Scene One

Lise and Valin a clinch. She breaks away.

VAL: What's the matter, Lise, can you be sad after the amazing things you said about how much you love me? There you go, sighing again! Tell me, are you sorry you've made me so happy, are you regretting our engagement?

LISE: No, Val, I am not sorry. When I look into your eyes, I am drawn by an irresistible force that I have no desire to fight. But, I am afraid of the future and scared I love you more than I should.

VAL: Hey! What scares you, Lise, in the pleasure we've found?

LISE: A hundred things! The reproaches of my relations, the disapproval of the board of directors, the fury of my father; but most important of all, Val, the horrible habit men have of exploiting the too eager love of an open heart.

VAL: Oh, don't do this to me, don't judge me by other guys! My love for you will last for the rest of my life.

LISE: Val, all men say the same thing; only their actions reveal who they really are.

VAL: If how we act shows who we are, wait to judge me by what I do, and stop looking for ways to prove me wrong because of your unfair fears based on some irritating sense of self-protection. Give me time to persuade you, in every way I can, how much I love and respect you.

LISE: Oh! How easy it is to be convinced by the person you love! Yes, Val, I am sure you will never betray my trust; and I will try to control my sense of impending doom.

VAL: But what are you afraid of?

LISE: I wouldn't be afraid if everyone saw you the way I do, for I know your

true worth, and am certain our love is meant to be.