

SCENE 9

(PARK BENCH AND TAXI SIGN--IN FRONT OF GATES)

(MORTICIA sits on a park bench, a valise by her side.)

GOMEZ

So it's true.

MORTICIA

I can't live with a man who keeps secrets.

(She lights the TAXI sign)

GOMEZ

There's another secret I haven't told you.

MORTICIA

Hunh. What?

GOMEZ

That you are the most exquisite, the most magnificent, the most desirable of all women.

MORTICIA

That's no secret.

GOMEZ

No. But even you had a secret - once.

MORTICIA

Never.

GOMEZ

And if you're wrong.

MORTICIA

I never am.

GOMEZ

But if you are, what will you give me?

MORTICIA

Name it.

GOMEZ

A dance.

MORTICIA

Go on.

GOMEZ

Many years ago, when you loved me and you wanted to marry me, we came to your father and told him, and he said, "Wonderful, let's go tell your mother." And what did you say?

MORTICIA

How could I possibly remember what I -

GOMEZ

You said, "No! She'll ask a lot of embarrassing questions and wreck the whole thing."

MORTICIA

That's different. My mother was condescending, judgmental, and withholding, and loved nothing more than stirring up trouble.

GOMEZ

Uh huh.

MORTICIA

(realizes)

Oh God, I've turned into my mother.

GOMEZ

And Wednesday is you. Isn't it wonderful?

MORTICIA

You did that like a lawyer.

[MUSIC IN]

GOMEZ

No, just a husband and a father. Not so easy. In fact, very difficult.

#21 LET'S LIVE BEFORE WE DIE

LET'S LIVE BEFORE WE DIE
LET'S LAUGH BEFORE WE CRY

GOMEZ (CON'T)

LET'S HOLD EACH OTHER TIGHT
AND DANCE
IF I HAVE CAUSED YOU PAIN
IT'S EASY TO EXPLAIN
COME, FILL ME WITH DELIGHT
AND DANCE

MY LOVE, MY WIFE,
FOREVER YOU WILL BE
BUT WEDNESDAY'S LIFE,
THAT TOO IS PART OF ME
THE TWO GIRLS I ADORE
AND SWORE TO SUFFER FOR
LET'S END THIS TUG OF WAR
AND DANCE

*(GOMEZ extends his hand. MORTICIA
doesn't move.)*

MORTICIA

Mother told me to beware of clever men with silver tongues.

GOMEZ

What I lack in depth I make up for in shallowness.

MORTICIA

You really think you can sway me with a joke?

GOMEZ

It's the last thing I try before the chloroform.

MORTICIA

TOMORROW I MAY BE
IN RAINY GAY PAREE

GOMEZ

PLEASE STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE
AND DANCE

MORTICIA

I'M NOT A CASTANET
WHO CLICKS WITH NO REGRET

GOMEZ

YOU'RE MORE THAN THAT BY FAR
SO DANCE