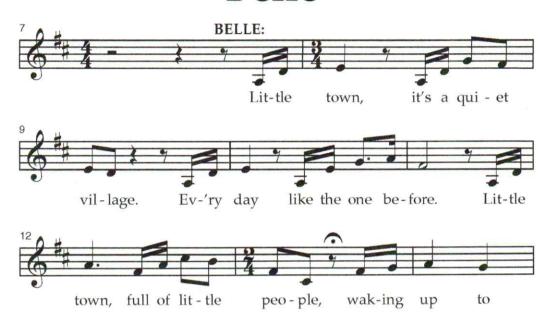
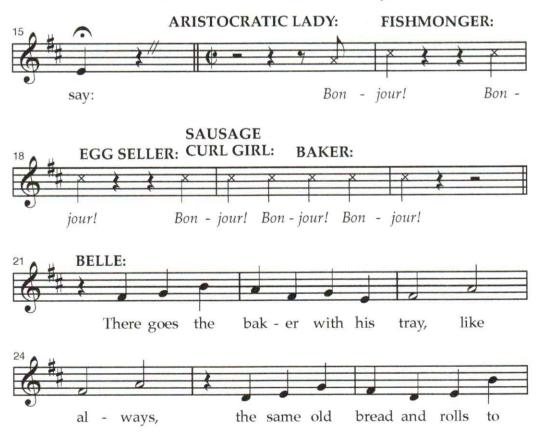
## Belle



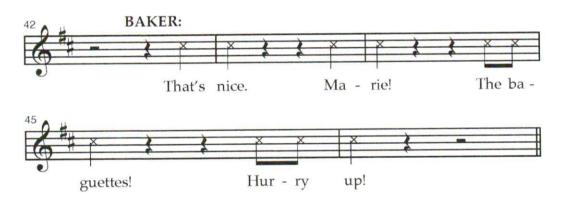
(VILLAGERS enter and bustle about their daily business.)



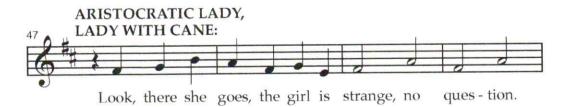


**BELLE:** Morning, *Monsieur*. **BAKER:** Where you off to?

**BELLE:** The bookshop. I just finished the most wonderful story about a beanstalk and an ogre and—



(BELLE sighs "never mind" and continues on her way. Various VILLAGERS talk about her as she passes.)







(BELLE walks into the bookshop.)

BOOKSELLER: Ah, Belle!

BELLE: Good morning. I've come to return the book I borrowed.

**BOOKSELLER:** Finished already?

BELLE: Oh, I couldn't put it down. Have you got anything new?

BOOKSELLER: (chuckles) Not since yesterday.

BELLE: That's all right. (points to a book on the shelf) I'll borrow this one!

BOOKSELLER: That one? But you've read it twice!

BELLE: Well, it's my favorite. Far-off places, daring sword fights, magic

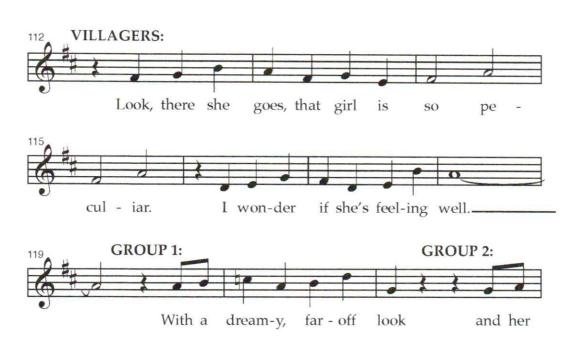
spells, a prince in disguise...

BOOKSELLER: If you like it all that much... it's yours.

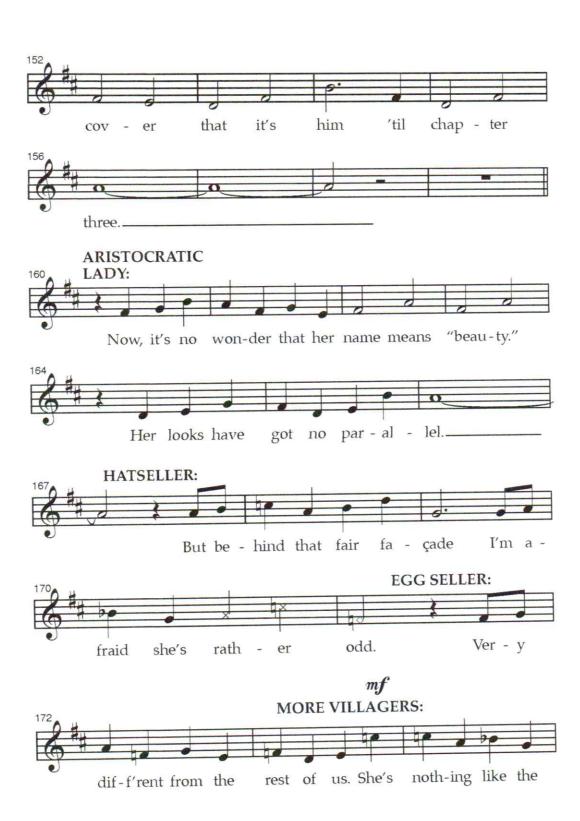
BELLE: But sir!

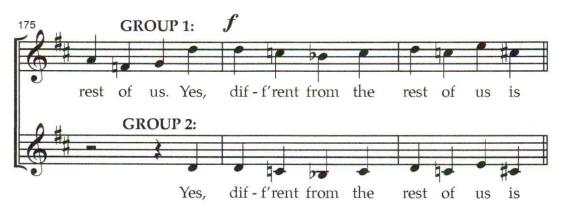
**BOOKSELLER:** I insist.

BELLE: Well, thank you. Thank you very much!













(GASTON enters proudly from a successful hunting trip. He is a very handsome, rude, self-centered hunter who goes to great lengths to get what he wants. His dim-witted sidekick, LEFOU, follows, carrying a sack of Gaston's game.)

**LEFOU:** You didn't miss a shot, Gaston. You're the greatest hunter in the whole world!

GASTON: I know.

**LEFOU:** No beast alive stands a chance against you! And no girl, for that matter.

**GASTON:** It's true, Lefou. (points to BELLE) And I've got my sights set on that one.

**LEFOU:** The inventor's daughter?

GASTON: She's the lucky girl I'm going to marry.

LEFOU: But, she's-

GASTON: The most beautiful girl in town.

LEFOU: I know, but-

GASTON: And don't I deserve the best?

LEFOU: Well, of course you do!



