

SCENE NINE: The Castle

(BELLE helps the BEAST to his chair as he holds one arm painfully. MRS. POTTS, LUMIERE and COGSWORTH enter and observe from a distance. BELLE dips a clean cloth into a bowl with hot water and wrings it out. She reaches for the BEAST'S wounded arm, but he growls and pulls away.)

BELLE

Let me see. Just hold still.

(BELLE reaches for him again and gently dabs at the wound. The BEAST cringes and howls in pain.)

BEAST

Ow! That hurts!

BELLE

If you'd hold still, it wouldn't hurt as much.

BEAST

If you hadn't run away, this wouldn't have happened.

BELLE

If you hadn't frightened me, I wouldn't have run away!

BEAST

Well, you shouldn't have been in the West Wing!

BELLE

And you should learn to control your temper!

(The BEAST doesn't have an answer for that. He and BELLE glare at each other in a silent battle of wills. The BEAST looks to MRS. POTTS and LUMIERE, who avert their eyes. BELLE dips the cloth in the hot water again and wrings it out.)

Now hold still, this may sting a little.

(BELLE dabs gently at the wound on the BEAST'S arm. He winces but doesn't pull away.)

By the way... thank you for saving my life.

BEAST

You're welcome.

(MRS. POTTS, LUMIERE and COGSWORTH look at each other with happy surprise.)

MRS. POTTS

Well, that's more like it. I knew they could get along if they tried.

LUMIERE

So, the ice is broken... at last.

COGSWORTH

And not a moment too soon either. The Rose is losing petals at an alarming rate!

MRS. POTTS

And I can hardly bend over at all any more.

LUMIERE

Clearly, it's time for us to give them a little push.

MRS. POTTS

I have just the thing!

(to the BEAST and BELLE)

How about we warm you two up a bit with a nice bowl of soup?

(MRS. POTTS exits. COGSWORTH escorts BELLE and the BEAST to a small table. CHIP is perched on top.)