADRE, MIO, PADRE!

LT. GOVERNOR  
DEAR ME! DEAR ME, MORE TROUBLE, THAT'S NOT FAIR!

ADAH  
'TIS SHE, THE CASKETTE GIRL, 'TIS CLEAR!

MARIETTA  
OH, LA! PAPA!  
'TIS A VERY PRETTY FIX  
COMME CA?  
OH, LA! PAPA!  
WE WILL GET AWAY FROM  
THEM, PARLA!  
STAY NEAR, MY DEAR!  
IN YOUR LOVING ARMS ENFOLD  
ME HERE!  
DON'T FORSAKE ME  
STAY BESIDE ME,  
SAFELY HID ME  
DON'T FORSAKE ME, PADRE  
MIO, DEAR  
NO NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!

ADAH (TOGETHER)  
'TIS SHE!  
'TIS SHE!  
SHE'S THE CASKETTE  
GIRL!  
'TIS SHE!  
'TIS SHE!  
SHE'S THE CASKETTE  
GIRL!  
'TIS SHE!  
'TIS SHE!  
SHE'S THE CASKETTE  
GIRL!  
YES, 'TIS SHE, 'TIS SHE,  
'TIS SHE!

DICK (TOGETHER)  
HIS SON, WHAT FUN!  
COME PROTECT YOUR  
SON,  
SPEAK UP MY MAN!  
HIS SON, WHAT FUN!  
COME PROTECT YOUR  
SON,  
SPEAK UP MY MAN!  
HIS SON, WHAT FUN!  
COME PROTECT YOUR  
SON,  
SPEAK UP MY MAN!  
COME PROTECT YOUR  
SON,  
COME, SPEAK UP!

RUDOLFO (TOGETHER)  
SI, SI,  
SI, SI  
MIO FIGLIO,  
MIO FIGLIO DEAR!  
SI, SI,  
SI, SI  
YES, I SWEAR!  
NO! DON'T FEAR!  
SI, SI,  
SI, SI  
MIO FIGLIO,  
MIO FIGLIO DEAR!  
SI, SI, SI, SI  
I SWEAR!

ETIENNE (TOGETHER)  
 COME, COME WITH ME!  
 COME WITH ME!  
 COME, COME WITH ME!  
 COME WITH ME!  
 COME, COME!  
 COME, COME WITH ME!  
 COME!  
 COME!  
 OH, COME WITH ME!  
 TO THE CASTLE COME  
 WITH ME!

LT. GOVERNOR (TOGETHER)  
 DEAR ME,  
 DEAR ME,  
 MORE TROUBLE, THAT'S NOT FAIR!  
 DEAR ME,  
 DEAR ME,  
 MORE TROUBLE NOW, THAT'S NOT FAIR!  
 DEAR ME,  
 DEAR ME,  
 MORE TROUBLE, THAT'S NOT FAIR!  
 OH DEAR ME, DEAR ME,  
 DEAR ME!

MARIETTA (OVER TOP)  
 STAY BESIDE ME, PADRE DEAR!  
 DON'T FORSAKE ME, STAY BESIDE ME!  
 IN YOUR LOVING ARMS ENFOLD ME HERE!  
 YES, 'TIS SHE, 'TIS SHE!  
 BESIDE ME, SAFELY HIDE ME,  
 DON'T FORSAKE PADRE MIO DEAR!

CHORUS (OVER ALL)  
 SHE, HIS SON, WHAT FUN!  
 SHE, HIS SON, WHAT FUN!  
 THE CASKETTE GIRL IS SHE!  
 YES, 'TIS SHE, 'TIS SHE  
 'TIS SHE!

ETIENNE  
 COME, SIR, YOU ARE  
 MASTER HERE,  
 TO HOLD THE MAID  
 YOU'LL TRY.

LT. GOVERNOR  
 WAIT A WHILE! LET ME  
 THINK!  
 BY AND BY!

CHORUS  
 BY AND BY!

ETIENNE  
 THE KING'S COMMANDS  
 BE ON YOUR HEAD!  
 HIS VENGEANCE WILL BE  
 DIRE AND DREAD.

LT. GOVERNOR  
 WAIT A WHILE! LET ME  
 THINK!  
 BY AND BY!

CHORUS  
 BY AND BY!

RUDOLFO  
 MIO FIGLIO!  
 MIO FIGLIO,  
 CAO MIO, CARO MIO, CARO MIO  
 CARO MIO, CARO MIO!

DICK  
 COME, MAN SPEAK UP,  
 PROTECT YOUR SON,  
 PROTECT YOUR SON,  
 SPEAK UP, SPEAK UP!

MARIETTA  
 PADRE MIO,  
 PADRE MIO, FORSAKE ME NOT,  
 FORSAKE ME NOT!

ADAH  
 THE KING'S COMMANDS BE ON  
 YOUR HEAD!

ETIENNE  
 HIS VENGEANCE WILL BE DIRE  
 AND DREAD!

LT. GOVERNOR  
 WAIT A WHILE LET ME THINK  
 BY AND BY, BY AND BY!

CHORUS  
 NO! NO!  
 TO THE CASTLE, TO THE CASTLE,  
 AWAY, AWAY!  
 NO! NO!  
 TO THE CASTLE, TO THE CASTLE,  
 TAKE HER AWAY!

MEN  
 SHE'S HIS FIGLIO!  
 SHE'S HIS FIGLIO!  
 TO TAKE HIS SON  
 YOU WILL NOT DARE,  
 WE'LL FIGHT TO SEE FAIR PLAY!

MARIETTA  
 PADRE!  
 PADRE!  
 OH PADRE!  
 PADRE  
 PADRE  
 OH STAY NEAR.

DICK  
 COME, MAN  
 COME, MAN  
 SPEAK UP, COME MAN,  
 COME, SPEAK UP!  
 COME, MAN  
 COME, MAN  
 SPEAK UP, MAN,  
 COME, SPEAK UP!

RUDOLFO  
 CARO FIGLIO MIO,  
 OH CARISSIMO!  
 CARO FIGLIO,  
 CARO FIGLIO MIO!

ETIENNE  
NO! NO!  
NO! NO! NO! NO!  
COME, SIR, YOU'RE MASTER HERE.  
NO, NO!  
COME, SIR, YOU'RE MASTER HERE.

LT. GOVERNOR  
THE KING OF FRANCE IS FAR AWAY.  
I SCARCELY KNOW JUST WHAT TO SAY.

ETIENNE  
THESE RUFFIANS HERE ON EVERY SIDE.

LT. GOVERNOR  
TO TAKE HIS SON YOU WILL NOT DARE  
WITH RUDOLFO LET HER BIDE!

MARIETTA  
AH.....

MEN  
YES, SHE'S HIS FIGLIO,  
SHE'S HIS FIGLIO  
TO TAKE HIS SON YOU  
WILL NOT DARE,  
WE'LL FIGHT TO SEE  
FAIR PLAY.  
SHE'S HIS FIGLIO.  
SHE'S HIS FIGLIO  
TO TAKE HIS SON YOU  
WILL NOT DARE,  
WE'LL FIGHT, WE'LL  
FIGHT TO SEE,  
WE'LL FIGHT, WE'LL  
FIGHT TOO SEE FAIR  
PLAY,  
WE'LL FIGHT, WE'LL  
FIGHT,  
FREE! FREE! FREE!

CHORUS  
NO! NO!  
TO THE CASTLE, TO THE CASTLE,  
AWAY, AWAY!  
NO! NO!  
TO THE CASTLE, TO THE CASTLE,  
TO THE CASTLE, TO THE CASTLE,  
TAKE HER AWAY, TAKE HER AWAY  
AWAY, AWAY, TAKE HER AWAY!

LT. GOVERNOR  
WAIT A WHILE,  
WAIT A WHILE,  
LET ME, LET ME THINK,  
WAIT AWHILE.  
WAIT A WHILE,  
WAIT A WHILE,  
LET ME, LET ME THINK,  
WAIT AWHILE.

ETIENNE  
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!

COME, SIR, YOU'RE MASTER HERE.  
NO! NO, NO, NO,  
COME, SIR, COME SIR,  
COME SIR, COME THE KING COMMANDS  
BE ON YOUR HEAD  
BE ON YOUR HEAD!  
GONE, GONE, GONE!

DICK  
COME MAN, COME MAN, SPEAK UP,  
COME MAN,  
COME, SPEAK UP!  
SPEAK UP, SPEAK UP!  
SPEAK UP MAN, OR FIGHT FOR FAIR PLAY,  
FIGHT FOR FAIR PLAY!  
GONE, GONE, GONE!

LT. GOVERNOR  
WAIT A WHILE,  
WAIT A WHILE,  
LET ME, LET ME THINK,  
WAIT AWHILE.  
WAIT A WHILE,  
LET ME, LET ME, LET ME,  
LET ME, LET ME THINK,  
PLEASE LET ME THINK!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Singing Spirit? Italian lad? Contessa? Who is this shooting star? In the grand Italian manner, everyone is so busy debating, no one notices that she and Rudolfo are long gone.

ALL  
GONE, GONE, GONE!  
FREE! FREE! FREE!  
GONE! GONE!

(CURTAIN - END OF ACT I)

VHRP PERUSUAL

ACT 2  
SCENE 1

NO. 10 - THE DREAM MELODY INTERMEZZO

MARIE LE VALLEAU

[MUSIC CUE] It's now one week later. Lt. Governor Grandet has refused a reward for my ridding the Place d'Armes of its mystery spirit! I told him there be no more strange melody swirling around the wind, but he doubts any spell of mine cured the problem. His excellency may have a point now that the melody seems to waft along the alleyways and creep around wherever men be gathered in all of New Orleans. French, Spanish, Creole, Cajun, it makes no matter! Eligible bachelors are focused on one thing and one thing alone - finishing that mélodie to win Mlle Marietta. But so far no one has accomplished the task. At least she is now admitting to being a "she." Rudolfo has convinced her to stay at his theatre and help with his puppet shows, but her heart is not really in it!

(RUDOLFO AND MARIETTA ENTER W/MARIONETTE)

NO. 11 - DANCE OF THE MARIONETTES

RUDOLFO

TURNA LIKE DATA PIERRETTE, JUST SO,  
BOW TO THE LADY, SIGNOR PIERROT.  
SANTA MARIA! NO! NO! NO! NO!

MARIETTA

AH! AH!  
HOW HE IS STUPID, YOUR FRIEND PIERROT!

RUDOLFO

[MUSIC CUE] No, no, no! It isa always da samea thing! You begina to learna da Marionettes, and you then you makea it all the bigga joke!

MARIETTA

Ah, padre mio! Laugh with me! I am so happy for the first time in my life!

RUDOLFO

You are happy because you makea the men miserable! First me! I say to the people, my sona, she has returned! Then sudden you say -- no more boy's dress. I wanta be myself. Then I must cracka my brain to explaina my brand new daughter!

MARIETTA

But now your theatre is crowded at every performance. They all come to see Marietta! And look how many costumes you have rented for the Quadroon Ball tonight.



RUDOLFO

Maybe so. But, my gooda friend, Captain Dick -- and Monsieur Etienne, da son of His Excellency -- now you coquetta with both! It's all a biga mystery!

MARIETTA

Oui, the sweetest mystery of . . . life. Oh, Padre! Voila! The mystery, my mélodie!

AH, SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE  
AT LAST I FOUND THEE!

Now who will solve it?

RUDOLFO

That mélodie, she makea me crazy!

MARIETTA

You try it, padre mio. You givea me the mystery, now maybe you can finish him -- Then I love you - desperately, like fire!

RUDOLFO

Santa Maria forbid! (HE EXITS. MARIETTA HUMS. DICK ENTERS.)

DICK

You certainly are in high spirits today.

MARIETTA

That is because we find the mystery!

DICK

What mystery?

MARIETTA

This one!

AH! SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE  
AT LAST I'VE FOUND THEE,

DICK

Well, that settles that question.

MARIETTA

You know what this sweet mystery is?

DICK

Of course not. Don't start that again, you little minx.

MARIETTA

Everyone calls me names - you, Padre Rudolfo. Just now he calls me coquette.

DICK

A coquette? Really, he called you that? I wouldn't call you that.

MARIETTA

You wouldn't? C'est bon! You know, I love this Petite Parée. I love the marionettes. I love my new life. I think there are happy spirits ici.

DICK

I must agree. Yet I seem to feel very unsettled. My men and I should have been gone from this area days ago, but we're still here. Sometimes I feel very gay, yet I don't really feel . . . happy . . . unless I'm in this theatre.

MARIETTA

Moi, aussi!

DICK

You, too? What can it be about this place? You don't suppose it's . . . no, probably not.

MARIETTA

No, no, definitely "not."

DICK

Still, I'm filled with the strangest emotion . . . could I share it with you?

MARIETTA

Does it solve my "mystery?"

**NO. 12 - I'M FALLING IN LOVE**

DICK

I'VE A VERY STRANGE FEELING,  
I NE'ER FELT BEFORE,  
'TIS A KIND OF A GRIND OF DEPRESSION,  
MY HEART'S ACTING STRANGELY,  
IT FEELS RATHER SORE,  
AT LEAST IT GIVES ME THAT IMPRESSION.  
MY PULSES LEAP MADLY WITHOUT ANY CAUSE,  
BELIEVE ME, I'M TELLING YOU TRULY,  
I'M GAY WITHOUT PAUSE,

THEN SAD WITHOUT CAUSE  
MY SPIRITS ARE TRULY, UNRULY.

FOR --- I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
SOME ONE GIRL -  
I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
HEAD AWHIRL --  
YES, I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
PLAIN TO SEE,  
I'M SURE I COULD LOVE SOMEONE MADLY,  
IF SOMEONE COULD LOVE ONLY ME.

DICK  
NOW, I DON'T MIND CONFESSING THAT I USED TO SCOFF  
AT THIS SORT OF A SPORT OF FLIRTATION,

MARIETTA  
I USED TO BELIEVE THAT I'D NEVER BE CAUGHT  
IN THIS FOOLISH BUT FOND COMPLICATION.

DICK  
I'M LOSING ALL RELISH FOR THINGS THAT WERE DEAR,  
I'M LOOKING FOR TROUBLE AND KNOW IT,

MARIETTA  
WHEN SOMEONE IS NEAR, I'M FEELING QUITE QUEER,  
BUT I HEARTILY HOPE I DON'T SHOW IT.  
FOR -- I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
SOME ONE NEW.  
I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
YES, IT'S TRUE!  
YES, I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
PLAIN TO SEE,  
I'M SURE I COULD LOVE SOMEONE MADLY,  
IF SOMEONE COULD LOVE ONLY ME.

CHORUS  
YES, I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE,  
PLAIN TO SEE,

BOTH  
I'M SURE I COULD LOVE SOMEONE MADLY,  
IF SOMEONE COULD LOVE ONLY ME.  
(THEY ALMOST KISS.)

MARIETTA

Do we go to the Quadroon Ball tonight?

DICK

Absolutely not! That is no place for proper ladies and gentlemen. Rudolfo and I think you should stay right here.

MARIETTA

But I love to dance! Perhaps you'll find your "someone," and perhaps, "someone" will finish my mélodie for me.

DICK

That melody will get finished in due time. Tonight I want you to be a good girl and not go near that ball. Promise?

MARIETTA

Aye, aye, Captain Dick!

DICK

I'll stop by tomorrow. (HE EXITS AS ETIENNE ENTERS.)

ETIENNE

Sacre bleu! I seemed to have just missed Capitaine Dick. You seem tres gai, Mademoiselle. I'm glad that gentleman didn't deflate your spirit.

MARIETTA

Ah, Monsieur! It is very kind of you to visit the casa Rudolfo and his most unworthy daughter.

ETIENNE

Come, Mademoiselle, you are hardly "unworthy." Why not admit your rank? Any day there may come a ship from Italy carrying your illustrious father and then, how shall we account for your lodging here?

MARIETTA

When, and if, the illustrious Comte D'Altena arrives, he will simply rave! "What, this little brown maid, this child of the people, ma figlia?" He will think you are crazy!

ETIENNE

All right, you win for now. Besides, I have come for a very different purpose. I would like you to join me for the Quadroon Ball.

MARIETTA

I cannot! Captain Dick, he say no. It is no place for a good girl like me.

ETIENNE

Strange, I could have sworn the good Captain himself is going. My own Adah has deserted me to go with him!

MARIETTA

No, you are mistaken. My Captain Dick would never do that.

ETIENNE

Well, perhaps I am wrong! He certainly would not want you to attend, my dear, but you are such a lover of life, gaiety, freedom! I promise you my escort and protection.

MARIETTA

Adah . . . with Capitaine Dick? I will go to that Ball!

ETIENNE

With me!

MARIETTA

No, no, with me! I will go, yes! No one tells Marietta what to do! Ciao! (EXITS.)

ETIENNE

What a little vixen! I accomplished that rather easily, or did I? Did I manipulate Marietta or did she just manipulate me? Perhaps we men are the real puppets. We think we're pulling all the strings, but . . .

**NO. 13 - YOU MARRY A MARIONETTE**

ETIENNE

NOW, WHY SHOULD A MAN WHO HAS COURAGE TO FACE  
FATE, MAN AND THE DEVIL, ALL THREE!  
GIVE INTO A BUNDLE OF SATIN AND LACE?  
THE ANSWER'S SIMPLE AS SIMPLE CAN BE!  
FOR WE MEN ARE BUT PUPPETS AFTER ALL.  
AS WE LAUGH OR WE SIGH OR WE SING:  
IF WE CREEP OR WE CRAWL,  
IF WE STAND OR WE FALL,  
SURE A WOMAN IS PULLING THE STRING!

OH, A MAN IS MAN,  
DO WHAT HE CAN,  
WHATEVER HIS BREED OR BIRTH;  
AND A MAID IS A MAID,  
AND SHE ISN'T AFRAID  
OF THE MANLIEST MAN ON EARTH!  
SO IF YOU'RE A FOOL  
YOU'RE HOPING TO RULE,  
THE WOMAN YOU'RE PLANNING TO GET,  
THEN BY THE OLD HARRY,  
BE SURE WHEN YOU MARRY  
YOU MARRY A MARIONETTE, MY LADS!  
YES, MARRY A MARIONETTE!

(AT FINISH, DICK RE-ENTERS.)

DICK

You, here again.

ETIENNE

You also.

DICK

I suppose you think you'll ask Marietta to that Ball of yours?

ETIENNE

I already have. (MARIETTA RE-ENTERS.) Til this evening, madmoiselle!

DICK

What does he mean?

MARIETTA

The Quadroon Ball is not proper for Marietta but it's perfectly fine for Captain Dick and his Adah!

DICK

Adah? What on earth are you talking about?

MARIETTA

Did you think I was such a child that you could pull the . . . what you call it . . . cotton over the eyes?

DICK

That must be the temper you're always hinting at!!

MARIETTA

Temper? Me! You may take any one you please to the ball! What is it to me? I'm not angry! I'm in a beautiful mood! (GIVES MARIONETTE A WHACK.) I have much to do before I prepare myself for the ball!

DICK

You promised you would not go!

MARIETTA

I am so forgetful! I disremember that promise!

DICK

I'm beginning to agree with your parents.

MARIETTA

Ha! Then you can marry Adah. Adah will be your "someone." I'll just have to find "someone else" to finish the dream song. Someone handsome like Monsiuer Etienne, perhaps? Chacun a son gout! (ENTER RUDOLFO)

DICK

Now you're making me mad!

MARIETTA

No one loves Marietta! Even my padre does not love me!

RUDOLFO

Oh si, likea my soul - better than my owna daughters. When you ara good . . .

MARIETTA

Yes, when I am good, I am very good. But now I think I shall be horrid!

RUDOLFO

I locka you up!

DICK

Excellent idea, Rudolfo. You take care of this situation.

MARIETTA

You not dare "locka me up." Capitaine Dick, he loves Adah! (EXITS)

RUDOLFO

Capitaine Dick?

DICK

Of course I not love Adah! That girl! How can one cage quicksilver? She is -- I will be very glad when her parents claim her.

RUDOLFO

Ah, well, I cannota be glad if they take her away.

DICK

Take her away? Why would they take her away? (BOTH EXIT)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

These two stalwart men plot to keep Marietta under lock and key until after the Quadroon Ball. But life is not quite so simple. Marietta is not about to be bound by anyone. She has much voodoo. She hides herself in a closet while the men search in vain. When we meet the little imp again, she is costumed a la mode, masked for the ball and out the door as the marionettes look on.

MARIETTA

Adieu, mes amis! Adieu! I'm off to the ball!

(CURTAIN - END OF SCENE ONE.)

VHRP PERUSUAL



ACT II  
SCENE 2

No. 13a JEUNESSE DORÉE

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Bienvenue! Welcome to the Quadroon Ball. The official coming out of all young debutantes of one quarter black heritage. It's the annual celebration of a decades-old solution to the wandering eye of wealthy French and Creole husbands. Do their wives know of these Quadroon Balls? But of course! They are securely in attendance at their own ball next door. Wives and mistresses steps apart. C'est magnifique, non? The men of New Orleans lead charmed lives where the icing on the cake is as sweet as the cake itself. Here at the Quadroon Ball, the most beautiful women of New Orleans flaunt their silks, satins, jewels . . . and their men. For tonight, they are the equal of the wives!

(ENTER ETIENNE)

MEN

Vive, Monsieur Etienne! Vive the Master of Ceremonies!

ETIENNE

Merci, Messieurs! Exquisite wine is flowing, the band tuning and Les Belle arriving! 'Tis my will no man shall leave here tonight who can stand on his feet. Bumpers and glasses down all! A votre santé!

MEN

A votre santé!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

You may wonder at my attendance here this evening. I still retain my finery from my own early days at Quadroon Balls. I have decided to protect my Adah from all evil, and when the time is right I shall cast a spell which will release her from that devil man. Everyone awaits the arrival of the Lt. Governor for the official opening of the Ball. (ENTER LT. GOV) Finally his excellency drifts into the room.

MEN

Vive Monsieur By-and- By! (SIMON JOINS ETIENNE)

SIMON

Why don't they "Vive " me?

ETIENNE

Vive the Whipping Boy!

SIMON

Not for whippings, however!

MEN

Vive the Whipping Boy!

LT. GOVERNOR

Mon Dieu! What a bore! Absurd custom dragging the Lt. Governor here to open these Quadroon balls. Well, let's get this done! I hereby declare the annual Quadroon Cotillion open. (ALL EXIT)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

With all the players now properly in place, the focus of the Ball turns to the main event as spectacular Quadroon women make their debut down the central staircase, followed by the Spanish, the Caribbean natives and the French – the many varied and sensual “Loves of New Orleans.”

**NO. 14 - THE LOVES OF NEW ORLEANS**

LADIES

WE'RE THE LOVES OF OLD NEW ORLEANS,  
WITH ITS LANGUOR AND ITS GLOW, ITS FIRE,  
WE WEAR THE BADGE OF THE RED, RED ROSE,  
WITH ITS FRAGRANCE OF DESIRE.  
WE'RE THE LOVES OF OLD NEW ORLEANS,  
WE'RE THE FLOWERS OF NIGHT.  
FOR WE DRIVE THE CARES  
OF THE DAY AWAY  
IN OUR GARDENS OF DELIGHT.

ALL

WE'RE THE LOVES OF OLD NEW ORLEANS,  
WITH ITS LANGUOR AND ITS GLOW, ITS FIRE,  
WE WEAR THE BADGE OF THE RED, RED ROSE,  
WITH ITS FRAGRANCE OF DESIRE.

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Here are the Spanish señoritas.

SPANISH LADIES

OH HOLA! WE DANCE LA CACHUCA!  
WITH CASTANETS SOUNDING SO GAY,  
THE BRIGHT EYES OF EACH SENORITA  
SHALL CHARM EVERY TROUBLE AWAY!  
OH HOLA! WITH STARRY EYES DANCING,

WE SING AND WE DANCE WILD AND FREE!  
TO MUSIC INSPIRING, ENTRANCING  
FOR FINE SPANISH MAIDENS ARE WE!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

And now here are the exotic beauties of San Domingo!

MEN  
BELLES FROM SAN DOMINGO  
ISLAND FAR AWAY!  
LOVELY SAN DOMINGO  
ISLAND FAR AWAY!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

And we can't forget ze French beauties from Parée!

FRENCH GIRLS  
ATTENDEZ, ATTENDEZ!  
YOU'LL PLAINLY SEE,  
WE'RE FROM PARIS,  
WE HAVE ZE AIR,  
WE HAVE ZE STYLE, AH, HA!  
ET REGARDEZ,  
WE HAVE ZE STYLE, AH, HA!!  
AND WE KNOW A THING OR TWO, WE DO!  
AND WE KNOW A THING OR TWO,  
LA BELLE MARIE, ANNETTE, FROU FROU!

MEN  
BRAVO! BRAVO!  
OH, HOW ENTRANCING!  
BRAVO! BRAVO!  
HOW CHIC THEY'RE DANCING!  
AH, COME, COME ALL.  
WITH WILD DELIGHT WAKE,  
WAKE THE NIGHT!

ALL

WE'RE THE LOVES OF OLD NEW ORLEANS,  
WITH ITS LANGUOR AND ITS GLOW, ITS FIRE,  
AND WE WEAR THE BADGE OF THE RED, RED ROSE,  
WITH ITS FRAGRANCE OF DESIRE.  
WE'RE THE LOVES OF OLD NEW ORLEANS,  
WITH ITS LANGUOR AND ITS FRAGRANCE OF DESIRE

MARIE LE VALLEAU

As couples pair off, the courtship of joining eligible young men with their future mistresses begins. Etienne Grandet and his father hang back from the rapidly disappearing crowd in deep tête à tête.

ETIENNE

I mean to marry this Contessa D'Altena!

LT. GOVERNOR

Are you so positive you've found her, mon fils?

ETIENNE

Not a doubt, mon pere! She's coming here tonight. Think what such an alliance could mean. Title, riches, power. Italy would become our ally! We shall take back New Orleans for France and make Louisiana a French Republic. You shall be her first President.

LT. GOVERNOR

Etienne, we might be going too far out on that proverbial limb. Suppose the Governor -

ETIENNE

Suppose nothing! My men have captured his vessel. He waits rather reluctantly on the Isle of Pines. I hear he may never return.

LT. GOVERNOR

I don't hear you! I know nothing about you or your men!

ETIENNE

You know nothing except Brás Pique gives you half of his spoils.

LT. GOVERNOR

If Brás Pique chooses to put his stolen goods in my store house, he does it without my knowledge.

ETIENNE

You play a pretty game, mon pere! When I wed this girl, with all her wealth . . . ah, think of the possibilities!

LT. GOVERNOR

Well, it's all your affair! Which reminds me, dear boy, your fellows gave short weight on that Spanish gold they brought in last week. Bid them be more careful.

ETIENNE

It would appear your eyes are more perceptive than your ears, my most worthy parent! Do not get greedy! I must see if my Contessa has arrived. (HE EXITS)

LT. GOVERNOR

Don't get me wrong! I'm very sure that things will be adjusted - by and by, by and by.

NO.15 - SWEET BY AND BY

LT. GOVERNOR

I AM A MAN OF COMPROMISE,

NO STERN DECREES FOR ME!  
UPON THE SILV'RY SEA OF LIFE  
I SAIL COMPLACENTLY.  
WHEN GRAVE AFFAIRS OF STATE ARISE,  
OR THINGS ARE OFF THE TRACK,  
I CLOSE DEBATE  
AND CALMLY STATE  
ALL THIS CAN SIMPLY WAIT!

BY AND BY, BY AND BY,  
DON'T MEET YOUR TROUBLES COMING,  
AND PERHAPS THEY'LL PASS YOU BY,  
IF ONE GIRL'S LOST, I WON'T DESPAIR,  
I'LL JUST PRETEND I REALLY CARE!  
ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT MY AFFAIR  
SWEET BY AND BY!

THEY'VE KEPT A BIT MORE THAN THEIR SHARE,  
AND YET I DO NOT CARE.  
MY GOLD I'M SURE WILL SOON APPEAR,  
OF THAT I HAVE NO FEAR!  
WHEN PROBLEMS COME FROM HERE AND THERE,  
IT FILLS ME WITH DESPAIR.  
I CLOSE DEBATE  
AND CALMLY STATE  
ALL THIS CAN SIMPLY WAIT!

BY AND BY, BY AND BY,  
DON'T MEET YOUR TROUBLES COMING,  
AND PERHAPS THEY'LL PASS YOU BY,  
THEY ASK ME IF MY SON'S BRAS PIQUE,  
I SIMPLY [ALWAYS] TURN THE OTHER CHEEK  
I'LL NEVER TELL THEM WHAT THEY SEEK!  
SWEET BY AND BY!

(GOVERNOR EXITS AS MARIETTA ENTERS.)

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Sacre bleu! Look, what comes unbidden into a culture of which she knows nothing. 'Tis bad enough my Adah has her difficulties tonight, but now this one arrives to further complicate the situation.

(ENTER ETIENNE)

ETIENNE

Que est que c'est?

MARIETTA

I said I would come to the ball, Monsieur.

ETIENNE

Indeed you did. Shall we open the dancing? (ENTER ADAH)

ADAH

Etienne, they are awaiting us. Oh! Who's this?

ETIENNE

Mademoiselle Marietta and I are about to lead the first dance!

ADAH

Custom forbids beginning the ball with a free woman!

ETIENNE

Really? Why don't you watch me, my dear!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Enough! I will hear no more! Come, Voodoo power, come. Using the power of three times three. Hotter than fire, this magick be. Come, Voodoo spirit, come! Break the bond twixt Adah and him. Make the love he feels grow dim. Out of dark and into light, free our Adah on this night. (NOTE: SONG MAY BE OMITTED)

**NO. 16 - BOO, MR. VOODOO, DON'T YOU VOODOO ME**

MARIE LE VALLEAU  
YONDER IN THE BAYOU, LISTEN AN' YOU'LL HEAR -

CHORUS  
VOO-DOO, VOO-DOO, HOO.

MARIE LE VALLEAU  
THE VOODOO MAN'S A COMIN',  
THE VOODOO MAN BE NEAR!

CHORUS  
VOO-DOO, VOO-DOO, HOO.

MARIE LE VALLEAU  
VOODOO MAN'S A RUNNIN'.

ALL  
RUNNIN', RUNNIN', RUNNIN'.

MARIE LE VALLEAU  
COMIN' FOR TO CHARM AWAY  
THE EVIL THAT IS HERE IN THE AIR,  
LISTEN TO HIS SONG AND BE WARE,  
FOR HE'S GONIN' TO PUT THE SPELL ON YOU.

[SHE INDICATES ETIENNE]

ALL  
VOO-DOO, VOO-DOO, HOO.  
BOO, MR. VOODOO, DON'T YOU HOODOO ME,  
YOU, MISTER VOODOO, VOODOO MAN.  
WE GOT THE LUCK-BALL UNDERNEATH OUR ARM  
AN' LITTLE MISTER RABBIT'S FOOT  
TO DRIVE AWAY THE CHARM.  
SO KEEP AWAY, CREEP AWAY,

DON'T YOU HARM US,  
YOU, MISTER VOODOO MAN.

HEY, MR. VOODOO, DON'T YOU HOODOO ME,  
YOU, MISTE'R VOODOO, VOODOO MAN.  
WE GOT THE LUCK-BALL UNDERNEATH OUR ARM  
AN' LITTLE MISTER RABBIT'S FOOT  
TO DRIVE AWAY THE CHARM.  
SO KEEP AWAY, CREEP AWAY,  
DON'T YOU HARM US,  
YOU MISTE'R VOODOO MAN!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Come Damballa, come. Free my daughter . . . (ENTER DICK )

ADAH

Daughter? How dare you call me your daughter, Marie Le Valteau? Now you have ruined everything. Etienne will sell me for sure. Leave this place! You are not wanted here!

DICK

Whoa, what's all this arguing? Marietta? I knew I'd find you . . .!

MARIETTA

You said you were not coming! Why are you here?

DICK

It's pretty obvious, I'm looking for you! I told you . . .

MARIETTA

You told me? This is the new world! No more anyone telling Marietta what she can do. I think perhaps I will stay. (TO ETIENNE) Signor, your arm. I wish to open this ball! (THEY TURN AWAY.)

ADAH

Your Marietta knows not what she plays with.

DICK

My Marietta? Hardly! However, since I'm here, will you favor me with a dance?

ADAH

You cannot dance with me.

DICK

I certainly can, and I will! Mademoiselle, your arm.

ADAH

Thank you, Monsieur, mais non! It is not possible for you to dance with Adah.  
(ETIENNE AND MARIETTA TURN BACK.)

MARIETTA

Perhaps I shouldn't have . . .

ADAH

Mademoiselle, this is no place for you. You have no idea where you are. Go away with your Capitaine Dick!

MARIETTA

I leave Capitaine Dick to you. I am here to feel alive!

ETIENNE

Well answered! Why should the maid be robbed of her joie de vivre.

MARIETTA

Oui, pourquoi? I am free. I belong to no one. I shall enjoy everything to the utmost.

**NO.17 - LIVE FOR TODAY**

MARIETTA

WOULD YOU SAY TO THE ROSE,  
WHEN IT BUDS TO LIFE,  
TAKE CARE, YOU MUST JOYLESS BE?  
CLOSE YOUR HEART,  
CLOSE YOUR LIPS  
TO THE SUN SO BRIGHT  
AND THE BREEZES SO WILD AND FREE.

MARIETTA

AH! YOUTH MUST BE YOUTH  
IN A FLOW'R OR MAID,  
THOUGH AT EVENING THE PETALS FALL  
AH, LET ME BE YOUNG  
WHILE I MAY TODAY

ETIENNE

AH! YOUTH MUST BE YOUTH  
IN A FLOW'R OR MAID,

LET'S BE YOUNG  
WHILE WE MAY TODAY,

BOTH

I MAY NEVER KNOW JOY AT ALL,  
NE'ER AT ALL,  
NE'ER AT ALL!

ADAH

WOULD YOU SAY TO THE ROSE  
WHEN IT BUDS TO LIFE  
TAKE CARE YOU MUST JOYLESS BE,  
CLOSE YOUR HEART



CLOSE YOU LIPS  
TO THE SUN SO BRIGHT,  
AND THE BREEZES WILD AND FREE

MARIETTA  
AH!  
AND THE BREEZES WILD AND FREE  
AH!

DICK/ETIENNE  
AH! YOUTH MUST BE LIFE!  
IN A FLOW'R OR MAID  
AND THE BREEZES WILD AND FREE

MARIETTA  
AH!

ADAH/DICK/ETIENNE  
AH! YOUTH MUST BE LIFE  
IN A FLOW'R OR MAID  
THOUGH AT EVENING THE PETALS FALL  
MARIETTA  
AH! LET ME BE YOUNG WHILE I MAY TODAY  
I MAY NEVER KNOW JOY AT ALL  
NE'ER AT ALL  
NE'ER AT ALL

ADAH/DICK/ETIENNE  
WHILE I MAY TODAY  
I MAY NEVER KNOW JOY AT ALL  
NE'ER AT ALL  
NE'ER AT ALL

ALL  
AH, LIFE IS SWEET WHEN LOVE IS YOUNG,  
THRILLING, ENCHANTING LIKE WINE  
WHEN BURNING GLANCES  
OUR SOUL ENTRANCES  
RAPTURE ALMOST DIVINE!  
RAPTURE ALMOST DIVINE,  
AH! LOVE IS SWEET  
AT JOY COMPLETE  
CARE AND GRIEF BANISHED FOR AYE!  
COME, THEN SURRENDER  
LOVE WARM AND TENDER,  
LIVE FOR TODAY, TODAY!

DICK  
I WOULD SAY TO THE ROSE  
WHEN IT BUDS TO LIFE,  
BE GUARDED, BE SWEET, BE SHY!  
YIELD NOT YOUR SWEETS  
TO EACH SUITOR BOLD  
THAT CARELESS PASSES BY  
YOUTH IS SO SWEET

ITS DAY IS SO FLEET  
BUT JOY'S NOT THE END OF ALL  
YOU DANCE IN THE SUN  
SO GAY ALL DAY,  
BUT AT NIGHT TIME THE PETALS FALL

ADAH  
AH, COME, THEN SURRENDER  
TO LOVE WARM AND TENDER,

ETIENNE  
AH! LIVE FOR TODAY!  
AH, LIVE WHILE WE MAY!

MARIETTA/ADAH/DICK/ETIENNE  
AH, LIVE FOR TODAY, FOR TO TODAY!  
LIVE WHILE WE MAY,  
LIVE FOR TODAY,  
FOR TODAY!

FOUR/CHORUS  
LIFE IS SWEET WHEN LOVE IS YOUNG,  
THRILLING, ENTRANCING LIKE WINE!

MARIETTA/ADAH/DICK/ETIENNE  
WHEN BURNING GLANCES  
OUR SOUL ENTRANCES  
RAPTURE ALMOST DIVINE  
RAPTURE ALMOST DIVINE  
AH! LOVE IS SWEET  
AH! JOY COMPLETE,  
CARE AND GRIEF  
BANISHED FOR AYE!  
COME, THEN SURRENDER  
LOVE WARM AND TENDER,  
LIVE FOR TODAY, TODAY

COME THEN, COME THEN  
COME, SURRENDER

LIVE TO TODAY, FOR TODAY  
JUST TODAY,  
LIVE FOR TODAY  
FOR TODAY  
FOR TODAY  
TODAY

CHORUS  
WHEN GLANCES  
ENTRANCES  
RAPTURE ALMOST DIVINE  
RAPTURE ALMOST DIVINE  
AH! LOVE IS SWEET  
AH! JOY COMPLETE,  
CARE AND GRIEF  
BANISHED FOR AYE!  
COME, THEN SURRENDER  
LOVE WARM AND TENDER  
LIVE FOR TODAY  
JUST FOR TODAY

LIVE FOR TODAY  
JUST TODAY  
LIVE FOR TODAY,  
JUST TODAY,  
LIVE FOR TODAY  
JUST TODAY

TODAY

(ALL FREEZE)

### MARIE LE VALLEAU

L'amore warm and tender, sounds innocent enough. It is the future that should concern these young lovers, not today. Evil makes for strange bedfellows. What began as the removal of a simple spirit singer now looms as a dire threat to all concerned. Enter that bizarre personne known as the "whipping boy".

(ENTER SIMON AND ADAH)

SIMON

(TO MARIE) But not for whipping . . . (TO ADAH) ah, me pretty damsel, ye look to be in dire distress!

ADAH

You are no pirate, sir, and therefore incapable of rescuing me from any sort of difficulty.

SIMON

This whipping business is not turning out so good after all. Is it really a pirate you be wanting?

ADAH

What do you want of me, Simon O'Hara?

SIMON

You are the purtiest thing I ever laid me eyes on, darling.

ADAH

How heavy is your purse, sir.

SIMON

With this whipping boy business, they say I'll have 10,000 francs real soon.

ADAH

Then, Mr. Whipping Boy, you just might have an opportunity to purchase what you are longing for sooner than you might think.

SIMON

Purchase, Ma'am. I don't think I'm following you.

ADAH

There will soon be an auction for a Quadroon.

SIMON

Miss Adah, I'm not looking to purchase anyone. I just want to take **you** in my arms and dance the night away.

ADAH

Simon, I am Quadroon.

SIMON

Quadroon, macaroon. It all makes no never mind. That's what we say in our new America.

ADAH

I wish it were that simple. (EXITS)

SIMON

Ah, now, don't be rushing off like that!

(HE FOLLOWS. ENTER MARIETTA AND ETIENNE)

ETIENNE

Mademoiselle, I apologize for having doubted you were not the Contessa D'Altena. No lady highly born could have entered as you have into our rustic festivity. Now I know that even I may aspire to the daughter of Rudolfo.

MARIETTA

Indeed. What about Adah?

ETIENNE

Adah has nothing to do with my choice of a bride, especially now we know she is the daughter of Marie Le Valleau. I have decided to sell her at auction tonight.

MARIETTA

Sell her? You can't do that! (ENTER DICK AND ADAH)

ETIENNE

Watch me!

MEN

Auction! Auction!

ETIENNE

We shall begin tonight's auction with any mistress who has offended by jealousy or loss of charm.

DICK

You would sell a woman?

ALL

Yes! Yes! Auction!

ETIENNE

Shall we show the Americans how an auction is run? I shall open the sale with the most beautiful quadroon in New Orleans - Adah!

ADAH

No!

MARIETTA

You must not! Captain Dick, stop this at once!

ALL

Adah! Adah! Auction!

ETIENNE

Come now! What am I bid?

EAST INDIAN

Five hundred francs.

ETIENNE

My friends, a measly five hundred francs for the most gorgeous woman in New Orleans?

SIMON

A thousand francs!

DICK

Simon, you don't have a thousand francs.

SIMON

I will very soon and I can't let him sell Miss Adah to just anyone!

DICK

You cannot buy a person!

ETIENNE

Auctions are not for the faint of heart, Capitaine Dick! Come gentlemen, the bid is a thousand francs.

EAST INDIAN

Twelve hundred.

ADAH

(TO DICK) Please do not let him sell me to that man.

DICK

Fifteen hundred francs.

ALL

Vive l'Americain!

MARIETTA

Capitaine, how could you?

ETIENNE

Fifteen hundred francs.

EAST INDIAN

Eighteen hundred!

DICK

I can't let her go to that fellow! Two thousand!

ETIENNE

Ah, the game improves! Two thousand francs bid for La Belle Adah!

EAST INDIAN

Twenty two hundred!

MARIETTA

If you bid again, I will never speak to you.

SIMON

I'm sorry, Miss Adah, I don't know if I'll really be getting that 10,000 francs.

ETIENNE

Twenty two hundred. I am bid twenty-two hundred! Are we all done! Going, going....

ADAH

Please Capitaine!

DICK

Three thousand.

ALL

Ah!

EAST INDIAN

Take her. I'm through.

ETIENNE

Three thousand francs. The lovely Adah goes to Capitaine Richard Warrington, who doesn't believe in buying women! Going, going, gone! Sold to the good Capitaine for three thousand francs.  
(ADAH TURNS AWAY.)

MARIETTA

How dare you buy a person! At least Signor Grandet is honest enough to admit his beliefs. (TO ETIENNE) Sir, I confess! I am Marietta, Contessa D'Altena. You asked me for my hand when you thought I was only Marietta, the daughter of Rudolfo. Now I bestow it upon you!

DICK

No!

CROWD

Yes!

ETIENNE

Mademoiselle, you shall never regret this choice.

DICK

I forbid it!

ETIENNE

Of course you do! Come, little will-o-the-wisp. I'll not trust you to keep this promise till tomorrow. We shall wed tonight. We shall end this most notable Quadroon Ball with a wedding.

MARIETTA

No, no! Not tonight! I have not the proper dress!

DICK

Marietta, don't be crazy! You have no idea what you're doing!

ETIENNE

I believe I hold the winning cards, Monsieur! And you have your Adah!

DICK

Adah? Don't be silly! You are free, Adah! I will make out the papers tomorrow.

ADAH

You would free me?

DICK

I have said it.

ADAH

I don't know what to say! My friend, there is something you must know! (ASIDE TO DICK) On Etienne Grandet's left arm you will find his name in a tattoo!

DICK

His name?

ADAH

Brás Pique!

DICK

The pirate? Brás Pique? Really? (TO ETIENNE) Sir! That's a very fine coat you wear!

ETIENNE

Eh?

DICK

But I don't think I like the sleeve! (SLEEVE BUSINESS) Your excellency! This man is Brás Pique! You have seen it. I demand his arrest!

LT. GOVERNOR

Sacre bleu! By and by . . . by and . . . Where's that Whipping Boy? Whipping Boy!

SIMON

Here I am, Lt. Governor, Sir!

ETIENNE

Very good, mon pere!



LT. GOVERNOR

He shall take upon himself my son's punishment.

SIMON

He will?

ETIENNE

I think you'll find that this man bears the name of Brás Pique on his arm also.

SIMON

Only for play acting! (TO LT. GOVERNOR) You said you were such a well behaved family!

LT. GOVERNOR

The penalty for piracy is hanging, but perhaps I can get you out of that.

SIMON

Perhaps? Now I know we have a bit of a situation here!

LT. GOVERNOR

I'll get them to shoot you, it's quicker.

SIMON

Make that a major situation!

MARIETTA

(ASIDE) Naughty Marietta! What have you done this time! (TO DICK) Capitaine Dick, you are a very fine man! How could I have been so blind? (TO LT. GOVERNOR) Excellency! I believe I have changed my mind. I cannot marry a pirate!

ETIENNE

The choice is no longer yours, my dear.

MARIETTA

Then I simply refuse! I have always said I would only marry the man who can finish my mélodie! Can you do that, Monsieur Etienne? (BEAT) I thought not! Come, someone must to finish it!

SIMON

Miss Marietta, would you mind if I gave it a try?

ALL

No!

(DICK SIGNALS SIMON TO GET THE MEN WHO EXITS.)

MARIETTA

Capitaine Dick, please, don't just stand there. You can do it, I know you can!

(ENTER RUDOLFO)

RUDOLFO

Capitaine Dick! Capitaine Dick! I cannot find Marietta anywhere! (BUSINESS)

DICK

All right, everyone simmer down! I arrest you Brás Pique in the name of the King of Spain and George Washington. My Rangers are on their way and will have this hall surrounded in minutes. As for you, Marietta, Contessa D'Altena. You win! You are definitely my someone, but I just can't finish . . .

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Come Damballa! Let the Voodoo cast it's magic spell . . .

**NO. 18 - FINALE ACT II - AH SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE**

DICK

AH! SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE

AT LAST I'VE FOUND THEE,

AH! I KNOW AT LAST THE SECRET OF IT ALL.

ALL THE LONGING, SEEKING, STRIVING, WAITING, YEARNING,  
THE BURNING HOPES, THE JOY AND IDLE TEARS THAT FALL!

MARIETTA

AH! AT LAST I'VE FOUND THEE! FOUND THEE! AT LAST!

DICK

FOR 'TIS LOVE, AND LOVE ALONE THE WORLD IS SEEKING;  
AND 'TIS LOVE, AND LOVE ALONE, THAT CAN REPAY!

MARIETTA

'TIS LOVE!

'TIS LOVE!

BOTH

'TIS THE ANSWER, 'TIS THE END AND ALL OF LIVING,

FOR IT IS LOVE ALONE

THAT RULES FOR AYE!

ETIENNE

WHAT'S THIS, MY BRIDE

MARIETTA

AH, NO! MONSIEUR, HE HAS SUNG MY SONG!

AND I KNOW AT LAST THE ANSWER,

IT IS LOVE, LOVE, IT'S LOVE!

(SIMON REENTERS.)

SIMON  
THE MEN ARE HERE, SIR!  
THE MEN ARE HERE, SIR!

MARIE LE VALLEAU

Ah, what an exciting happy ending! My daughter is a free woman. Etienne Grandet has been unmasked as the evil pirate Brás Pique and New Orleans is soon to be free forever of that spirit and her song!

ETIENNE  
BE NOT TOO SURE!  
THE GAME'S WELL PLAYED, YOU WIN!

DICK  
LET HIM GO!  
I HAVE WON!  
WON ALL I WANT IN THIS WIDE WORLD!

ALL  
FOR 'TIS LOVE, AND LOVE ALONE,  
THE WORLD IS SEEKING,  
FOR 'TIS LOVE, AND LOVE ALONE,  
THAT CAN REPAY!  
'TIS THE ANSWER,  
'TIS THE END AND ALL OF LIVING!  
FOR IT IS LOVE ALONE THAT RULES FOR AYE!

Marie Le Valleau

Everybody sing Zing!

ALL BUT MARIETTA  
ZING, ZING,  
ZIZZY, ZIZZY ZING, ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AYE  
ZING, ZING,  
ZIZZY, ZIZZY ZING, ZING  
MANDOLINAS GAY;  
ZING, ZING,  
ZIZZY, ZIZZY ZING, ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AYE!  
LA, LA, LA,  
HA, HA, HA  
ZING, BOOM AYE.  
LA LA LA LA  
HA HA HA HA HA HA!

MARIETTA  
ZING, ZING,  
ZIZZY, ZIZZY ZING, ZING  
BOOM, BOOM AYE  
AH!

(CURTAIN - END OF OPERETTA.)