

GASTON

Just get me a deer for my wedding feast!

LEFOU

But I hate the woods! It's dark and there's bugs and spiders!

(They exit.)

BELLE

Papa, are you all right?

MAURICE

I'm fine. But I can't for the life of me figure out why that happened! If that isn't the stubbornest piece of...

(He kicks it.)

OW!

BELLE

Papa...!

MAURICE

I'm about ready to give up on this hunk of junk!

BELLE

Oh, you always say that.

MAURICE

I mean it this time! I'll never get this bone-headed contraption to work!

BELLE

Yes, you will. And you'll win first prize at the Faire tomorrow.

MAURICE

(sulking)

Hmmph!

BELLE

And become a world famous inventor.

MAURICE

You really think so?

BELLE

You know I do. I always have.

MAURICE

Well, we'd better get cracking. This thing's not going to fix itself. Now let me see, where did I put that dog-legged clencher?

BELLE

Papa.

(Belle picks up a funny-looking part and holds it out to him helpfully. He takes it from Belle and uses it to work on the invention, turning twisting, tinkering.)

MAURICE

So...tell me, did you have a good time in town today?

BELLE

I got a new book.

MAURICE

You do love those books.

BELLE

Well, they take me away to wonderful places where there's adventure and mystery and romance and...happy endings.

(a beat)

Papa...if I ask you something, will you answer me honestly?

MAURICE

Don't I always?

BELLE

Do you think I'm...odd?

MAURICE

My daughter! Odd?

(He reappears with a silly looking work helmet with goggles)

Now where would you get an idea like that?

#3 - No Matter What

Marice, Belle

BELLE

I don't know. It's just that - well...people talk.

MAURICE

They talk about me too.

NO I'M NOT ODD - NOR YOU
NO FAMILY EVER SANER
EXCEPT ONE UNCLE WHO - WELL, MAYBE LET THAT PASS
IN ALL YOU SAY AND DO
YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT PLAINER
YOU ARE YOUR MOTHER'S DAUGHTER THEREFORE YOU ARE CLASS

BELLE

SO I SHOULD JUST ACCEPT
I'M SIMPLY NOT LIKE THEM?