

FADE IN:

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

A pair of shoes walk down the street. They strut, actually. The shoes are character shoes, the type worn by dancers, with pink leg warmers rolled down on top.

EPONINE JONES is attached to the strutting feet. She is mid-twenties, petite, perky, but with something a little off about her smile.

Eponine struts down the street. She wears an iPod with "STAYIN ALIVE" blaring so loudly, the PEOPLE who pass her unconsciously pick up the beat and start to strut along with her.

EPONINE
Come on everybody, let's strut!

Several people join her and strut to the corner.

Eponine wears a dance skirt, a black T-shirt with "CATS FOREVER" on the back and a purple beret with a comedy/tragedy mask pin on it.

She stops at the cross walk and waits for the light to turn. She notices that the WALK/DON'T WALK sign blinks in time to the music in her earphones.

EPONINE
How Supercalifragilistic-
expialidociously excellent!

Eponine strikes a John Travolta pose and then boogies on across the street.

An OLD MAN selling newspapers in the intersection shakes his head as she passes.

EXT. BAKLAVA ON BROADWAY RESTAURANT - DAY

Eponine stops to admire her headshot in a kiosk near the front door of the restaurant. Someone has drawn a moustache on her picture. Eponine wets the corner of her T-shirt and tries without success to remove it.

A poster reads, "BAKLAVA ON BROADWAY - HOME OF THE FAMOUS SINGING WAITERS AND THE BEST DAMN GREEK FOOD IN TOWN!"

Headshots of the performer's huge smiling faces stare out from behind the dirty glass. Eponine's picture is at the very bottom, partially obscured by a bush.

INT. BAKLAVA ON BROADWAY RESTAURANT - DAY

Eponine slings her enormous dance bag up onto the bar, wigs and costume pieces spill out.

Greek pillars and statues of the Greek Gods and Goddesses line the walls. A white baby grand piano fills one corner.

THREE SINGERS, twenties, stand around the piano going over a new tune. They stop when Eponine enters.

EPONINE

Hey fellow thespians, how art thou today?

GREG

Great Eponine, how are you?

EPONINE

I am having a sunshiny day today, thanks Greg!

GREG MORRIS, your typical leading man type, flashes Eponine a colgate smile.

GREG

Hey Ep, I have a callback tomorrow for a Hair Club for Men commercial.

Greg fluffs his already poofy hair.

GREG

Think I stand a chance?

EPONINE

Wow, I never realized you had hair plugs Greg. They really do a great job!

Eponine runs her hand through Greg's hair.

GREG

But Eponine, I don't--

EPONINE

--And may I say that I am very impressed that they use real hair loss victims in their commercials, and not just some paid spokes person.

GREG

I don't have hair--

EPONINE

--It'll be our little secret. Good for you hair plug boy, no shame!

GREG

Thanks Ep.

Confused, Greg starts to wipe down the sneeze guard on the Baklava display cart.

Eponine starts to warm up her voice.

EPONINE

(singing)

Ah, ah, ah, ah, ah , ah , ah.

Eponine uses the side of the piano like a ballet bar and does dance warm-ups while she vocalizes.

EPONINE

(singing)

Many, mumbling mice, make merry
midnight music in the moonlight.

SUSAN LIVINGSTON, tall, slender, blonde, soprano, holds a small make-up mirror and applies blood red lipstick to her pout.

SUSAN

She is such a freak! I don't know
how she ever got hired.

MARCIA MADSON, tall, slender, brunette, mezzo, is checking her own perfect lipstick over Susan's shoulder.

MARCIA

It, is called comic relief!

Susan and Marcia throw back their heads and LAUGH loudly.

Eponine stops her vocal warm-up for a moment and fixes her gaze on the duo.

Eponine squints her eyes, crinkles up her forehead and pulls up a small notebook that dangles from a chain around her neck. She writes something onto a page.

Satisfied, she snaps the notebook closed and goes back to her vocalizing.

INT. BAKLAVA ON BROADWAY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The room is packed. An aging PIANO PLAYER dressed as Dionysis tinkles the ivories as the WAITERS mill about and wait on their CUSTOMERS.

Eponine bursts through the swinging kitchen door. She is in full regalia: a large black poodle skirt, a fluffy pink cardigan sweater, and her hair is pulled back in a ponytail, tied with a pink chiffon scarf.

Eponine whisks past Susan and Marcia who lean at the end of the bar.

SUSAN

What, did I miss the memo that said Halloween came early this year?

EPONINE

I am debuting a new song from "Grease" tonight, if you must know.

SUSAN

I wait with baited breath.

The lights dim suddenly and Greg steps out into the spotlight.

PIANO PLAYER

Just back from an extended run as Willy Loman in the musical version of "Death of a Salesman"... Greg Morris!

The audience CLAPS. Eponine runs to the back of the room to watch Greg's performance.

GREG

And now folks, it is my pleasure to sing for you a little song I made famous down at the Knife and Fork Dinner Theatre in Jupiter Florida.

Greg clears his throat and dramatically lowers his head. He takes a moment then looks up into the spotlight.

GREG
This is a little song called, "No
Man is Lower than Loman."

Eponine closes her eyes and imagines Greg back in his glory days.

INT. KNIFE AND FORK DINNER THEATRE - NIGHT (IN FLASHBACK)

Greg is dressed in a rundown Willy Loman type business suit, but with a Phantom of the Opera mask. He carries a briefcase and sets it down in front of a young woman who cowers from him in the corner.

He pulls her into his arms and it is Eponine. She is dressed in a long flowing gown. They kiss passionately.

INT. BAKLAVA ON BROADWAY RESTAURANT - NIGHT - PRESENT

Eponine claps vigorously.

EPONINE
Bravo! Bravo!

All eyes in the AUDIENCE turn to Eponine. So overcome by her vision, Eponine has started to applaud in the middle of Greg's song.

Greg continues to sing despite the interruption and finishes with a flourish.

GREG
(singing)
And that is the death of a
salesman!

Eponine releases the fantasy from her mind and sweeps back into her section with the water pitcher as the audience CLAPS.

An ELDERLY WOMAN CUSTOMER grabs Eponine's arm as she passes.

ELDERLY WOMAN CUSTOMER 1
When is it your turn to sing,
sweetheart?

EPONINE
I think I'm next, so if you think
you may need to take a little...
intermission, now is the time!

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