

(DENISE exits)

AIMABLE

Oh, it's nice... and clean... and homey, isn't it, Genevieve?

GENEVIEVE

Yes, it's nice.

AIMABLE

And this oven, it's perfect...

(Looks around)

Everything in such good shape... a cozy room, isn't it, Genevieve?

GENEVIEVE

Yes, it's cozy.

AIMABLE

Our own house...

GENEVIEVE

(pleased)

I never had my own house before...

AIMABLE

(To CAT, which she is holding)

And you, Pompom, do you like your new home?

GENEVIEVE

(smiles)

She says of course she does.

AIMABLE

Thank you, Pompom. Just for that, an extra saucer of cream tomorrow morning.

(Picks up luggage)

I'd better take these up to our bedroom.

GENEVIEVE

I'll help you.

AIMABLE

No, no, you rest. You're tired after that walk from the bus stop. And these are heavy.

GENEVIEVE

Aimable, you've seen me carrying trays of dishes much heavier than this.

AIMABLE

But you're not a waitress any more. You're Madame Castagnet now.

GENEVIEVE

Please don't call me that. I've asked you before.

AIMABLE

But you are Madame Castagnet.

GENEVIEVE

I know, but it... it makes me sound like a fat old lady.

AIMABLE

But I love to say it.

GENEVIEVE

Then say it once more.

AIMABLE

(lovingly)

Madame Castagnet.

GENEVIEVE

And never again. Just Genevieve.

AIMABLE

My Genevieve!

(HE takes the luggage upstairs. GENEVIEVE rises, starts looking around room, wanders outside. AIMABLE calls from upstairs)

This is a very comfortable room, Genevieve. Come up and see it.

(When she doesn't answer, AIMABLE rushes downstairs.)

Genevieve! ... Genevieve! Where are you?

GENEVIEVE

(re-enters bakery)

What is it? What's the matter?

AIMABLE

Nothing... I miss you. When you leave a room, I miss you.

GENEVIEVE

Aimable, you've got to stop worrying about me.

AIMABLE

I'm sorry, it's just that sometimes I think this is all a dream and I'll wake up and you'll be gone.

GENEVIEVE

I'm here, Aimable.

(GENEVIEVE collapses into chair)

AIMABLE

Poor thing, you're so tired. Here, let me rub your feet...

(rubs her foot)

Pretty little foot...

(Picks up other foot...startled!)

And look! The other one is just as little.

(SHE laughs and kisses top of his head.)

A kiss! Merci, Madame... You do like it here, don't you Genevieve?

GENEVIEVE

Yes.

AIMABLE

You really like it?

GENEVIEVE

I really like it.

#3: *Merci Madame*

AIMABLE

DID YOU HEAR THAT - SHE LIKES IT!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, POMPOM?
OUR DARLING SAYS SHE LIKES IT
DID YOU HEAR THAT POMPOM?
CAN YOU SEE HER FACE IS SHINING
AND HER EYES GIVE OFF A LIGHT?
BRIGHT AS THE MOON IS BRIGHT

(To GENEVIEVE)

COME TAKE A LITTLE LOOK AT OUR BAK'RY
A LITTLE LOOK AT OUR HOUSE
OTHER MEN MIGHT LOOK AT THAT SIGHT
AND ONLY SEE A HOUSE
BUT I CAN SEE SOME PLACE GRANDER
THAN THAT COLISEUM IN ROME
ASK ME WHAT...

GENEVIEVE

ALL RIGHT, WHAT?

AIMABLE

I CAN SEE... A HOME!

AIMABLE (CONT'D)

MERCI, MADAME
MERCI, MADAME
YOU MAKE A HOME FOR US
POMPOM AND I AGREE, MADAME
HARD FOR A CAT TO SHOW ITS GRATITUDE
AND SO I AM
MERCI, MERCI, MADAME...

(Dances with POMPOM)

Come on, Pompom...

(Imitates cat's voice, as if POMPOM is speaking to GENEVIEVE)

ROWR ROWR ROWR ROWR
ROWR ROWR RADAME...

(Putting cat down)

Out you go, explore your new home.

(To GENEVIEVE)

Our new home.

I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU ARE THINKING
EXACTLY WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND
YOU'RE LOOKING AROUND, THINKING WE'VE FOUND
THE BEST PLACE WE COULD FIND
BUT I CAN IMAGINE SOME PLACE
I WOULD RATHER BE, IT'S TRUE
ASK ME WHERE...

GENEVIEVE

ALL RIGHT, WHERE?

AIMABLE

HERE - A LITTLE CLOSER TO YOU!
TO SAY MERCI, MADAME
MERCI, MADAME
IF YOU ARE THERE, THEN THAT IS WHERE
I WANT TO BE, MADAME
SIT ON MY LAP AND I'M AS HAPPY AS A GIANT CLAM
MERCI, MERCI...

(Suddenly growing tender.)

HERE'S A PROMISE AS WE START OUR BRAND NEW LIFE
FROM THE VILLAGE BAKER TO THE BAKER'S WIFE:
I WILL TRY TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

AIMABLE (CONT'D)

I WILL TRY MY WHOLE LIFE THROUGH
I WILL TRY TO MAKE EACH DAY BRIGHT FOR YOU...

GENEVIEVE

You do, Amiable...

YOU DO...

GENEVIEVE

NO ONE ELSE I'D EVER KNOWN HAS

AIMABLE

I WILL TRY TO