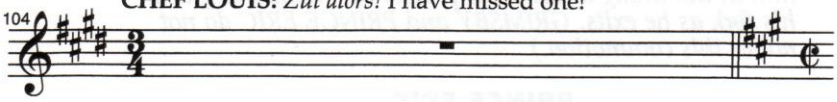
Carlotta Side

(CHEF LOUIS notices SEBASTIAN hiding.)
CHEF LOUIS: *Zut alors!* I have missed one!



(SEBASTIAN scampers away, pursued by CHEF LOUIS and the CHEFS.)

SCENE FOURTEEN: The Palace Hall

(The SEA CHORUS reconfigures to form **#29 THE PALACE HALL**. *CARLOTTA, the chatty and maternal palace headmistress, enters while fastening ARIEL's new dress.)*

CARLOTTA

Imagine, washing up like that on the beach. Must've been a horrible shipwreck! I don't suppose we'll ever know the truth. Why, you can't even speak, poor dear! Well, never mind – after your scrub in the tub, you're fresh as a daisy in a beautiful new frock!

(PRINCE ERIC enters in dashing threads, with GRIMSBY at his side. Seeing ARIEL stops him in his tracks.)

PRINCE ERIC

Well... now I'm the one who's speechless.

GRIMSBY

It's been a long time since we dined in the company of such loveliness.

PRINCE ERIC

(smiling at ARIEL)
Usually it's just me and Grim. He's gotta look across the table at my ugly mug!

(As GRIMSBY giddily pulls PRINCE ERIC aside downstage for a confidential chat, SEBASTIAN enters opposite, scampers upstage, and hides near ARIEL.)

GRIMSBY

The bath certainly worked its wonders. Your mystery guest is groomed for a groom, you might say!