

#6b - Belle in the Castle

Orchestra

BELLE

Hello? Is anyone here? Please, I'm looking for my father.

(The lights come up on Maurice, behind bars in a cell.)

MAURICE

Belle? Is that you?

BELLE

Papa!

(Belle rushes to Maurice. She clings to him through the bars.)

MAURICE

How did you find me?

(He coughs from the chill.)

BELLE

Your hands are like ice! We have to get you out of here!

MAURICE

Belle, you must leave this place.

BELLE

Who's done this to you?

(The Beast appears, a shadowy form.)

MAURICE

There's no time to explain. You must go...now!

BELLE

I won't leave you here!

(She feels his presence and whirls around.)

Who's there?

(She can hear him panting...animal-like.)

I know someone's there. Who are you?

BEAST

The master of this castle.

BELLE

Then, you're the one who's responsible for this! Release my father at once!

BEAST

(He growls)

I am the master of the castle! I do not take orders from anyone. Throw her out!

(The caryatid stands up, grabs Belle)

BELLE

No! Wait! Forgive me. Please, let him out. Can't you see he's not well?

BEAST

Then he should not have trespassed here.

BELLE

But he's an old man. He could die!

BEAST

He came into my home uninvited and now he'll suffer the consequences.

BELLE

Please...I'll do anything.

MAURICE

Belle!

BEAST

There's nothing you can do!

BELLE

Wait please!

BEAST

I said there is nothing you can do!

BELLE

Take me instead!

MAURICE

No!

BEAST

What did you say?

BELLE

Take me instead.

MAURICE

Belle, you don't know what you're doing.

BEAST

You would do that? You would take his place?

BELLE

If I did, would you let him go?

BEAST

Yes. But you must promise to stay here...forever.

MAURICE

NO!

BELLE

Forever?

BEAST

Forever! Or he dies in the dungeon!

BELLE

That's not fair... Wait! Come into the light.

BEAST

Make your choice!

MAURICE

Belle, listen to me. I'm old...I've lived my life.

BELLE

You have my word.

BEAST

Done.

BELLE

Papa!

(Beast roar)

MAURICE

No, no, I'm begging you! Please spare my daughter!

(The Beast drags Maurice out of the cell.)

BEAST

Take him to the crossroads.

BELLE

WAIT! No, not yet!

MAURICE

Let her go! Let her go! Belle! Belle!

BELLE

Papa!

(Maurice is dragged away)