

Start

SCENE THREE: THE PALACE, ARIEL'S CHAMBERS

(Ariel's new digs are very plush indeed. Grimsby addresses four MAIDS.)

~~GRIMSBY~~ Carlotta

The poor child washed ashore, like kelp! Perhaps it was a horrible shipwreck. We'll never know the truth; she won't speak. Not a single, solitary word. Do what you must to make her presentable; a scrub in the tub, a proper frock ...

(The maids duck behind a screen, where Ariel awaits them in a sumptuous, claw-footed tub, surrounded by bubbles. A maid inquires of Ariel:)

MAID

Getting your strength back, dearie?

~~GRIMSBY~~ Carlotta

I can't help but wonder ... what must she be thinking? I'd give a farthing or two, just to hear her thoughts!

STOP

(The lights shift; we can hear the song of Ariel's heart as she admires her surroundings.)

#17 - Beyond My Wildest Dreams

Ariel, Maids, Grimsby

ARIEL

OH! JUST LOOK!
IT'S LIKE I'M IN A STORYBOOK!
OH! IT'S BLISS!
I DREAMED THAT IT WOULD BE
SOMEWHAT
BUT NOT
LIKE THIS!

LOOK OVER THERE!
OH, MY GOD! GASH
HOW VERY ODD!
AND WHAT MIGHT THEY BE?
SOMETHING SPLENDID, MAYBE!

LOOK OVER HERE!
COULD YOU BUST?
ISN'T IT JUST
BEDAZZLING, DAZING
UTTERLY AMAZING!
GAZING 'ROUND, IT'S LIKE, TO DIE!

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Carlotta
Maid