

Act II, scene 8.

(After the last surgery, in Joanna's hospital room, Joanna is viewing herself in the mirror, as Doc is speaking:)

Doc:

You're sure you don't want me to spread the word?

Joanna:

I've got a plan. I need to know some things, so just don't tell anyone that I've healed so well - that you took off the bandages. Give me a day or two to tie things down.

Doc:

As you will. The people around you are anxious for you. They really need to know. Please get to this soon. I am pretty well done now. And, they will be concerned about my not coming around. I'm going to write on the chart - discharge - what time should I put. You can't stay here anymore!

Joanna:

Say about 5pm this afternoon. I should get my act together by then. Thanks - and Doc, thanks! You have given me my life back - I didn't believe it- at the beginning - but thanks.

(Joanna sings a reprise of the chorus of "You Are The Cat's Meow")

SO MUCH WAS WRONG
WITH MY FACE AND MY HEART
YOU FIXED UP MY SCARS
AS YOU BROKE THEM APART

TO TAKE CARE OF MY FACE
YOU KNEW JUST HOW
TO MAKE ME WHOLE
YOU ARE THE CAT'S MEOW

Doc:

I am so glad that I could make a difference in your life. And seeing you back on stage will be a big difference in my life. I'm out of hear before I become maudlin. Good luck.

(As Joanna replaces her scarf, Doc leaves, passing Mom and Dad. As they come in, they exchange hellos, and Mom says:)

Mom:

Oh, my darling, has Doc given you the final ok? Let's see - take off your scarf.

Joanna:

The redness and scars are still there - I'm too uncomfortable to take off the scarf.

Mom:

I just don't understand.

(Dad, interrupting, says:)

Dad:

Don't start again. I will take you home. Joanna will know when she's comfortable.

Joanna:

Give me some more time. Doc knows what he's doing. I wish the rest of us did.

Mom:

What does that mean? Is that a snide at me?

Dad:

We're going home. You have to stop doing that.

(Mom and Dad leave, Jake comes in, and he says)

Hi, Joanna - Mom - Dad

Dad and Mom:

Hi, Jake. (as they leave)

Jake:

So is this the big day?

Joanna:

Doc put me off another couple days. Tough.

Jake:

Well, you want to talk or wait until then?

Joanna:

Just to say that I'm glad you and Joey are a couple. She has always needed something more - and I think you're just the right something,.

Jake:

I didn't think there would be another woman in my life after Barbara died. But, things are so much brighter - so much fuller - thanks. I'm glad Joey's here too. But, what about you? Is Marco still an issue for you, or have you left him behind?

Joanna:

I've thought so much about me, the accident, my face, career. Oh, and Marco - I just hate him - but is that all behind me? I wonder?

Jake:

You're working through this just right. You'll get to where you need to be. If you want, I can stay and listen, as you work through It. Do you think?

Joanna:

I'm doing this myself. Thanks, but just by myself.

Jake:

Ok then, I'm due for coffee with Joey. See you in a couple of days.

Joanna:

Tell Joey that things seem to be right. She'll know what that means.

Jake:

Ok, but I think I know what that means too.

(He nods his head, smiling, as he is leaving, Andre knocks on the door, and he says)

Andre:

Are you decent?

Joanna:

Would you not come in, if I weren't?

Andre:

What are you saying? Of course, I wouldn't come in. Of course,.

Joanna:

Just joking. What's new with you today?

Andre;

I didn't bring flowers today, because I thought you were going home. Has Doc come by? Are you discharged?

Joanna:

Doc came by. Bad news. I'm not getting the bandages off and as you can see, I'm still the scarf lady. I'm sort of bummed.

Andre:

Wow. I didn't see that coming. How can I help?

Joanna:

Actually, I'm really afraid. Does Doc know something bad and doesn't want me to find out? Oh, my, I'm so upset.

(Holdng out her arms, JOANNA sings:)

"HOLD ME"

COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
SHOW ME YOU CARE
AND YOU'RE HEART IS THERE
COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
THIS IS THE TIME TO
HOLD ME, HOLD ME

I'VE BEEN SO SAD
WITH THINGS SO BAD
YOU GAVE ME YOUR STRENGTH

SO THAT I MIGHT RECOVER

TO OVERCOME MY FEAR
I NEED YOUR HELP
SO PLEASE COME NEAR
AND HOLD ME, HOLD ME

COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
SHOW ME YOU CARE
AND YOU'RE HEART IS THERE
COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
THIS IS THE TIME TO
HOLD ME, HOLD ME

MY MOM AND DAD
HAVE SHAKEN MY GOAL
YOU HAVE STOOD FAST
TO WARM MY SOUL

THOUGH MY BODY HAS HEALED
AS I'VE TAKEN A SHOT
MY MIND HAS NOT
SO, HOLD ME, HOLD ME

COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
SHOW ME YOU CARE
AND YOU'RE HEART IS THERE
COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
THIS IS THE TIME TO
HOLD ME, HOLD ME

AS YOU ARE ALWAYS HERE
AND I WANT YOU NEAR
I'VE THOUGHT THIS THROUGH
TELL ME, TELL ME TRUE

COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME
SHOW ME YOU CARE
AND YOU'RE HEART IS THERE
COME TO ME AND
COMFORT ME

THIS IS THE TIME TO
HOLD ME, HOLD ME

(Andre, hesitantly, comes to the bedside, staying as far as he can from Joanna, while reaching out to touch her shoulders)

Joanna:

You old sop. You can't hold me like that. Come closer.

(Andre takes a half step closer - and as he puts his arms around Joanna, she puts her arms around him and pulls him to her)

Andre:

(after a new moments, Andre says:)

You smell really nice. You're so soft.

Joanna:

I'm glad you noticed. I was afraid you would never notice.

Andre:

I've always noticed you. I've always wanted you. Is there a chance for us?

Joanna:

Will it make a difference, if I'm not healed? If my face is a wreck - still a wreck - where will you be?

Andre:

I want you - anyway you are - it makes no difference to me - unless it makes a difference to you.

Joanna:

Oh, Andre - you're just - you're just right.

(Joanna looks up at Andre, and they kiss)

Andre:

Your scarf is in the way. And it doesn't taste very good either.