

(The MERSISTERS have reassembled to pave the way for ARIEL's entrance. But there's no ARIEL. SEBASTIAN clears his throat and conducts another try. **#6 – WHERE'S ARIEL?**)

Where's Ariel?



(Still no ARIEL.)

SEBASTIAN

Not again, child. I was counting on you most of all!

KING TRITON

Ariel! Where in the name of Poseidon is that girl?

(**#7 – THE BEACH.** The MERSISTERS complain as ALL exit, revealing two electric eels, FLOTSAM and JETSAM, who have been spying on the affair. They nod to each other and exit.)

SCENE THREE: THE BEACH

(The SEA CHORUS "ascends" to create the ocean surface near the shore. ARIEL, a beautiful young mermaid, enters with a splash. Another splash nearby reveals FLOUNDER, a rambunctious young fish and Ariel's best friend.)

FLOUNDER

Hey, Ariel! There you are!

ARIEL

Just look, Flounder! The sun, the sand... isn't it the most beautiful place you've ever seen?

FLOUNDER

I dunno, Ariel... I'm not sure we ought to be up here.

ARIEL

Don't be such a guppy!

FLOUNDER

A guppy?!? I'm as brave as you are! I'm not afraid of anything—

ARIEL

What about sharks?

FLOUNDER

Where?!?

ARIEL

Oh, Flounder, you really are a guppy!

FLOUNDER

I am not!

ARIEL

Awww...

(gives FLOUNDER an affectionate pat on the head)

You'll never guess what I found today. Look!

(lifts up a large silver serving fork)

Have you ever seen anything so wonderful in your entire life?

FLOUNDER

Wow! Cool! What is it?

ARIEL

I don't know... but I bet Scuttle will! Come on, I'll race you!

(#8 – FINDING SCUTTLE. With a splash, ARIEL hits the water.)

FLOUNDER

Hey, wait for me!

(The SEA CHORUS moves to create the effect of ARIEL and FLOUNDER swimming through the water. The SEA CHORUS forms a small rock island. SCUTTLE, a seagull, enters, humming and looking through the wrong end of a telescope.)

ARIEL

(surfaces and swims right up to SCUTTLE)

Scuttle!

SCUTTLE

(calling out to ARIEL "in the distance")

Mermaid off the port bow! Ariel, how you doin', kid?

(puts down the telescope and sees ARIEL up close)

Whoa! What a swim!