

**START**

(ARMAND enters, crossing to PERCY and MARIE.)

PERCY

Armand- there you are. I wouldn't bother to unpack your bags, my boy. We must get Marie back to Paris in the morning. You'll take her straight to the hideaway and tell Dewhurst- Oh, didn't I tell you? She's working with us now.

ARMAND

You, Mademoiselle? But I had no idea-

MARIE

Nor did I. Until last evening. Your leader is very persuasive.

PERCY

We can't speak here.

MARIE

I will fetch my shawl and meet you both by the river then?

(MARIE exits.)

ARMAND

Tomorrow morning, Percy? But - what shall I tell Marguerite? I've only just *returned*. She worries so for my safety, and if she finds out I go to France-

PERCY

Don't *let* her find out. Give another excuse. Lord only knows what new excuse I'll give her- Perhaps I should "go fishing in Scotland" again...

ARMAND

She'll believe it. She has no *idea* who you really are. Lord, Percy, why don't you just tell her the truth?

PERCY

Armand, she is to know *nothing*.

ARMAND

But... why don't you *trust* her?

**END**

PERCY

Odd's my life, boy, who trusts *anyone* in this slippery world? Better to play the game, what? Be on your guard. Zounds, when the heart goes soft, that's when the dagger plunges in. Off with you then. I'll meet you by the river.

(ARMAND exits as the scene changes to the garden.)

**SCENE EIGHT**

## Interior of a rumbling Carriage

(Lights up on the interior of a rumbling carriage. MARGUERITE calls to ARMAND. Music continues underscoring dialogue.)

MARGUERITE

Armand! What are you doing?! Come back!

(ARMAND climbs through the carriage window.)

**START**

ARMAND

I had to give the driver directions.

MARGUERITE

But where are we *going*?

ARMAND

To Miquelon. On the seacoast.

MARGUERITE

And the *driver* doesn't know the *route*?!

ARMAND

Apparently not. Well, he must be someone Percy.. *hired*.. But couldn't speak with. Yes- So.. he left the directions up to *me*. What did I tell you, Marguerite? I *knew* they'd save us!

MARGUERITE

Someone *Percy* hired?

ARMAND

What?

MARGUERITE

You said *Percy* must have hired the driver.

ARMAND

Well, I- Well, I haven't *slept* in three days! Naturally I meant- the *Pimpernel*.

MARGUERITE

Really, Armand, I am still *aghast* that you would recklessly throw yourself in with the Pimpernel—

ARMAND

Marguerite, *look!* The West Gate! We've cleared the barricades! From here, it's open road to the coast.

MARGUERITE

And you're *sure* we are not being followed?

ARMAND

Marguerite I've *told* you- 'Twas our men saved us!  
(*Showing her the note.*)  
This is *our* sign: the scarlet flower.

MARGUERITE

But I hear other *horses*- *several* horses-

ARMAND

Then it is *Percy*- why do you worry so? No doubt he set off right behind us- with Dewhurst, for he's the fastest rider, though *I'm* getting faster every week, Marguerite. You should see me-... Now, isn't that the strangest thing... I said "Percy" again.. didn't I?

MARGUERITE

How.....did you meet the Pimpernel, Armand?

ARMAND

*Meet* him? I-

MARGUERITE

Yes, for it would... *have* to be someone close *by* you, someone you could.. meet with... *easily*, someone you *tell* me- *over and over*- is *good* and *strong*, even though I-

ARMAND

You're wrong, Marguerite. I-

MARGUERITE

*Someone no one on God's green earth would suspect, not even his wife!*

ARMAND

No, but I swore-

MARGUERITE

*Tell me!*

ARMAND

*Mon Dieu! How am I to keep this secret?!*

MARGUERITE

*Is it Percy?! You tell me!*

ARMAND

YES!

MARGUERITE

OH MY GOD!**END**

*(Blackout. Music continues for Storm Scene Change.  
The offstage CHORUS joins the orchestra singing a wordless [Ah—]  
addition to the melody; then orchestra continues under dialogue.)*

# ARMAND SONG

6 **START** 7 8

- gone? \_\_\_\_\_

Armand:

Why are your eyes so full of fear? \_\_\_\_\_ I will be \_\_\_\_\_

9 10 11

You are \_\_\_\_\_ my home. You make me

\_\_\_\_\_ here. We will \_\_\_\_\_ go \_\_\_\_\_ on.

You are my home.

12

strong. And in this world of strang-ers, I be - long to some - one.

You make me strong. And in this world of strang-ers, I be - long to some - one.

15

You are all I know. You're all I have. I need you

You are all I know. You're all I have. I need you

(Glock)

(EH)

20

18 19

so. I won't let go.

(Glock)

(EH)

(Bs. Dr)

(Hns/Tpts/Tbns)

(Pno/Str)

(Vla/Vcl/Bs/Timpl/BsCl/C Bsn)

**END**

*sfz*

21 22 23 [To 26]

[As darkness falls around them, Armand and Marguerite slowly back away from each other and exit.]

(Bs. Dr)

*sfz*

*sfz*

*sfz*