JUDGE and JOHANNA

(JUDGE)

I'LL WED YOU ON THE MORROW!
AS YEARS PASS, JOHANNA,
YOU'LL TEND ME IN MY SOLITUDE,
NO LONGER AS A DAUGHTER,
AS A WOMAN.

(HE is fully dressed again)

JOHANNA, JOHANNA,
I'LL HOLD YOU HERE FOREVER THEN,
YOU'LL KEEP AWAY FROM WINDOWS AND
YOU'LL
DELIVER ME,
JOHANNA,
FROM THIS
HOT
RED
DEVIL
WITH YOUR
SOFT
WHITE
COOL
VIRGIN
PALMS ...

(Magisterial again, picking up the Bible, HE produces a key and opens the door, the key forgotten, still in the lock. JOHANNA jumps up)

START

JOHANNA

Father!

JUDGE

Johanna, I trust you've not been near the window again.

JOHANNA

(During this speech her eyes fall on the key in the lock)

Hardly, dear father, when it has been shuttered and barred these last three days.

JUDGE

How right I was to insist on such a precaution, for once again he has come, that conscienceless young sailor. Ten times has he been driven from my door and yet ...

(Breaks off, gazing at her, smitten with lust)

How sweet you look in that light muslin gown.

JOHANNA

'Tis nothing but an old dress, father.

JUDGE

But fairer on your young form than wings on an angel ... oh, if I were to think ...

JOHANNA

(Demurely, moving to the door)

Think what, dear father?

JUDGE

If I were to think you encouraged this young rogue...

JOHANNA

(During this speech, SHE slips the key from the lock, hides it in her dress)

I? A maid trained from the cradle to find in modesty and obedience the greatest of all virtues? Dear father, when have you ceased to warn me of the wickedness of men?

JUDGE

Venal young men of the street with only one thought in their heads. But there are men of different and far higher breed. I have one in mind for you.

JOHANNA

You have?

JUDGE

A gentle man, who would shield you from all earthly cares and guide your faltering steps to the sober warmth of womanhood — a husband — a protector — and yet an ardent lover too. It is a man who through all the years has surely earned your affection.

(Drops to his knees)

JOHANNA

(Staggered)

You?!!! FINISH

(The scene blacks out)

Continue here – If you are <u>not</u> performing **#11 – "Johanna."**

(Light comes up on MRS. LOVETT's Pieshop and the apartment above, which now is sparsely furnished with a washstand and a long wooden chest. At the foot of the outside staircase is a brand-new barber's pole. Attached to the first banister of the staircase is an iron bell. TODD is pacing in the apartment above. MRS. LOVETT comes hurrying out of the shop, carrying a wooden chair. As SHE does so, the BEGGAR WOMAN shuffles up to her)