

SCENE FIVE: Castle

(COGSWORTH and LUMIERE enter in mid-argument.)

COGSWORTH

Couldn't keep quiet, could we? Just had to invite him to stay, didn't we? Serve him tea, sit in the Master's chair—

LUMIERE

I was trying to be hospitable!

COGSWORTH

Hmph!

LUMIERE

Aw, Cogsworth, can you blame me for trying to maintain what's left of our humanity? Look at us. Look at you!

COGSWORTH

What about me?

LUMIERE

You always were insufferable. But every day, you become just a little more inflexible... a little more tightly wound... a little more ticked off!

COGSWORTH

Please, spare me the stupid puns.

LUMIERE

At least we are not as far gone as some of the others. You saw what happened to Michelle.

COGSWORTH

She always was too vain about her looks. And that's exactly what she's become.

LUMIERE

A vanity.

COGSWORTH

Little drawers, mirror... the works.

LUMIERE

And poor Jean-Claude.

COGSWORTH

Who?

LUMIERE

Jean-Claude. You remember him, not too bright, dumb as...

COGSWORTH

... a brick?

LUMIERE

The whole wall.

COGSWORTH

Jean-Claude's a brick wall?

LUMIERE

That's him in the kitchen, behind the stove. Slowly but surely, as every day passes, we will all gradually become... things.

COGSWORTH

But why did we have to get dragged into this whole spell business? It's not like we threw that poor old beggar woman out on her ear.

LUMIERE

But are we not responsible too? For helping to make him the way he is?

COGSWORTH

I suppose so.

LUMIERE

Eventually, I will melt away to nothing. I only hope there's something left of me if the Master ever breaks the spell.

COGSWORTH

Hold on, old man. We've got to hold on.

(BELLE enters, searching for her father.)

BELLE

Hello? Is anyone here? Hello?

(BELLE exits.)

LUMIERE

It's a girl!

COGSWORTH

Yes, of course, I can see it's a girl!

LUMIERE, COGSWORTH

It's a girl!!!

(LUMIERE and COGSWORTH follow BELLE off, arguing.)

LUMIERE

Mademoiselle...