ACT TWO

#15B – Entr'acte

SCENE ONE: THE BEACH

#15C - New Legs

(As the curtain rises, we see Ariel sitting up and basking in the morning sun. Stretched before her on the sand is a pair of perfect legs. She stares at them in wonderment. Shakily, and slowly, she tries to stand, sticking her arms out for balance ... then falls on her rear. Suddenly, Scuttle flaps in. Sebastian and Flounder enter and watch the encounter from the water.)

SCUTTLE

Well, look who got beached! Hmmm. There's something different. Don't tell me— I'll de-syphon it for myself. Aha! Your hairdo! You've been using the dinglehopper—? I gotta admit I ean't put my foot on its but I just stand here and...

SEBASTIAN

She's got legs, you idiot! She traded her voice to the Sea Witch and got legs!

SCUTTLE

No! Not your beautiful pipes!

(Ariel nods. She opens her mouth, but no sound issues forth.)

SEBASTIAN

Ya see? Not a sound!

SCUTTLE

Aw, kid, hurts me to say it, but that? That was a lousy swap.

SEBASTIAN

What would her father say? I'll tell ya what her father'd say: he'd say he's gonna kill himself a crab, that's what he'd say!

FLOUNDER

She's got just three days!

SCUTTLE

Three days to what?

SEBASTIAN

Make the Prince fall in love with her!

And to prove it, he gets to ... I mean, he's got to ... kiss her!

SCUTTLE

The Prince? Well! You want to snare the Prince, you've gotta learn a graceful way of perambulatin'.

SEBASTIAN

She'll do no such thing -

SCUTTLE

Sure she will. Come on now – upsie-daisy!

(Ariel shakes her head "no.")

What's this? You givin' up so soon? That's not like you!

- Positoovity

Scuttle, Gulls

(Three GULLS appear from behind the rocks. Flounder, in guppy mode, exits amid the commotion. Sebastian steps onto the sand. Scuttle addresses Ariel.)

(SCUTTLE)

Ya gotta have a little gumption – a "can-do" kinda altitude! Take it from a gull who knows ...

NOW LOOK AT ME – YA SEE THIS FACE? IN TERMS OF BEAUTY, I'M A BASKET CASE AND AS FOR STYLE AND *SAVOIR-FAIRE* WELL, I GUESS THERE AIN'T A WHOLE LOT THERE!

YET, ALTHOUGH, PERHAPS IT MAKES NO SENSE I STRUT MY STUFF WITH LOTSA CONFIDENCE! 'CAUSE THOUGH I LACK AN AWFUL LOT THERE IS ONE THING I GOT –

I GOT POSITOOVITY! I GOT POSITOOVITY! IT GIVES ME THE ZAM AND THE ZOW AND THE YODDA-LODDA-LODDLE THAT'S WHY I WALK WITH A WIGGLE IN MY WADDLE! 'CAUSE ONCE YOU'VE HEARD THAT WORD THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T DO! SO LET THAT POSITOOVITY WORK FOR YOU!

Awwk!

SEBASTIAN

"Positoovity"? Why, there's no such word!

SCUTTLE

But there is! In the dictionary, right between "popsuckle" and "prehysterical"! Believe you me ... I've seen it work miracles!

SCUTTLE, GULLS

SEE, WITH THE BIP AN' THE BAP AN' THE BA-BA-BOO YOU CAN FLIP ANY FLAP 'TIL YOUR WISH COMES TRUE THE TIP IS TO TAP INTO SOMETHING THAT YOU BELIEVE

SCUTTLE

GULLS

AH ZIZZERZEE

'CAUSE WITH THE ZIG AND THE ZUG AND THE ZIZZERZEE THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T BE! YA SEE, IT'S REALLY YOUR PREROGITIVE

SCUTTLE, GULLS

YOU SIMPLY CAN'T THINK NOGGATIVE!

SCUTTLE

THEN THERE'S YOU JUST SITTIN' THERE SMACK DOWN FLAT UPON YOUR DERRIÈRE IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANNA BE WELL, YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE SHRUBBERY SO STAND RIGHT UP, AND DUST YOUR SEAT AND WALK REAL TALL UPON YOUR OWN TWO FEET AND SURE, YOU'LL TRIP AND MAKE MISTAKES BUT YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!

(Dance break. As Ariel gains her "shore legs," the gulls ad lib encouragement. "You go, gull!")

SCUTTLE, GULLS

AND NOW YOU KNOW THAT WORD, THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T DO!

SCUTTLE

SO GO GET SOME POSILICITY! YOU CAN BET ON POSITRICITY! AND JUST LET THAT POSITRINITY ... No, positroonity ... poositonomy? Is it ... posit – What is it?!

GULLS

AWK! AWK! AWK! AWK! AWK! AW AWK! AWK! AWK! AWK! AWK! AWK!

GULLS

(exasperated)

POSITOOVITY!

SCUTTLE, GULLS

POSITIVELY WORK FOR ...

YOU!

(*Prince Eric bounds onto the beach, ready to go shipboard. Catching sight of Ariel, he stops abruptly.*)

PRINCE ERIC

Hey, what have we got –?

(to gulls)

Shoo, shoo.

(The gulls flap and scatter.)

Miss, are you all right?

6A – On the Beach

(PRINCE ERIC)

You ... you seem very familiar. Have we met? Yes ... of course! I've been looking for you, everywhere! Please, you must tell me: what's your name?

(Ariel can only shrug.)

Excuse me? You don't speak English?

(This time, Ariel mouths her name.)

Sore throat, eh?

VK

(Ariel draws a finger across her throat, sadly.)

I'm sorry. You don't speak at all, do you? For a moment, I mistook you for somebody else.

(Frustrated, Ariel stands and tries to pantomime the truth – she's the one!)

What is it? You're hurt? No, no ... You need help ...?

(Suddenly, all the excitement – and her new legs – take a toll on Ariel. She wobbles and falls, right into Prince Eric's arms.)

A bit dizzy, aren't you? I've got just the remedy! A warm bath, and a hot meal! Come on now ... you'll be fine. The palace isn't far.

(*Prince Eric lifts and carries the fragile Ariel toward the palace. As they disappear, Scuttle looks on with self-satisfaction.*)

#16B - Positaggily

SCUTTLE

Bravo, Ariel! Now that's what I call "reeling him in"!

(Sebastian, however, is mortified.)

SEBASTIAN

This is gonna get me in real hot water! Just look at her. On legs. On human legs. My

nerves are shot. This is a catastrophe. (Sebastian scampers off after Ariel and Prince Eric.)

SCUTTLE

Can you believe that guy? What a crab!

SCUTTLE, GULLS

ONCE YOU KNOW THAT WORD THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN'T DO! AND THAT'S HOW POSITOOVITY ... WORKS FOR YOU!

Scuttle, Gul