



THE LITTLE MERMAID





The Little Mermaid
Adapted by Joe Ferriero



CAST OF CHARACTERS

- Serena – The little mermaid
- Mala, Ang, Narina, Lilla, & Tien – her older sisters
- Her Grandmother
- Nereus – the sea king
- Hexe – the sea witch
- Den – the prince
- King Kleine – Den’s father
- Veronica – a princess
- Ted – a very intelligent sea turtle
- Sea Creatures and sailors – the ensemble (2 sailors have speaking lines)

Casting Notes:

- If you require more females the two kings can easily become queens.
- Ted can be either male or female (name can be changed to Kim).
- The names used in this play are based on the translations of the play into different languages and some mythological names.



SCENES & SETTING

1. Under the Ocean – King Nereus’ Palace
 2. The Ship/Ocean Surface
 3. Under the Ocean – Mermaid’s Shellroom (bedroom)
 4. Hexe’s Lair
 5. A Beach
 6. The Ship/Ocean Surface
- The set can be as simple or complex as you would like.
 - There are 4 main settings: under the ocean, Hexe’s Lair, aboard a ship on the ocean surface and a beach.
 - The lighting can also be as simple or complex as you want. A strobe works well when the transitions happen.

★ COSTUMES

Have fun with the costuming in the show. It's best to let the cast (especially if they are kids) come up with a fun design for the show! The story takes place in modern times, so dress for the time period.

★ PROPS

Ted – Walleye- Pad (a tablet computer)
Potion bottles filled with liquids

★ SOUNDS & MUSIC

Dance music (optional)
Splash sound
Other water sounds are helpful but not required
Visit www.juniordrama.com/jr/sounds for some free sound effects.

★ FINAL NOTES

This play has been adapted from the original tale and the names used are adaptations from the original tale.



SCRIPT

Scene 1 – Under The Ocean

We are in the palace of King Nereus. Beautiful shells and bubbles are everywhere. Fish of all different shapes and sizes are swimming about. The King is seated at a chair in the center. As the lights come up, his daughters enter (without Serena).

NEREUS: Ahh, my daughters. It is a beautiful sea day isn't it?

MALA: Yes father.

NEREUS: You all look great today. And where is your sister Serena?

ANG: Probably watching Sea-Vision.

NARINA: She just loves Whale-of-Fortune!

NEREUS: She will miss tonight's special dinner celebration.

LILLA: If you ask me, that girl's just like a clam – very shell-fish!

TIEN: Oh, leave Serena alone. You were the same way when you were her age.

NEREUS: Girls, please go get your sister. Dinner will be arriving soon.

The daughters exit as Ted, the sea turtle, enters. He is carrying his walleye-pad (a tablet computer).

NEREUS: Ah, Ted. Just on time. So what is the report on the ocean front.

TED: Yes, your honor. Let's see here. (reads) The Algae report that business is blooming.

NEREUS: Oh good.

TED: We have a sea-weed shortage on the north side of the sea.

NEREUS: That is a serious problem.

TED: Don't worry, I already put up a kelp-wanted sign.

NEREUS: Excellent work.

TED: Oh, and let's see, last thing ... hmmm, (rushing through this line) Serena has put in a request to visit the surface. Well, if that will be all. (starts to exit)

NEREUS: One minute, Ted. What was the last thing you said?

TED: ... if that will be all?

NEREUS: Before that.

TED: Oh, that, well, Serena – your youngest, has put in her request to visit the surface.

NEREUS: She isn't even fifteen yet. You know the rules. Mer-people may only visit the surface once a year, starting on their fifteenth birthday.

TED: Your grace, her birthday is tomorrow.

NEREUS: Well, she is too young.

TED: Your other daughters were allowed to visit, and it is a law...

NEREUS: But Serena still has some of her baby scales.

TED: I know it's hard your grace, but it is time.

NEREUS: I guess you are right. You are very wise, my friend.

TED: Yes, I know. Will that be all, your grace?

NEREUS: Yes, Ted. Thank you.

Ted exits as the mer-sisters enter, with Serena.

ANG: We're back, daddy.

LILLA: With Serena this time.

NEREUS: Thank you girls.

SERENA: Sorry daddy, I lost track of time.

NEREUS: Yes, Serena.

LILLA: As usual.

TIEN: Leave her alone, Lilla.

ANG: You're always picking on her.

LILLA: Sorry. But, she should pay more attention to details.

NEREUS: Girls why don't you go see if you can help your grandmother with dinner. I want to speak to Serena alone for a moment.

LILLA: Someone's in trouble.

MALA: Yes, it's going to be you if you don't stop it.

The sisters exit.

SERENA: Am I in trouble, daddy?

NEREUS: No. Serena, tomorrow is your fifteenth birthday. A lot of things happen on that day.

SERENA: I know daddy. Well, like what?

NEREUS: You know that is the day your life as an adult mer-person begins. You are allowed to swim to the ocean surface once per year.

SERENA: Yes, daddy. I've been waiting. My sisters tell me of the most amazing stories. Mala told me that she once saw a pirate ship. And Narina saw a bunch of birds once. It must be amazing up there.

NEREUS: Serena, the surface is a different world. It is not a place for mer-people to be. Your life is down here. We all like to visit and learn about the world above, but it can also be a dangerous place.

SERENA: I know, daddy.

NEREUS: That's why I would like you to skip your trip this year.

SERENA: What?

NEREUS: You are not ready to visit the surface.

SERENA: Daddy, no. I've been waiting all of these years. Hearing all of the amazing stories from Mala, and Ang and Lilla, even Tien was allowed to go last year when she turned fifteen.

NEREUS: You are not ready. You're immature.

SERENA: I am not.

NEREUS: Oh no? You're always late to everything. I have to remind you every night to wash behind your gills.

SERENA: You're being unfair.

Grandmother enters.

GRANDMOTHER: What is all of this yelling?

SERENA: Father is being unfair. He won't let me go up to the surface tomorrow.

GRANDMOTHER: And why not?

NEREUS: She isn't ready.

GRANDMOTHER: She is fifteen.

NEREUS: But, she is immature.

GRANDMOTHER: Well, look who's swimming. When you were fifteen you were hardly mature.

NEREUS: What do you mean? I was a perfect mer-child.

GRANDMOTHER: Ha! You were nothing of the sorts. Do you remember all of the arguments you would have with the sharks. Your father thought he was tougher than a shark.

NEREUS: I am.

GRANDMOTHER: You are not. You were just lucky they never bit you. You go help the girls set the water table for dinner while I talk to my youngest granddaughter. (Nereus exits) Now, Serena, do you think you are ready to visit the surface?

SERENA: Yes, grandmother. I know how to be safe.

GRANDMOTHER: The surface is a beautiful but scary place. Your father just wants you to be safe. You're his youngest daughter. I wonder if he would change his mind if I went with you.

SERENA: Would you go with me Grandmother? You haven't been out of this reef in years.

GRANDMOTHER: Maybe it's time I do.

SERENA: That would be great. I would love that.

GRANDMOTHER: Than it's settled. We will leave after breakfast in the morning. I know exactly where we will go.

SERENA: What about father?

GRANDMOTHER: Yes, he's as stubborn as a barnacle. Don't worry about him.

SERENA: Thanks grandmother.

END OF SCENE 1

Scene 2 – Ship / The Beach

We see a human ship. Prince Den is sailing with his sailors and King Kleine.

PRINCE: I love it out here. The waves and the smell of the salt air are perfect today.

KING: Yes, they are. It makes me happy to know that you enjoy sailing as much as I do.

PRINCE: I do.

KING: Den, I want to have a talk with you.

PRINCE: I knew it.

KING: Knew what?

PRINCE: That there was a reason you brought me sailing today. So, what is it?

KING: It's time you should be married.

PRINCE: Not this again.

KING: Yes, this again. Den, you are getting older.

PRINCE: Thanks, dad.

KING: Someone must take over as King and you should have a queen at your side.

PRINCE: I do not need a queen to be a King.

KING: It helps to have someone at your side to help you when things get tough. Believe me. Your mother rules this kingdom more than I do.

Serena and Grandmother arrive at the surface of the water.

GRANDMOTHER: That was a great swim.

SERENA: Wow, is this what air feels like.

GRANDMOTHER: Quiet, dear, look a human ship.

SERENA: Human? Wow. They look just like us, well except for those ... what do you call the things they are standing on?

GRANDMOTHER: Feet and legs.

SERENA: Right. I have only seen pictures in my kelp books. This is so much better than those drawings. Can we swim up to get a better look?

GRANDMOTHER: Only a little closer. (they move closer to the ship)

KING: Den, are you even listening to me?

PRINCE: Of course I am. I am just choosing to ignore you.

KING: You must find yourself a princess.

PRINCE: I will father, when the time is right.

KING: The time is never right.

SERENA: He's beautiful.

GRANDMOTHER: He is handsome, for a human.

SERENA: Very handsome.

PRINCE: Father, can you please let me do things my own way.

KING: You mean, fall in love?

PRINCE: Yes, love.

KING: It doesn't happen like that. Arranged marriages are the perfect way to find a queen. That's how I met your mother. I love her. We grew to love each other.

PRINCE: That's not the life for me. I want to fall in love with a girl.

KING: Love takes time. You don't have any time.

PRINCE: What about love at first sight?

SERENA: (in a whisper) Love at first sight.

KING: That doesn't happen. Love doesn't just hit you like lightning!

A strike of lightning. A storm starts brewing.

SAILOR #1: It's a storm your highness.

SAILOR #2: It came out of no where.

PRINCE: Batten down the hatches.

The ship is thrown into chaos.

SERENA: Grandmother, what is it.

GRANDMOTHER: Bad weather. We better swim down until it's over.

SERENA: Will they be alright?

GRANDMOTHER: I'm sure they will be. Come on.

Grandmother swims away, but Serena stays behind to watch the commotion.

KING: Den, get down stairs immediately.

PRINCE: No way. I need to steer this boat.

SAILOR #1: I've got it Prince Den.

SAILOR #2: Be careful!

Sailor #1 bumps into the Prince who is thrown over board.

SAILOR #2: Man over board!

KING: Den! Den! Someone help him!

SAILOR #1: I don't see him. Where did he go?

Chaos ensues, as Serena swims to the prince and grabs him. She brings him to a beach and saves him.

SERENA: Oh no, are you alright? Is he breathing? (she checks his chest) Yes. Just unconscious. (a beat) You are very handsome.

GRANDMOTHER: (arrives) Serena, there you are. What are you doing? Get away from that human.

SERENA: It's alright grandmother, he's unconscious.

GRANDMOTHER: What if he wakes up? Get over here now.

SERENA: I can't just leave him to die.

GRANDMOTHER: Someone will find him. The humans can't see you. If we are discovered it could be the end for our society.

SERENA: Look a light.

There is a light, from a flashlight in the distance.

PRINCESS: (from offstage) Is someone there?

GRANDMOTHER: It's a human.

SERENA: Oh no.

Serena jumps back into the water as Princess Veronica enters with a flashlight.

VERONICA: Oh no. (runs to the Prince) Hello? Are you hurt? (she shakes him and he wakes up)

PRINCE: Who are you? Oh, my head.

VERONICA: I am Veronica. Are you alright?

PRINCE: I think so.

VERONICA: What happened to you?

PRINCE: I don't remember. I must have fallen off of my ship.

VERONICA: What is your name?

PRINCE: Den, Prince Den.

VERONICA: A prince? Well, let me take you back to my castle.

PRINCE: Castle?

VERONICA: I'm a princess.

PRINCE: Thank you.

As the princess helps the prince up and off, Serena watches on.

SERENA: Prince Den.

GRANDMOTHER: This has been a crazy trip. Come on, let's go back. Your father will be worried.
(exits)

SERENA: Prince Den.

Scene 3 – Under the Ocean: In the girls shell-room

A bedroom for mer-sister. The sisters are sitting around talking and getting ready for sleep.

MALA: Isn't Serena back from her trip yet?

ANG: You know how grandmother can be. I bet they're at Wave-mart shopping.

NARINA: She's probably having a great time.

LILLA: I remember the first time I went to the surface. There was so much to see.

TIEN: The way the air feels on your scales.

MALA: The sun. How warm it feels. It was like when the current changes.

ANG: I love seeing the birds, how they fly through the air the way dolphins swim through the water.

NARINA: The birds!

The girls sigh as Serena enters.

MALA: Our long lost sister has returned.

TIEN: Did you bring us back anything?

SERENA: No. Sorry.

TIEN: You're so shellfish.

ANG: How was your first trip to the surface?

SERENA: It was the most incredible thing ever. There was a storm and a ship.

TIEN: A ship? Any humans?

SERENA: Yes. A load of them and one was thrown over board.

MALA: No!

SERENA: Yes. I saved him.

MALA: You did what? You touched a human?

SERENA: He would have died.

ANG: What did he feel like?

SERENA: Soft. He was unconscious so I swam him to shore and laid him there on the ... umm ... place with the sand.

NARINA: The beach.

SERENA: That's it, beach.

ANG: Sounds like you enjoyed your first trip.

TIEN: Lot's of excitement.

SERENA: I want to go back.

MALA: That is not possible. You know the rule, once a year only.

SERENA: I can't wait another year. I need to see him again.

ANG: The human?

LILLA: That's not allowed.

SERENA: I have to.

NARINA: You know the law.

MALA: Little sister, do you have 'feelings' for this human?

SERENA: No. Maybe.

MALA: This is serious. He is a human and you're a mermaid. We don't mix.

SERENA: Remember that story mother use to read us, about the fish who went to the ball and married the prince?

LILLA: Cinderella?

SERENA: Yes, Cinderella. She married a prince, why couldn't I marry a human.

MALA: Cinderella had a fairy godmother.

LILLA: ... and a glass flipper.

MALA: You don't have a fairy godmother.

ANG: We do have a codfather. Does that count?

SERENA: I wish I had human legs.

LILLA: What? Eww, gross.

SERENA: Just for a little while. So I can see if he would like me the way I like him.

TIEN: That's impossible.

ANG: Not exactly.

SERENA: What do you mean?

ANG: You could go and see Aunt Hexe.

SERENA: I've never met her.

MALA: You don't want to. She's mean.

TIEN: She's a witch. Seriously, she's a witch. She has all of these potions that she sells to people.

ANG: I'm sure she has one to give you legs.

LILLA: Stop filling her head with sea dreams. Beside, Aunt Hexe lives on the bad side of the reef.

NARINA: You mean squid-row.

SERENA: I've never been to squid-row.

MALA: And you'll never go there.

ANG: You might run into Billy the Squid!

MALA: This boy's bad news. You need to forget him.

Nereus enters.

NEREUS: Forget who?

LILLA: Father.

MALA: Oh, no one.

NEREUS: I came to see how your trip to the surface was, Serena. Your grandmother was so tired she went right to her shellroom to sleep.

SERENA: It was fine, father.

NEREUS: Just fine?

SERENA: Yes.

NEREUS: Girls why don't you swim along so I can talk to Serena alone.

TIEN: Okay, father.

ANG: Let's go watch the sea-horse races!

NARINA: No way. Last time I left with kelp on my scales.

TIEN: Why don't we just play a game.

ANG: Like what?

TIEN: Name that tuna?

The girls exit, leaving Serena and Nereus alone.

NEREUS: Tell me all about it?

SERENA: Well. It was great, father. There was a storm.

NEREUS: Ah, a storm.

SERENA: ... and a ship ... and a young human fell over board and I helped him.

NEREUS: You did what? You touched a human?

SERENA: Only to save his life.

NEREUS: You should never touch a human! He'll cook you. He'll sell you.

SERENA: He was a nice boy.

NEREUS: Humans aren't nice! I knew you were too young for this. No more visiting the surface for you.

SERENA: Father.

NEREUS: As long as you live under my ocean you will not visit the surface is that understood?

SERENA: Yes, father.

NEREUS: Good. You stay in here for the rest of the night.

Nereus exits. A moment later Ted enters with his tablet-computer - "walleyepad".

TED: Serena, there you are. I need to go over your schedule for tomorrow. Let me check my walleyepad.

SERENA: Father yelled at me.

TED: You probably deserved it.

SERENA: All I did was save a human from drowning.

TED: You definitely deserved it. Here it is. Looks like you have school in the morning then take the octobus to your orca-dontist appointment. Then music class to work on your scales.

SERENA: Ted, have you ever been to squid-row?

TEN: No way! (he puts down his walleye pad) You will never go there either. There are squidnappers all over the place. Get some rest you have a long day tomorrow. And brush your gills!

Ted exits leaving the walleye pad behind. Serena picks it up and starts to use it.

SERENA: Here we go, bluegull maps. This will get me right to Aunt Hexe's shop.

Serena exits.

Scene 4 – Hexe's Lair

It's dark and scary. Bottles are all over – full of colorful liquids – potions!
Serena swims on with the walleye-pad.

SERENA: Aunt Hexe? It's me your youngest niece ...

HEXE: (from off-stage) Serena?

SERENA: Yes. Aunt Hexe, I wanted to meet you.

HEXE: (enters) Did you? Or did you want something from me?

SERENA: How did you know?

HEXE: No one visits Hexe unless they want something.

SERENA: But I'm family.

HEXE: Especially family.

SERENA: Well, there is something.

HEXE: Exactly. Out with it.

SERENA: A boy.

HEXE: Love potions. If I had a sand-dollar for every love potion I gave away. Oh look, I do. (she grabs a bag of money)

SERENA: It's not a love potion that I need.

HEXE: Hmm, you both are already in love?

SERENA: No, it's not that. He doesn't know I exist. I just want to meet him.

HEXE: Darling, I'm not here to give you dating advice. Swim up to him and start a conversation. Or go on to that mermaids only dot com and tweet him. Do whatever the caviar do these days.

SERENA: He's not exactly a mermaid.

HEXE: Darling, you're not thinking of dating a crustacean are you? They're such bottom feeders.

SERENA: He's not a crustacean.

HEXE: A starfish? Gosh no, they're always trying to make a point. I can't think of anything worse!

SERENA: He's a human.

HEXE: That's worse. Darling you'd require legs, lungs and luck to get a human.

SERENA: Can't you help me? One of these potions must be able to give me legs.

HEXE: Perhaps I have something. Do you have any sanddollars?

SERENA: I don't.

HEXE: Then how will you pay me?

SERENA: I thought that since you're my aunt ...

HEXE: Are you really playing the family card right now? (she slowly approaches Serena during this speech) Sorry darling it doesn't work that way. Here's what we'll do. There's one thing you and all of your sisters have that I do not.

SERENA: Fresh breath?

HEXE: A beautiful voice. I'll give you a potion that can turn you into a human, heck I'll even throw in a drop of dance potion since you're family. All you have to do is give me your voice.

SERENA: My voice?

HEXE: Yes. Your voice.

SERENA: But, if I can't talk to him ...

HEXE: ... dance with him. Men love to dance. What do you say, darling?

SERENA: Fine.

HEXE: Now, potions can't last forever. You need to earn your human form.

SERENA: (interrupts) How will I do that?

HEXE: Give me a second. Obviously I'm going to tell you. You need to marry the prince to deserve your legs.

SERENA: Marry him?

HEXE: Marry him.

SERENA: Do I only have until midnight?

HEXE: This isn't Cinderella! You just have to marry him. The means he must not marry anyone else. Otherwise you will turn to sea foam and no longer exist.

SERENA: That's pretty severe.

HEXE: Duh! What did you expect? This isn't Disney!

SERENA: This might work. I heard him talking to his father about needing to get married and he wants to fall in love. He'll fall in love with me.

HEXE: You are one confident little thing, aren't you? So, do we have a deal?

SERENA: We do.

HEXE: Excellent. (she mixes a potion) When you drink this, you're voice will be transferred to my shell and you will have your legs. No refunds or exchanges.

SERENA: Fine. (she takes the potion and exits)

HEXE: That was as easy as taking algae from a shrimp.

Scene 5: A beach

Serena swims up to the beach.

Serena's actions will appear in [] for the times when she can't speak

SERENA: Here goes everything.

She drinks the potion. She grabs at her throat in pain and starts to shake. She falls to the ground when she stands again she is on legs and can no longer speak. She tries to walk around but falls. She is very shaky. Suddenly the walleye-pad starts to beep. She presses it but nothing stops it. She puts it down.

VERONICA: (from offstage) What's that noise?

Ted enters and grabs the walleye-pad.

TED: How did my walleye-pad get all the way out here? Good thing I have that app. (sees Serena) Oh. Sorry, Serena didn't see you there. What?! Serena! What are you doing here! On the beach! Let's go back ... uh, what, what are those? (pointing to her legs) Legs! How did you get legs? Answer me, child! [points to her throat] You can't talk? (he picks up the potion) A potion? Did you see your Aunt Hexe? [nods] What's wrong with you? Don't answer that, I already know! Not that you can answer that. I can't believe you! We need to figure this out.

VERONICA: (from offstage) Is someone out there?

TED: It's a human! You're a human. Ahh!

VERONICA: (enters) Oh, hello. Are you talking to that turtle? [shakes her head] My name is Princess Veronica. What's yours? [points to her throat] Can't talk? [shakes her head] That's too bad.

PRINCE: (enters) Veronica? Oh, there you are. Who's this?

VERONICA: No idea. She can't talk.

PRINCE: That's too bad.

VERONICA: I know, right? Are you lost? [nods] Oh, Den, she's lost and she can't talk.

PRINCE: Can we help you? [shrugs]

VERONICA: Are you hurt? [shakes her head no]

PRINCE: Are you lost? [shakes her head no]

VERONICA: I know. You can tell us your story.

PRINCE: She can't talk.

VERONICA: But she can move. Maybe you could act it out – like charades!

Serena starts to act out her story about going to her aunt and getting legs and wanting to meet the Prince. She starts by miming swimming.

PRINCE: You like to swim? [no, then acts out going to her aunt]

VERONICA: You went on a trip ... to ... a science lab? [no]

PRINCE: I'm so confused. [acts out getting legs]

VERONICA: You dance? [yes] She dances! She's a dancer! You're a lifesaver! I've been trying to teach this big lug how to dance for days! Maybe you can help him? [yes] Perfect! I need to go get fitted for my dress anyway.

Veronica exits. Prince and Serena stare at each other for a few moments.

PRINCE: I guess you better teach me how to dance. I'll take your hand.

They stand together and take each others hands. They sway back and forth for a few minutes until the Prince steps on Serena's foot.

PRINCE: Sorry about that. I'm not good at this sort of thing. I'm more of a sailor.

They try again. The Prince gets frustrated but Serena keeps trying. Eventually they start to dance and it's beautiful.

PRINCE: Wow! You're a good teacher. [bows] You're welcome. What you lack for in words you more than make up for in dance. Veronica wants me to learn how to dance. She says it's an important part of a wedding. [looks confused] Maybe I should explain, Veronica and I are getting married.

Serena is devastated. She turns from him defeated.

PRINCE: My father wants me to be married as soon as possible. We're planning it for tomorrow. That's why Veronica had to run off for the dress fitting. It's all happening so fast. [nods] It's probably for the best. I know she and I just met ... I guess I can learn to love her. [nods] Why can't I just wait to find love? Real love? My father will never understand.

Serena agrees – this is exactly how she feels! She offers her hand and they start to dance again. Veronica enters a moment later.

VERONICA: It looks like you've done it!

PRINCE: She's a very good teacher.

VERONICA: You must come to the wedding tomorrow! Stay in the castle tonight. I'll get you a nice room. Something with a view of the ocean!

PRINCE: That's a great idea.

VERONICA: I'm sure I can find you a nice gentleman to dance with. There's my cousin James. The boy talks a mile a minute – which is perfect for you since you can't talk!

PRINCE: I don't even know your name.

VERONICA: Maybe you can act it out!

Serena begins to act out her name by pointing into the ocean.

VERONICA: Ocean? [no]

PRINCE: Wave? [no]

VERONICA: Water? [no]

PRINCE: Surf? [yes]

VERONICA: Surf. That's your name? [no]

Serena now dances like a ballerina.

VERONICA: Dancing? [no]

PRINCE: Ballet? [almost] Ballerina! [yes]

VERONICA: Surf-ballerina? Surf-ina?

PRINCE: Sur-ballina?

If you're performing this with children in the audience use the following lines for audience interaction.

PRINCE: (to audience) Do you know her name?

Audience, hopefully, responds Serena.

PRINCE: Thank you!

If you'd rather not have audience interaction, use this line:

PRINCE: Serena? [yes]

PRINCE: Serena! Nice name.

VERONICA: That was fun! I'm going to head in and get Serena's bedroom ready. (exits)

PRINCE: You must be hungry. [yes] Good, I'll have the chef whip up some crab for dinner, just caught some today. [no] Oh, alright, some salad then.

Serena's eye catches Ted who's been waiting off to the side. She turns to the Prince indicating she'll join him in a minute.

PRINCE: Alright. Come on in when you're ready. (exits)

Ted comes out of hiding.

TED: What a disaster. This is a disaster! A disaster! D.I.S.-aster! What are we going to do now. I need to tell your father. [no] Then what do you expect me to do!? You trade your voice for a potion so you can marry this man and he's already getting married! Disaster! I can't just sit around and watch this happen. What happens if he marries her and not you? [death] Death? You die? Disaster!

Scene 6 – The Ship

It's wedding day. The Prince, King, Serena, Veronica are all aboard the ship.

KING: It's a beautiful day for a wedding.

VERONICA: It most certainly is. Isn't it, Den?

PRINCE: Sure.

KING: Have I shown you my new wheel for the ship?

VERONICA: No, sir.

KING: Come, it has ruby's on it.

King takes Veronica to the wheel. The Prince chats with Serena.

PRINCE: This must be dreadfully boring for you? [shrugs] (he looks out of the ocean) The sea is very calm today. Dead calm. (a bad choice of words for Serena to hear) When I was little I would come out here on this boat and imagine the world that must exist below the sea.

VERONICA: (calls out) Come see this, Den!

PRINCE: Excuse me a second.

Prince crosses to the wheel. A moment later Serena's sisters and Ted arrive at the bottom of the ship.

MALA: Serena!

ANG: It's us!

NARINA: Ted told us what happened.

TED: Someone needs to help this girl out!

LILLA: So we visited Old Aunt Hexe.

TIEN: She's a nightmare!

MALA: We begged her, but she wouldn't help us.

ANG: Then we remembered one thing that could get her to help us.

GRANDMOTHER: (enters) Her mother!

NARINA: Grandma to the rescue!

GRANDMOTHER: Oh Serena, dear. I have this potion here. You have two options. You can put this into Veronica's drink and she will fall out of love and not marry the Prince or you can drink it and turn back into a mermaid.

LILLA: What a tough decision.

TED: Disaster!

ANG: What are you going to do?

TIEN: True love. Choose love!

LILLA: Yeah, we can still visit you. Once a year.

MALA: That's not enough. Choose us!

GRANDMOTHER: Girls. This is Serena's choice. Not ours. Do what's in your heart.

Serena takes the potion and pours it into a glass. The King, Prince and Verona join Serena. The family hides.

KING: Shall we get this wedding started. (sees a glass in Serena's hand) I see our guest is ready for a toast.

VERONICA: Then a toast it is. (Serena hands Veronica the glass) Thank you Serena.

They each take a glass.

KING: To the happy couple ...

PRINCE: Dad, let me.

KING: Sure thing, son.

PRINCE: Veronica, I wasn't sure about all this. I know my father wants me to marry but I didn't think it was right for me. I just realized something. It is right.

Serena looks surprised.

PRINCE: You're gentle, kind and you love sailing. You're perfect for me. Here's to my soon-to-be wife Veronica.

They raise their glasses, suddenly Serena drops her glass, everyone stops.

VERONICA: Oh, Serena. It's alright I was shaking on boats my first time too. Then my dad took me out and now I love it. We'll just get you a new glass.

Serena points to Veronica's glass. Veronica hands it to her and Serena drinks it.

PRINCE: Well, cheers!

Veronica takes a new glass and the rest drink.

KING: Let's get this wedding going then! We're all set up on the stern side.

They all start to exit toward the back of the ship. Serena goes toward the opposite way. Prince stops and turns back.

PRINCE: So, you're leaving? [yes] Thanks for teaching me to dance Serena. [bows] Goodbye.

They exit in opposite directions. The sisters look on. Suddenly a splash and Serena is back as a mermaid.

SERENA: Let's go home.

End of play.



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