

Your hand is so callused and rough from work. Just like the hand of the woman I shook this evening.
Who danced with the prince.

(ELLA pulls her hand back.)

I don't know what you're—

ELLA

It was you tonight. Wasn't it?

GABRIELLE

I—

ELLA

It was you! How did you dance in glass shoes?

GABRIELLE

(ELLA gasps.)

MUSIC 18A: IT WAS YOU TONIGHT, WASN'T IT?

↓
START

(ELLA runs out the door. GABRIELLE is right behind her. The interior of the cottage transforms back into the exterior yard.)

You won't tell the others, will you? Madame and Charlotte?

ELLA

No. Never.

GABRIELLE

Are you mad at me that I stole the Prince from you?

ELLA

I will confess a secret to you. I never loved the Prince. Or even liked him. There's someone else that I want.

GABRIELLE

How wonderful for you. Who is it?

ELLA

Well, Madame hates him.

GABRIELLE

Madame hating them doesn't narrow the field. Who is it?

ELLA

If I promise to keep your secret of the Prince, can you keep my secret of my forbidden love?

GABRIELLE

ELLA

I can. And I will.

GABRIELLE

It's Jean-Michel. The firebrand.

ELLA

He is a good man. And seems angry for all the right reasons.

GABRIELLE

He wants to change the world and make it a better place. You gotta love a guy like that.

ELLA

You may one day win Jean-Michel. But I will never win Prince Tophcr. If he saw who I truly was, he would have no interest in me.

GABRIELLE

That's not true. He would love you for who you are.

ELLA

I don't see how.

GABRIELLE

Well, if Madame ever saw me with Jean-Michel, why I shudder to think what she might do! Are you sure you can keep my secret?

MUSIC 19: A LOVELY NIGHT - REPRISÉ

ELLA

I can. And you can keep mine. We shall have a secret. That will make us—

GABRIELLE

Co-conspirators.

ELLA

Friends.

GABRIELLE

Sisters.

(ELLA and GABRIELLE hug. They look at each other and smile. They have bonded.)

ELLA

May we both find our loves.

GABRIELLE

And our lives.

END

~~THE STARS IN A HAZY HEAVEN
TREMBLING ABOVE ME,~~