

VILLAGERS

LOOK, THERE SHE GOES, THAT GIRL IS SO PECULIAR
I WONDER IF SHE'S FEELING WELL

FEMALE VILLAGERS

WITH A DREAMY, FAR-OFF LOOK...

MALE VILLAGERS

... AND HER NOSE STUCK IN A BOOK

VILLAGERS

WHAT A PUZZLE TO THE REST OF US IS BELLE

(BELLE stops for a moment, engrossed in her book.)

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
TILL CHAPTER THREE

SAUSAGE CURL LADY

NOW IT'S NO WONDER THAT HER NAME MEANS "BEAUTY"
HER LOOKS HAVE GOT NO PARALLEL

BOOKSELLER, CANDLEMAKER

BUT BEHIND THAT FAIR FACADE
I'M AFRAID SHE'S RATHER ODD

CANDLEMAKER

VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF US

SOME VILLAGERS

SHE'S NOTHING LIKE THE REST OF US

ALL VILLAGERS

YES, DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF US IS BELLE

(Gunshot. LEFOU rushes onstage, holding a gunnysack open toward the sky... ready to catch the fallen prey.)

LEFOU

I got it. I got it. I got it!

(A large duck drops, missing the bag entirely. LEFOU quickly puts the duck into the bag as GASTON enters carrying a large, smoking rifle.)

(LEFOU)

You didn't miss a shot, Gaston. You're the greatest hunter in the whole world!

GASTON

I know.

LEFOU

No beast alive stands a chance against you! And no lass, for that matter.

GASTON

It's true, Lefou. And I've got my sights set on...

(points to BELLE)

... that one.

LEFOU

The inventor's daughter?

GASTON

She's the one. The lucky girl I'm going to marry.

LEFOU

But, she's—

GASTON

The most beautiful in town.

LEFOU

I know, but—

GASTON

That makes her the best.

(grabs LEFOU with a beefy hand and pulls him up nose-to-nose)

And don't I deserve the best?

LEFOU

Well, of course you do!

(GASTON drops LEFOU.)

GASTON

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 AS BEAUTIFUL AS ME

SO I'M MAKING PLANS TO WOO AND MARRY BELLE

(GASTON strides toward BELLE. Three twittering FILLES DE LA VILLE swoon as he passes.)