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Phantom Of The Opera
Act I Scene 5
The Manager's Office
(page14-37)
Reference number PT0990

CARLOTTA
Christine!

ANDRE
Whatever next . . . ?

CARLOTTA
It's all a ploy to help Christine!

FIRMIN
This is insane . . .

CARLOTTA
I know who sent this:
(pointing an accusing finger)
The Vicomte - her lover!

RAOUL (ironical)
Indeed?
(to the OTHERS)
Can you believe this?

ANDRE (to CARLOTTA, in protest)
Signora!

CARLOTTA (half to the MANAGERS, half to herself)
O traditori!

FIRMIN (to CARLOTTA)
This is a joke!

ANDRE
This changes nothing!

CARLOTTA
O mentitori!

FIRMIN
Signora!

ANDRE
You are our star!

FIRMIN
And always will be!

ANDRE
Signora . . .

FIRMIN
The man is mad!

ANDRE
We don't take orders!

FIRMIN (announcing it to EVERYONE)
Miss Daae will be playing
the Pageboy - the silent role . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Carlotta will be playing
the lead!

CARLOTTA (waxing melodramatic)
It's useless trying to
appease me!
You're only saying this
to please me!
Signori, e vero?
Non, non, non voglio udire !
Lasciatemi morire!
O padre mio!
Dio!

GIRY

Who scorn his word,
beware to those . . .

CARLOTTA (to MANAGERS)

You have reviled me!

GIRY

The angel sees,
the angel knows . . .

RAOUL

Why did Christine
fly from my arms . . . ?

CARLOTTA

You have rebuked me!

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Signora, pardon us . . .

CARLOTTA

You have replaced me!

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Please, Signora,
we beseech you . . .

GIRY

This hour shall see
your darkest fears . . .

MEG/RAOUL

I must see her . . .

CARLOTTA

Abbandonata!
Deseredata!
O, sventurata!

GIRY

The angel knows,
the angel hears . . .

RAOUL
Where did she go . . . ?

CARLOTTA
Abbandonata!
Disgraziata!

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Signora, sing for us!
Don't be a martyr . . .

RAOUL/GIRY/MEG
What new surprises
lie in store . . . ?

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Our star . . . !

CARLOTTA
Non vo' cantar!

(ALL look at CARLOTTA, as the MANAGERS approach
her lovingly)

ANDRE
Your public needs you!

FIRMIN
We need you, too!

CARLOTTA (unassuaged)
Would you not
rather have your
precious little
ingenue?

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Signora, no!
the world wants you!

(The MANAGERS adopt their most persuasive attitudes)

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Prima donna
first lady of the stage!
Your devotees
are on their knees
to implore you !

ANDRE
Can you bow out
when they're shouting
your name?

FIRMIN
Think of how they all
adore you!

BOTH
Prima donna,
enchant us once again!

ANDRE
Think of your muse . . .

FIRMIN
And of the queues
round the theatre!

BOTH
Can you deny us the triumph
in store?
Sing, prima donna, once more!

(CARLOTTA registers her acceptance as the
MANAGERS continue to cajole and the OTHERS reflect
variously on the situation)

RAOUL
Christine spoke of an angel . . .

CARLOTTA (to herself, in triumph)
Prima donna
your song shall live again!

ANDRE/FIRMIN (to CARLOTTA)
Think of your public!

CARLOTTA
You took a snub
but there's a public
who needs you!

GIRY (referring to CHRISTINE)
She has heard the voice
of the angel of music . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN (to CARLOTTA)
Those who hear your voice
liken you to an angel!

CARLOTTA
Think of their cry
of undying
support !

RAOUL
Is this her angel of music . . . ?

ANDRE (to FIRMIN)
We get our opera . . .

FIRMIN (to ANDRE)
She gets her limelight!

CARLOTTA
Follow where the limelight
leads you!

MEG
Is this ghost
an angel or a madman . . . ?

RAOUL
Angel or madman . . . ?

ANDRE/FIRMIN (aside)
Leading ladies are a trial!

GIRY
Heaven help you,
those who doubt . . .

CARLOTTA
You'll sing again,
and to unending
ovation!

RAOUL
Orders! Warnings!
Lunatic demands!

GIRY
This miscasting
will invite damnation . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Tears . . . oaths . . .
lunatic demands
are regular occurrences!

MEG
Bliss or damnation?
Which has claimed her . . . ?

CARLOTTA
Think how you'll shine
in that final encore!
Sing, prima donna,
once more!

GIRY
Oh fools, to have flouted his warnings!

RAOUL
Surely, for her sake . . .

MEG
Surely he'll strike back . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Surely there'll be further scenes -
worse than this!

GIRY
Think, before
these demands are rejected!

RAOUL
. . . I must see
these demands are rejected!

MEG
. . . if his threats
and demands are rejected!

ANDRE/FIRMIN
Who'd believe a diva
happy to relieve a chorus girl,
who's gone and slept with the patron?
Raoul and the soubrette,
entwined in love's duet!
Although he may demur,
he must have been with her!

MEG/RAOUL
Christine must be protected!

CARLOTTA
O, fortunata!
Non ancor
abbandonata!

ANDRE/FIRMIN
You'd never get away
with all this in a play,
but if it's loudly sung
and in a foreign tongue
it's just the sort of story
audiences adore,
in fact a perfect opera!

RAOUL

His game is over!

GIRY

This is a game
you cannot hope to win!

RAOUL

And in Box Five
a new game will begin . . .

GIRY

For, if his curse is on this opera . . .

MEG

But if his curse is on this opera . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Prima donna
the world is at your feet!
A nation waits,
and how it hates
to be cheated!

CARLOTTA

The stress that falls upon a
famous prima donna!
Terrible diseases,
coughs and colds and sneezes!
Still, the driest throat
will reach the highest note,
in search of perfect
opera!

MEG/GIRY

. . . then I fear the outcome . . .

RAOUL

Christine plays the Pageboy,
Carlotta plays the Countess . . .

GIRY

. . . should you dare to . . .

MEG

. . . when you once again . . .

ALL

Light up the stage
with that age old
rapport!

Sing, prima donna,
once more!

PHANTOM'S VOICE

So, it is to be war between us! If these demands are not
met, a disaster beyond your imagination will occur!

ALL

Once more!