

ERIC SIDES 2**1/1****SCENE FIVE: PRINCE ERIC'S SHIP / SEA BELOW / BEACH**

(Sailors prepare for a storm aboard the ship.)

SAILORS

HEAVE HO, HEAVE HO!
HEAVE HO, HEAVE HO!
STOW THE MAINSAIL!
BATTEN THE HATCHES!

PRINCE ERIC**Start** I don't want to be King—**GRIMSBY**

I swore an oath to your father on his deathbed that I'd turn you from an errant roustabout into a proper royal, so you're worthy to fill his shoes!

PRINCE ERIC

Now you're making *me* queasy.

GRIMSBY

And that's not all. I promised I'd have you married before your next birthday.

PRINCE ERIC

(incredulous)
Married?

GRIMSBY

Our kingdom needs a queen!

PRINCE ERIC

Did you ever try to take a princess sailing? It's a joke! Their crinolines get caught in the rigging. And most of 'em can't even swim—

GRIMSBY

Swim, Sire? Is that a prerequisite?

PRINCE ERIC

Sure, if we go sailing! Where am I gonna find her, Grimbsy? A girl who's as carefree and alive as the sea itself! Where?

End

ARIEL and FLOUNDER bob up to the surface. SCUTTLE hovers nearby.

SCUTTLE

Well, whaddaya know—

ARIEL

Scuttle, be quiet! They'll hear you!
