

Soundtracks

"Prima Donna"

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ANDRE

Your public needs you!

FIRMIN

We need you, too!

CARLOTTA (unassuaged)

Would you not
rather have your
precious little
ingenue?

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Signora, no!

the world wants you!

(The MANAGERS adopt their most persuasive attitudes)

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Prima donna
first lady of the stage!
Your devotees
are on their knees
to implore you !

ANDRE

Can you bow out
when they're shouting
your name?

FIRMIN

Think of how they all
adore you!

BOTH

Prima donna,
enchant us once again!

ANDRE

Think of your muse . . .

FIRMIN

And of the queues
round the theatre!

BOTH

Can you deny us the triumph
in store?

Sing, prima donna, once more!

(CARLOTTA registers her acceptance as the
MANAGERS continue to cajole and the OTHERS reflect
variously on the situation)

RAOUL

Christine spoke of an angel . . .

CARLOTTA (to herself, in triumph)

Prima donna

your song shall live again!

ANDRE/FIRMIN (to CARLOTTA)

Think of your public!

CARLOTTA

You took a snub

but there's a public

who needs you!

GIRY (referring to CHRISTINE)

She has heard the voice

of the angel of music . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN (to CARLOTTA)

Those who hear your voice

liken you to an angel!

CARLOTTA

Think of their cry

of undying

support !

RAOUL

Is this her angel of music . . . ?

ANDRE (to FIRMIN)

We get our opera . . .

FIRMIN (to ANDRE)

She gets her limelight!

CARLOTTA

Follow where the limelight

leads you!

MEG

Is this ghost

an angel or a madman . . . ?

RAOUL

Angel or madman . . . ?

ANDRE/FIRMIN (aside)

Leading ladies are a trial!

GIRY

Heaven help you,

those who doubt . . .

CARLOTTA

You'll sing again,

and to unending

ovation!

RAOUL

Orders! Warnings!

Lunatic demands!

GIRY

This miscasting

will invite damnation . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Tears . . . oaths . . .

lunatic demands

are regular occurrences!

MEG

Bliss or damnation?

Which has claimed her . . . ?

CARLOTTA

Think how you'll shine

in that final encore!

Sing, prima donna,

once more!

GIRY

Oh fools, to have flouted his warnings!

RAOUL

Surely, for her sake . . .

MEG

Surely he'll strike back . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Surely there'll be further scenes -

worse than this!

GIRY

Think, before

these demands are rejected!

RAOUL

. . . I must see

these demands are rejected!

MEG

. . . if his threats

and demands are rejected!

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Who'd believe a diva

happy to relieve a chorus girl,

who's gone and slept with the patron?

Raoul and the soubrette,

entwined in love's duet!

Although he may demur,

he must have been with her!

MEG/RAOUL

Christine must be protected!

CARLOTTA

O, fortunata!

Non ancor

abbandonata!

ANDRE/FIRMIN

You'd never get away

with all this in a play,

but if it's loudly sung

and in a foreign tongue

it's just the sort of story

audiences adore,

in fact a perfect opera!

RAOUL

His game is over!

GIRY

This is a game
you cannot hope to win!

RAOUL

And in Box Five
a new game will begin . . .

GIRY

For, if his curse is on this opera . . .

MEG

But if his curse is on this opera . . .

ANDRE/FIRMIN

Prima donna
the world is at your feet!

A nation waits,
and how it hates
to be cheated!

CARLOTTA

The stress that falls upon a
famous prima donna!
Terrible diseases,
coughs and colds and sneezes!
Still, the driest throat
will reach the highest note,
in search of perfect
opera!

MEG/GIRY

. . . then I fear the outcome . . .

RAOUL

Christine plays the Pageboy,
Carlotta plays the Countess . . .

GIRY

. . . should you dare to . .

MEG

. . . when you once again . . .

ALL

Light up the stage
with that age old
rapport!

Sing, prima donna,
once more!

PHANTOM'S VOICE

So, it is to be war between us! If these demands are not
met, a disaster beyond your imagination will occur!

ALL

Once more!

